

the Wind Word

OCTOBER 2024



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	<i>Hours subject to fluctuation</i>
	<i>Last Food Orders at 7:45pm</i>
Mon & Tues	CLOSED (Except for Special Events)
Wed & Thurs*	Regatta Room: 4pm-8pm (by reservation only) Norton Lounge: 4pm-8pm (Wed) 4pm-10pm (Th)
Fri & Sat	Regatta Room: 4pm-8pm (by reservation only) Norton Lounge: noon-10pm
Sunday	Norton Lounge 1-5pm (Bar & Potluck)
*Groups of 15 or more can be accommodated for lunch with at least 1 week's advanced notification & reservation.	

BOOOO Members!

A lot happens at BYC this month. Most important: BYC ELECTIONS! Please be sure to vote—as a co-owner, your choices help direct the Club. Watch for an e-blast with your ballot October 2—we will be voting online!

Wednesday October 9 (after Trivia):

Meet the Candidates Night

Here is your chance to learn about the nominees for the Board of Directors.

Wednesday October 16:

BYC Elections & Results

Votes tabulation. Results then announced at this BYC Annual Members Meeting.

Saturday October 26:

HALLOWEEN PARTY!

Outrageous costumes, live music, FUN! Don't miss it!

PS—printed versions of the Wind Word will now only be available in the Norton Lounge due to recent thefts.



Editors Vicki & John Garcia

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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 Quintanilla		Historian	VACANT
Commodore	Dena Stults		House Chair	Randy Norman
Vice Commodore	Brian West		Membership Chair	VACANT
Rear Commodore	Natalie Boltz Keller		Port Captain	Angela Grigas
Secretary	Nancy Chertkow		Fleet Captain	Steve Penny
Treasurer	Bob Bohnet		Entertainment Chair	VACANT
Director	Goldie Pierce		Race Chairman	Steve Corwin
Director	Susan Bittner		Safety & Protocol	Paul Brighton
Director	Maryanne "MJ" Schmidt		Ship Store Manager	Debi Hall
Director	Rick Albers		Social Media Chair	VACANT
Jr. Staff Commodore	Andy Zinkevich		Sunshine Chair	Kymerli Brady
Fleet Surgeon	Deb Murray		Wind Word Editors	Vicki & John Garcia
PICYA Representative	Richard Boehm		Youth Sailing Director	Derith Lutz
Audit Committee Chair	VACANT		Webmaster	Brian Barry

FROM the HELM

Ahoy Crew,

Hope ★ everyone enjoyed our very first Oktoberfest. Next up: ★ BYC's **annual Halloween Party on October 26!** Dress creatively (or outrageously) ★ to win the **best costume prize!** ★

Here we are in October, and we will soon have a **fresh Board of Directors.** I look forward to their new ideas to keep our beloved Club moving forward. I am coming to the end of my term as Commodore, and after visiting various other clubs, one message comes through for all yacht clubs and worth a review of our own here:

Core Values

Commitment to quality and exceptional service in all that we do • Balanced consideration of the needs of all members • Be a responsible neighbor supporting our local community

Aspirational Values

Commitment to the vision, mission, values and long-range goals of the Club • Effective governance through inclusive and objective decision-making • Stewardship of resources for the benefit of current and future members • Day-to-day excellence in the execution of our values

Membership Oath

Do you promise to the best of your ability to encourage the sport of yachting, promote the practice of seamanship and navigation, be a good steward of our aquatic environment, participate in Club activities, and abide by Benicia Yacht Club By-Laws and Policies?

Vision That Benicia Yacht Club be recognized as a premier Yacht Club in the Bay Area

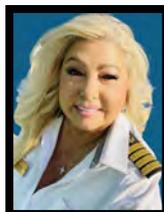
Mission Statement

Encourage the sport of yachting and seamanship and provide events and activities in welcoming facilities to foster enduring friendships

Here at BYC, I am most impressed by our loyal staff, Jeannie, Mya, and Carlos especially—they have stuck with the Club through thick and thin and along with Randy Norman, they are the real backbone of BYC.

