

Light Air



Newsletter of Lake Yosemite Sailing Association

June 2014



Spring Regatta!



Fantastic winds and a great group of sailors made this year's Spring Regatta a huge success! Jay Sousa captured much of the action on Saturday. You can find more pictures on our website.

All photos are copyrighted by Jay Sousa Photography.
www.jaysousaphotography.com



**Lake Yosemite
Sailing Association**

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Port Captain: Vacant

Submissions:

Deadline is the 22nd of each month.

Submit to Mike Streatly:

mstreatly@sbcglobal.net



Commodore

Suzanne Johnson

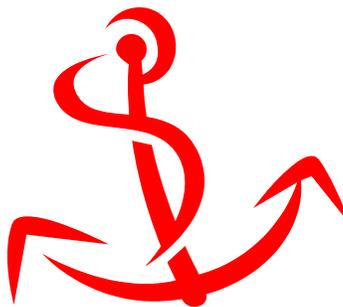


There is nothing as relaxing as being out on the open sea, listening to the waves and the wind and the sails and voices downstairs yelling "HOW DO YOU FLUSH THESE TOILETS!"

First of all, I want to start off by saying that we had a very successful Regatta. Thanks in part to Mike Streatly. He set the plans in motion. As far as I could tell it went off without a hitch. The food was delicious, the wind was cooperative and the camaraderie was memorable. Our profit was also pretty decent. However, we have the capability of doing so much better profit wise especially if we just have more club members participating. Please let me know what it will take to get more club members to participate.

In terms of the club members, I want to personally thank you all for attending the Regatta. However, I want to extend my appreciation to the following members for making the event possible; Thom Grimaldi, Dave Aleman, Steve Eyberg, Tim, Debbie and Kaitlyn Harden, Rich Kleitman, Sonia and

Dave Willson, Jay and Diane Sousa, Gary Hogston, Darrell and Linda Sorensen, Mike Streatly, and Jerry Johnson. If I forgot to include anyone, please accept my apologies. Additionally, the club members who skippered in the weekend races included Tim Harden, John Derby, Kathi Forni-



er, Darrell Sorensen, Eric Swensen, Dave or Dan Aleman, Steve Leonard and Ryan Schwartz. Special congratulations to Steve Leonard and Tim Harden for winning first place in their respective classes. By the way, the trophies that Darrell Sorensen (and Linda) created were amazing! We had so many compliments on the trophies.

As we all know, the water was up for the Regatta but just a day or so later the water went down several feet. No doubt, this will be the trend for the entire season. I realize many of you are leery about putting your boats in this year. That is understandable. I contacted the County to see if they would

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Vice Commodore

Peggy Lawler



To look on the bright side, we have far more water than many other lakes in California and the wind has been good and strong. There's lots of positive compliments on how nice the clubhouse and yard look. The new concrete makes us all say that should have been done a long time ago! We no longer look like foreclosure property with the fence and gate repair and paint and the accent lights in the yard are a real nice touch. We really do have a lot to enjoy. It might be inconvenient that the water level varies daily but if we continue to focus on the positive we'll all still have a good time in the yard!

Please email me directly at plawler@transcountytitle.com if you have a raffle prize you will be dropping off at the office and I'll make sure to pick it up. Also email me if you are planning on making a desert for the auction. It really was a great success last year. We will be doing the auction for deserts close to the end of dinner then the raffle will follow right after. If anyone needs any tickets please let a member of the Board know. See you in the yard!!

(Continued from page 2)

provide us with any additional dry storage spaces in the parking lot because of the very unusual season. However, my request was denied. Therefore, please be respectful as to where you park your boat. Should you park your boat in an area where it does not belong, please kindly move it.

With respect to club rules, please adhere to the rules that we have in place. Otherwise, by not obeying the rules you not only jeopardize the club but you also jeopardize your membership.

Also, please DO NOT park in the loading zone in front of the garage. This area is designated for loading and unloading for a limited time only.

Since our racing season has been impacted by the drought, we should come up with some alternative ways of entertainment for Thursday nights. Maybe we should race motorized sail boats instead! Jerry Johnson had the right idea when he had the margarita night!!

Please all gear up for our upcoming June 21st Shrimp Feed. We need more club volunteers and participation, please! Keep selling those tickets.

See you at the General Membership Meeting on June 10th. Please bring a potluck dish to share!!! If you are going to participate in the potluck, please bring something to share. Thanks.

See you at the Lake.



