



**RYC**

**Rogue Yacht Club**

Sailing News for February 2014



## Commodore's Log

by Dick Barbara

### It's All About the Weather

If you are anything like this sailor, the first thing that you check each day is the weather report. I remember days cruising on the Central and South Pacific where I would wake up for a shift at the helm, poke my nose out of the cabin and check temperature, wind speed and precipitation before I thought about food or hitting the head. I make the same observations after spending a night on Howard Prairie Lake. This habit of weather observation has stayed with me throughout my life. I want to see the satellite image of our regional weather before I get a cup of coffee! My priorities may seem odd to many, but this "weather centric" habit of mine keeps me well prepared for my outdoor activities, whether they be walking, riding a bike, skiing, or sailing. Lately, when I poke my head out the door each morning, I don't like what I see; there is fog and haze in the valley and too little snow on our surrounding mountains.

A common concern to all that live in the Western United States right now is the lack of precipitation in this season's weather patterns. Our mountains are far short of the snow that fills our lakes in the spring. Our valleys are equally far behind on rain totals which feed our rivers and streams, as well as keep out trees, bushes and gardens healthy. Not long after Jeanne, Sam, Lee and I moved to the Rogue Valley in 1990, a colleague of mine commented, that as long as he had lived here, there had always been snow on Mount Baldy (the mountain with the antennae due east of Medford) by Thanksgiving. He has lived here since the mid 1960's. Every year since he made that comment, I have looked to Mount Baldy frequently during the weeks before Thanksgiving, searching for snow. I have found it every year, with the exception of this past one. Despite the low current precipitation totals and the lack of snow on Baldy by Thanksgiving, I remain hopeful that I will ski many miles and be welcomed by a full lake by May.

Your RYC board has been working hard at refining the calendar and budget with the possibility of low water at the lake this summer. We have decided to push ahead with a hopeful, positive attitude that the rains and snows will come, easing our concerns of a water-limited season at the lake. The calendar and budget that you will see at the upcoming

Salmon Bake will reflect this hopeful attitude. If drought conditions persist through March, your board will be making some changes to both the calendar and budget.

We are already discussing some possible adjustments and alternatives that will make the most of drier conditions. We will be open to creative solutions from you as members if this drought continues, to pull-off a fun, memorable season at the lake.

So, in closing, I encourage you all to get out there and wash your cars, start that addition to your house that you have been putting off until summer, and do your best rain dance. We can judge how well we did in stimulating the weather to cooperate when we all meet at the Salmon Bake on February 22<sup>nd</sup>.

## RYC 2014 Calendar FEBRUARY

**12 Wednesday: BOARD MEETING 6:00 p.m.**

**22 Saturday: SOCIAL + BUSINESS Salmon Bake**

**TIME: 6:00 p.m. dinner**

**7:00 p.m. Member Meeting**

**PLACE: Girl Scout Building, Medford**

**COST: \$5.00/person + what you spend on raffle.**

**Don't forget to bring your calendar to sign up for helping on races and events.**

**Last chance for discounted membership of \$75**

## Around the Docks

### RYC Sailor Help Team Forming

**Ahoy sailors!** While sailing still seems a long way off, I know most boat owners have a couple of projects they's like to do before their boat goes back in the water. Well, the RYC Sailor Help Team is here to help! Maybe you need to fix something, make improvements, or want some advice on a pending purchase. The club has many very smart and experienced sailors who might be able to help you turn that project idea into reality or just give you some advice. It's also a great way to get





to know other members of the club. Also, if you would like to become part of the Sailor Help Team, to share your experience and knowledge, contact Derek Budd [derek.budd@gmail.com](mailto:derek.budd@gmail.com).

**Here's how it works.** You simply send a note to [www.info@rogueyachtclub.org](http://www.info@rogueyachtclub.org) or submit a message through the RYC web site contact page describing your project and the help you're looking for. The Sailor Help Team will review your request and try to find one or more people with suitable experience - perhaps they have the same kind of boat or have done a similar project. We'll make some phone calls and put them in contact with you. That's it.