Thank you for allowing me to take the helm for the last two years.

Cheers,



Commodore Dena Stults





CATHERINE	DUGGER	10/1		LINDA	PERZ	10/16
MOIRA	SULLIVAN	10/1		MICHELLE	APPIANO	10/17
BEN	CARR	10/2		MARK	CAMPBELL	10/18
SANDRA	RAGLAND	10/3		BERNARD	LEMKE	10/21
RAY	MCENEANEY	10/6		RALPH	AGUIAR	10/24
VICTORIA	MUSANTE	10/6		KATHLEEN	BANTA	10/24
KEN	VANSTORY	10/7		SUSAN	GIBSON	10/25
VINCENT	APPIANO	10/8		JENN	NEGRETTE	10/25
GREGORY	GALLAGHER	10/8		DEB	MURRAY	10/26
NANCY	CHERTKOW	10/8		ADOLPH	HUNTER	10/29
STEPHEN	GIZZI	10/11		DEBI	HALL	10/30
BOBBY	ENDERLIN	10/14		JENNIFER	SIRIANNI	10/30
JAMES	WHITE	10/14		FRED	RAILSBACK	10/31
DERITH	LUTZ	10/16				



Benicia Yacht Club 2024 Cruise-Out Schedule



Generally 3rd weekend of every month • Sign-up sheets posted on the Norton Lounge bulletin board or contact sjpenny5@gmail.com • Land cruisers & RVer's welcome!



Month	Dates	Destination	Volunteer	Email(s)
October (Harvest Cruise)	18-21	TBD	NEED	TBD
	21-24	Schoonmaker Point Marina	VOLUNTEER	
November	6	Planning Meeting	Interested Cruisers	sjpenny5@gmail.com
December	TBD	Lighted Boat Parade	Benicia Marina	



2024 Yacht Club Cruise-Ins

October 2-5 - Stockton - 10 boats

October 25-27 - Barbary Coast Boating



"Hello Boy! Whats that you've got there?"

Thank You Jazz Cup Breakfast Crew

I just want to give a big shout out to our Jazz Cup Breakfast Crew: Scott, Rachele, Bob & Cheri. Rich and I started this four years ago. We race and party on Saturday, then show up at 7am (!) on Sunday to make breakfast burritos and Bloody Mary's. We send all the sailors back to their home ports with a full belly. Thank you all who came out to support this fun event.

FYI we had 71 boats registered. *E Ticket* came in 1st in our division. We did not bring home the big trophy but we did do awesome and it was a great race. —Angela Grigas, Port Captain

(Who won the race? *Nuckelevee*. They also won it last year. A very very fast boat.)



Dear BYC Staff and Volunteers,

I want to extend my deepest gratitude for your incredible dedication and hard work to help Jazz Cup 2024 be a success. Your willingness to give your time and energy so generously has made a profound impact on our event being a memorable and fun time for all.

Your efforts do not go unnoticed. Thank you for all that you do. Your spirit and enthusiasm are truly appreciated, and we are so fortunate to have you as part of our team.

With heartfelt thanks,
Natalie Boltz Keller, Rear Commodore



VOTE

IT'S BYC ELECTION TIME!

Join us for Meet the Candidates Night October 9
in the Norton Lounge right after Trivia (~ 6:30pm)

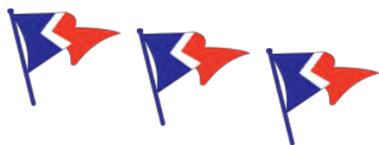
BYC CANDIDATES' STATEMENTS

Board Elections for 2024/2025 will be held using an online system.
Paper ballots are available if requested prior to October 5, 2024.
Please look for an e-blast the first part of October.
Results will be announced at the BYC Annual Meeting October 16.

Nominating Committee Report

After several advertisements for candidates we received seven applications.