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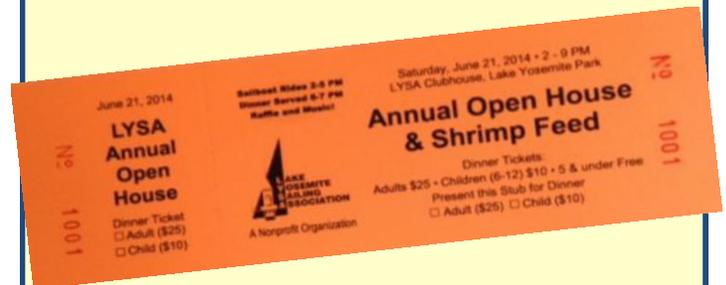
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Shrimp Feed Tickets

Are Here!



The Open House and All You Can Eat Shrimp Feed is June 21st. Contact Mike or any board member to get your tickets early. Be sure and get some for your friends too! Help make this year's event the BEST ever!





Past Commodore
Mike Streal



With the Regatta behind us it is time to turn our attention to our next big event of the year. On the 21st of June we will hold the Open House and All You Can Eat Shrimp Feed. This is no small undertaking, so we will need as much club support for this as we can get.

One of the things we offer during the Open House is sailboat rides. As of now there isn't much water but I hope to have some good news when I speak to the MID about the water levels for the event. Assuming the water is up we will need as many boats as possible to take our guests around the lake from about 2 to 5:30 pm that day.

We also need raffle prizes! If everyone in the club could either donate or somehow procure at least one item, we would have a great raffle. Please bring your raffle items as early as you can. You can drop them off with Peggy or any board member. Be sure and leave a note as to who donated the item.

We also need everyone to sell some tickets. You can get them from me or any other board member. I will have them at the meetings and the Thursday races. This is a great event to bring your friends to. For only Twenty-five bucks we are offering a TON of fun! From 2 to 6 pm we will offer sailboat rides. From 4 to 6 we will have a fantastic steel drum band playing live Caribbean style music. At 6 we will serve the food, followed by the dessert auction and the raffle. There will also be a bounce house to keep the kids occupied. We had our biggest turnout ever for our regatta, how about we do the same for the Shrimp Feed?!

Now, switching gears to our dock and water situation: As everyone knows we are in a severe drought that has affected the water levels at Lake Yosemite. MID has been keeping us informed of water level changes. As of now we are down about 4 feet from normal which has made it difficult if not impossible to put boats in some of the slips.

All I can say to you is I will keep updating you as I hear from MID, but it seems that these large fluctuations in water level will be the norm for the year.

I also want to remind everyone that ALL storage spots at the lake are taken. Do not bring your boat to the lake unless you intend on putting it in your slip. If your slip is not usable, contact me and we can possibly find a deeper water slip for you. Again, be sure and contact me first.

Until next month . . .




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Race Captain
Jerry Johnson



Successful does not describe the regatta correctly. The past 2 years with Thom Grimaldi and then Mike Streal at the helm have really put our club on the map with visiting sailors. Those of you who have chosen not to participate **honestly missed out** on something pretty special. Our club can put on quite an event and is second to none this past couple of years. I would like to thank Kaitlin Harden for heading up our race deck. She called some awesome courses and kept everything running smoothly. Debbie Harden, Sonia Willson, Dave Willson, Suzanne Johnson, Diane Sousa and Rich Kletman all kept things moving and were more help than I can thank them for. I also need to thank Jay Sousa and Thom Grimaldi for helping me on the committee boat during the races. Look for Jay to post some awesome pictures if he hasn't already done so. Also Darrell Sorensen spent Sunday on the committee boat with me. By the way if you did not get a chance to see the trophies that Darrell Sorensen put together you missed out on another treat, they were fantastic! Mike has set the bar pretty high for Suzanne next year, but knowing Commodore Suzanne she will lead us next year to even newer heights. THANK YOU ALL who stepped up and helped with this regatta, it was more than **SUCCESSFUL**,



Secretary
Ian Cooke



General membership meeting 5/13/14 - Start: 7:08

Treasurer: Diane Souza: We have 72 members. We have 19 regatta entries. 14 slips available

Vice Commodore: Peg Lawler: not present

Commodore Suzanne Johnson: Thanks to Matt and Ryan for opening day. Also, Thanks to Jerry and Mobility Works for donating money toward the open house.

If any members have a problem concerning the docks or members, please don't complain to the county. The board should be your first stop.