I already have a project in mind. There's a big crack in the fiberglass of the cockpit of my Catalina 22. When it rains, water leaks into the boat. I don't know the best way to repair it, so I'm going to ask for some advice.

## C r u i s e r ' s C o r n e r

### **O u r N o t e o f T h a n k s**

Being recognized with the "Cruiser of the Year" Award and Trophy at the Commodore's dinner was quite an honor for Vicki and I. We have really enjoyed our two year relationship with the RYC and you have honored us greatly.

In the beginning Vicki and I arrived at the Howard Prairie Lake with our recently purchased boat on trailer and through luck were able to get it launched. It wasn't pretty but nobody died. We sailed (some) white knuckled and I was lucky to still have a mast, mainsail and wife after the first couple of jibes, come about's were not that pretty either! We had signed up for the ASA 101 Sailing course through the club and I had hopes that both my marriage and boat could be salvaged.



Long story short, we took the class with instructor Peter Cipes on our own boat, **Just Go** [*Catalina 18 MK II—ed.*], and had a great learning experience with Patrick McLain and Chuck Rhine rounding out the class. Upon passing this class we could hardly wait till 2013 and the ASA 103 class which we took and advanced, honing and perfecting our knowledge and skills base. (Thank God, Vicki now has TWO man overboard techniques in her bag of tricks to get back to me.)

I had dreamed of sailing for many years and because of the excellent, affordable programs and opportunities afforded through our RYC membership, I am currently registered in ASA classes to further my knowledge and garner advanced sailing experiences in the hopes that one day Vicki and I will be borrowing Peter and Karen's BVI CHARTS and joining them in the waters and islands of the Caribbean.

We wish to extend our heartfelt thanks to all RYC members who have so graciously taken us in, shared their time, knowledge and BBQ. We are in great and kind hands, with you, our masters, mates, and crew. From Our Dry Dock To Yours,  
Sincerely, Randy and Vicki Williams

## C l u b B u s i n e s s

### **RYC Board Meeting: January 14, 2014** M i n u t e s

#### **Members Present:**

Dick Barbara, Commodore; Jeanne Barbara, Treasurer; Jim Botsford, Race Trustee; Jesse Repp, Vice Commodore; Jay Harland, Rear Commodore; Patrick McLain, Social Trustee; and Karen McLain, Secretary.

#### **Treasurer information:**

Annual budget was presented to RYC Board; final approved budget numbers will be presented to members attending the Salmon Bake member meeting on February 22, 2014.



**Race Schedule:**

- Race calendar on Skye Drive
- 4 summer series - before race will be youth program in the morning
- At end of summer series do Youth Regatta
- Summer series 4 will be moved to August 16
- Add Santana 20's to race schedule - July 28 - 31
- Jesse to make changes - nothing planned for larger boats after August 16
- Jesse will send out by January 21 and vote by members January 24
- Dovetail social calendar with race schedule - move Dog Days to August 16

**Old Business**

- Jay has been looking at boats and he went to see a Holder 20. He is asking \$8000 and it is worth it but too much. Will keep looking.
- Ordering 10 more burgees to sell at Salmon Bake.

**New Business**

- Derek and Dick will be updating website
- Have outside member who is an accountant to review financial records

**Next Board Meeting:** February 12, 2014 at 6:00.

*[Editor's Note: A second board meeting for January was called to act upon information items presented and discussed at the January 14th meeting.]*

**RYC Board Meeting: January 28, 2014**  
**Minutes**

**Present:** Dick Barbara, Jesse Repp, Jay Harlan, Jim Botsford, Jeanne Barbara, Patrick McLain and Karen McLain.

- 1) **Board approved 2014 calendar.**
- 2) Board voted to not accept the prior budget from the last meeting.
- 3) **Approved amended budget.**

- 4) We decided to hold an oral auction and raffle at the Salmon Bake.
- 5) Board to come up with ideas to enhance revenue for band during regatta.
- 6) Dick to talk with Four Seasons marina about advertising in Tell Tales. Also, ask members to advertise their business.



*Hawaiian sunset photo contributed by Randy Williams*



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