The committee met with the candidates and nominated the following:



Commodore.....Robert Bohnet
Vice Commodore.....Natalie Boltz Keller
Rear Commodore.....Joseph Kallios
Secretary.....Randy Norman
Treasurer.....Kris Kastl
Director.....Susan Bittner
Director.....Mitch Kessler



In addition, Directors Rick Albers and M.J. Schmidt will continue the second year of their two-year term.
Meet the Candidates Night will be held October 9 after Trivia in the Norton Lounge (approx. 6:30pm).
The slate above plus any nominations by petition received after press time but before October 1 will be included in the Annual Meeting Announcement and Ballot scheduled to go out October 2. Results will be announced at the Annual Meeting October 16.

Respectfully submitted by the Nominating Committee:

Kymerli Brady/Bob Hedrick/Beth McDonnell/Jim Peterson/Maria Saulsbury/Andy Zinkevich

Bob Bohnet for Commodore

Sounds crazy, but I am signing up to run for Commodore for a second time. Our family has been members of the Benicia Yacht Club for 16 years.

In those years, I have served as Director, Secretary (*twice*), Treasurer (*twice*), Rear Commodore (*twice*), Vice Commodore, and Commodore. Our family enjoys this club and the many friends that we have here.

I will continue to be dedicated to upholding our Club's honorable traditions and keeping our Club a great place for our members and guests. Please consider voting for me as Commodore.

For the good of the Club! Cheers!



Candidate for Vice Commodore— Natalie Boltz Keller

Dear Benicia Yacht Club Members,

I am writing to express my enthusiastic interest in the Vice Commodore position for Benicia Yacht Club. Having served on the Board of Directors for two years, I am deeply committed to our mission and vision. I believe that my long history with BYC makes me a strong candidate for this role.

In my current role as Rear Commodore, I have honed my leadership and organizational skills. I have successfully executed two Jazz Cup events while also helping introduce new members to the wonderful world of BYC.

The role of the Vice Commodore is critical in supporting the Commodore and ensuring the smooth operation of our Club. I understand that this position requires not only a deep knowledge of business management and BYC operations but also the ability to step in and lead when needed. As a small business owner and current working professional, I feel this experience aligns well with these requirements. I am dedicated to the growth and success of our Club and am committed to working collaboratively with the Commodore, board members, and all Club members.

Thank you for considering my candidacy for the Vice Commodore position. I am excited about the opportunity to contribute to BYC in this new capacity and am confident that my skills and dedication will help us achieve our goals.

—Sincerely, Natalie Boltz Keller

Candidate for Rear Commodore— Joe Kallios



Qualifications for the position:

- Benicia Yacht Club member since 2011
- Race Committee Chair
 - * Worked with the Jazz Cup joint committee as the representative for BYC regarding the regatta
 - * Coordinated, set up and emceed the annual Beer Can Racing Awards Dinner
- 40 years in leadership positions
- Chaired and worked on various fund-raising events for elementary and high school organizations
 - * PTA president
 - * Board of Regents
 - * President of Diocesan Parent Guild
- President and Board member of the Home Owners Association where I reside
- Member of the Benicia B.D.E.S. Portuguese Society for decades
 - * Obtained and set up the layout and installation of dispensing systems for the sales of alcohol and refreshments
 - * Chaired bar activities including purchasing, staffing and set up
 - * Worked on local fund raisers and the annual festival

Motivation to serve:

I want to be a part of the team that enhances our Club and ensures that it thrives for the foreseeable future!

There are two director openings, each serving for two years. The following candidates have applied; MJ Schmidt and Rick Albers will continue their own 2-year terms.



Candidate for Director—Susan Bittner

My name is Susan Bittner and I have been a social yacht club member since 2022. I have enjoyed the relaxed and friendly atmosphere of the Norton Lounge.

Six months ago, I was asked by Dena to fill in for Kathleen Jones as a Director. I've learned much about the activities and sailing ventures, as well as the costs of keeping the Club solvent.

Since that time, I have volunteered to do yard work and clean up before Opening Day, decorate the Regatta Room for an event, walk the parade route for BYC on July 3, assist with membership over the Red & White Fleet weekend, and was Officer of the Day for two hours for Jazz Cup.

I would like another term as Director, so please vote for me.

—Susan Bittner, Acting Director

Candidate for Director—William (Mitch) Kessler

Greetings Members—My wife Cindi and I have been members of the Club since moving to Benicia in 2016. We actually held our wedding reception at the Club shortly after joining. We are avid sailors who compete Thursday nights in the Beer Can series as well as other races when available.

I am currently retired from the private Club industry and have more than 35 years of leadership experience in a variety of clubs as General and Regional Manager ranging from Golf and Country Clubs to Tennis and Fitness Clubs, most recently serving as General Manager of Sausalito Yacht Club. With more time to spare, I feel it is time to give something back to the Club we have enjoyed for the past eight years and serve as a board member. My new retirement gig is working part time as a substitute teacher in several local school districts including ours.

Professionally, my club-related business responsibilities included budget and financial planning, revenue generation, contract negotiations, capital projects, public relations and communications. I constructed, reviewed, and analyzed budgets and forecasts for multiple properties and projects. In short, I have extensive club experience and expertise that might benefit BYC. I hope to assist in making decisions that are beneficial to the overall membership with consideration to the unique issues of each member's interest in the Club.

Personally, I/we love BYC and live just over a block away. We enjoy dining at the Club, casual sailing and racing and cruising in our new boat. Cindi and I have five grown kids between us and are hoping for some grandkids down the road. We do spend a bit of time in the mountains and we also love skiing in the winter.

As a potential board member, I would welcome the opportunity to answer anyone's questions about my experience or intent at any time. I can be reached at (925) 389-6522 or at mitch.kessler@sbcglobal.net. I respectfully seek your vote and support as a new Board Member.

Sincerely, William (Mitch) Kessler, CCM, Member #2231



Board Elections for 2024/2025 will be held using an online system. Please watch for an e-blast the first part of October for instructions.*

- An email address for each membership along with the membership number will be uploaded
- A ballot is prepared
- When voting opens, the member logs in with email address and member number. Member votes.
- There is one vote permitted per membership. Total votes are tallied, but the individual votes are not visible to anyone other than the voter. Who voted is known to us, but not how they voted.
- **Voting will start October 2 and be open until 5:00pm on October 16. Only a single vote per membership will be counted. At 5:00pm we close the voting and know the results.**
- **Results will be announced at BYC's Annual Members Meeting October 16.**

*Paper ballots are available if requested prior to October 5, 2024. Contact Jr. Staff Commodore Andy Zinkevich, azinkevi@hotmail.com, 707.746.0739 (leave message).





John & Laurie Marshall



Phyllis & Jeffrey Rapp



Michelle & Vince Appiano

W
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Buddy & Jo Nash



Michelle & Jeff Brown

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Tom & Jennifer
Gallinatti



Michelle Hack



Brenda Crabtree &
Terrence Bennett

Not Present at the Meeting:

Paul Adler

Cliff & Denni Baumer

Craig & Cyndi Hennike

Mike Kinney & Deb Froessel

David & Denise McCrossan

GiAnna & Kyle Orangio

WELCOME



Sue Mirkovich &
Stuart Mahler



Maura Temple & Helen Karr

****Jazz Cup 2024: A Nautical Tale of Triumph and Teamwork****

The Jazz Cup 2024 was a thrilling race, one that saw us crossing the finish line faster than most, with an impressive elapsed time of under three hours. Our weekend adventure began on Friday afternoon as we sailed the *E Ticket* from Benicia to Richmond Yacht Club. The evening wind, though light, created a relaxing and picturesque journey across the water.

Race day dawned with a forecast of gentle winds, prompting the Race Committee to shorten the course, moving the start line to the vicinity of Red Rock Island. We were in the fifth starting fleet, among 11 highly competitive boats. Our start time was set for 11:25am, with the Port side of the course showing the most promise—a side we strategically chose. The strong flood current played its part, causing most starters to lag behind. However, we managed an exceptional start, leading our fleet off the line.

As we sailed towards the weather mark, we briefly lost a few positions, rounding it in third place. But as we approached the Brothers Islands, we chose to hug the Northwest side of the course, hoping to catch more of the current near the channel. The gamble paid off, and we surged into the lead. Then rounding Point Pinole, two boats cut the corner on us, taking advantage of a more favorable current and wind, slipping past us.

Approaching the Carquinez Strait, we observed that the South side near the C&H Sugar Factory had lighter winds. We passed under the Carquinez Bridge on the North side. Our two lead competitors went South, giving us the opening we needed to regain our lead. We focused on staying clear of wind holes, navigating through streams of favorable flood current. In the end, we crossed the finish line first in our fleet! We were third place in the overall Jazz Cup competition.

As we docked and began putting the boat away, the live music from BYC drifted across the marina, providing a fitting soundtrack to our day. Arriving in Benicia, we were welcomed by friendly faces on the shore and many friends who came down to our berth to hear our tales of the race.

Though we didn't claim the overall Jazz Cup victory, we reveled in the fierce competition, the splendid weather, and the camaraderie of the day. Congratulations to other strong Benicia Racer performances. Reuben Rocci on *Swiftness* placed second for Jazz Cup and David Stellato on *Living Happy* placed first in their division.

The crew of *E Ticket* and the community that supports us are nothing short of extraordinary. This event requires immense effort, from preparation to transportation, provisioning, and, of course, racing. Our crew's dedication and skill are unparalleled—without them, we wouldn't be nearly as competitive, nor would we have as much fun.

A heartfelt thank you to the Benicia Yacht Club and the entire community that supports the Jazz Cup, making it the remarkable Benicia event it is!

—Noble Griswold, Captain, *E Ticket*





ALL SERVICES



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Broker, Attorney, Property Manager

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noblegriswold@gmail.com

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ngriswold.com

Each office is independently owned and operated

**2024 First Saturday
MEMBER CLEAN SWEEP
Benicia Yacht Club**



- Maintain Curb Appeal
- General Restoration
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- Planned Projects

8:00am to 11:00am

First Saturday of each month



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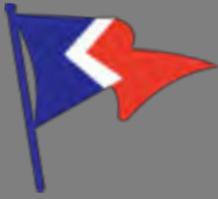
1 Harbor Way Vallejo, CA 94590



Janet Brock Hughes

ARTIST • Water Colors

707-246-9531 • beniciajanet@aol.com



OCTOBER 2024



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

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 CLOSED	2 Trivia 6pm Cruise-In Stockton 10/2-5	3	4	5 BYC Members Work Day! 8-11am 	
6 SUNDAY FUNDAY BBQ & POTLUCK 1-5pm NORTON LOUNGE OPEN DRINKS ONLY	7 CLOSED	8 CLOSED  BYC BOD Meeting 6pm	9 Trivia 6pm Meet the Candidates Night 6:30pm	10	11	12
13 SUNDAY FUNDAY BBQ & POTLUCK 1-5pm NORTON LOUNGE OPEN DRINKS ONLY US NAVY BIRTHDAY	14 CLOSED Columbus Day 	15 CLOSED	16 Trivia 6pm  BYC ELECTION NIGHT / Members Meeting 7pm	17	18 Cruise-Out HARVEST CRUISE 10/18-24	19
20 SUNDAY FUNDAY BBQ & POTLUCK 1-5pm NORTON LOUNGE OPEN DRINKS ONLY	21 CLOSED	22 CLOSED	23 Trivia-6pm	24	25 Cruise-In Barbary Coast Boating 10/25-27	26 BYC HALLOWEEN PARTY! 
27 SUNDAY FUNDAY BBQ & POTLUCK 1-5pm NORTON LOUNGE OPEN DRINKS ONLY	28 CLOSED	29 CLOSED	30 Trivia-6pm	31  HALLOWEEN	New Regatta Room Rental Rates    Members \$800 Non Members \$1,400	