Thanks to all members who helped with the fence painting, it looks great. We will schedule one more painting party to finish the job.

Tickets for the open house are available. Please contact a board member if you are interested.

Race Captian Jerry Johnson: This Thursday is the first race, primarily dingys and we are still going to do the margaritas and cook tacos! Come on out and race!

Port captain Mike Streal: Please be respectful to the board members. They are volunteering their time and doing the best they can. If you have boat in dry sailing that shouldn't be there please move them. Please abide by the rules. It makes all of our lives easier.

House Captain Linda Sorensen: Thank you to the 12 people who helped paint the fence until the wind took them out! They will need one more painting party to finish the job.

Cruise and Social Ryan/matt: Opening day was a success. Cookie bake off was a hit! They will continue doing fun events like these. Stay tuned.

-Delta dooh dah is mid july and they are getting a group together. Please let Ryan or Matt know if you are interested.

-Keep a look out for people doing dumb/funny things for the end of the year awards for Matt Loefflers awesome trophies.

The Christmas party/dinner has been changed to Dec 6th at fish and game. We looked into renting halls and have dinner catered but it was not fiscally responsible to book a venue.

We are going to make all the food this year instead of having caterer. We have several members volunteering to help out. Thanks to them.

Matt Loeffler Jr Sailing: Junior sailing starts the last week of June and scheduled for four sessions. We have a lot of interest and there is plenty of room so sign up!

ROTC from Turlock will be taking a three day session and be camping on our property.

New Business:

Ed Dietz: McGregor fleet had a meeting. They have five members. V Mac fleet is the name. Plan to run the fleet and race on Thursday night. They want to participate in the Jack and Jill race and Thursday night.

They are going to cruise the bay and the delta and are trying to get more people out sailing and promote sailing and cruising opportunities.

The recycling barrels need to be cleaned and dumped. It's not a trash bin.

Jerry suggested to have a parking spot for the commodore as an incentive.

Matt made a motion to have parking spot for commodore.

Discussion: we will lose a dry sailing spot if we do the parking spot

Motion Failed.

Good of the order: Congrats to Jane and Richard on their marriage. There is a reception on june 7th, with a deep pit bbq. All are welcome!

****Please be respectful of our club and its members by following the rules and not leaving your boats and children unattended. Thanks!**

Adjourned: 8:33

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Aloha from Tonga.

By May 1, a large fleet of cruising yachts had assembled in Opuia, in northern New Zealand, ready for the trip north to the tropics as the Southern Cyclone season officially ended. Included in the fleet were two separate Island Cruising Association (ICA) groups, one heading to Fiji and one to Tonga. The weather didn't cooperate, much to the benefit of the Opuia Cruising Club's bar which became the gathering point for the assembled yachties to study Gribbs and weather faxes.

The fleet finally departed on May 9 and 10. We left New Zealand on May 10. Hana Hou stopped in Minerva Reef, arriving on May 17, along with 29 other boats, to wait out a low. The wind in the lagoon blew up to 50 knots and I had my entire anchor chain and rode deployed. Anchor watches on all of the boats made for a sleepy Minerva Reef Radio Net the next morning but no one in this experienced group dragged or suffered any damage. Bob McDavitt, the New Zealand weather guru, thought that this was a record number of boats in Minerva at one time. We were joined by the Tonga Navy patrol boat (probably to protect us from those pesky Fijians) and a New Zealand Air Force Orion did a fly over and roll call for customs and search and rescue purposes. This is an amazing amount of activity for one of the remotest anchorages in the world!

The highlight of the stay in Minerva was a reef party at low tide on the afternoon of the 19th. Virtually all of the crews showed up with beverages in hand. The reef, which is about a quarter of a mile wide, is completely submerged at high tide. At low



tide the inner lagoon is about 3 feet below the reef. This results in a waterfall all along the reef as the trade winds keep pushing waves and water up over the windward side of the reef. The dinks sort of nosed up to this waterfall, threw an anchor up

on to the reef and everyone climbed on up. Folks stood around in their reef walkers in the ankle deep, incredibly warm water flowing over the reef. As always it was good to



put faces to some new names we had come to know over the radio.

There was a mass exodus on the 20th following some favorable weather reports that morning. Gulf Harbor Radio (8116) does a comprehensive weather report covering the tropics every morning at 7:30 and I'm sure the fleet was listening. It

was fascinating to watch the boats heading to Fiji and those heading to Tonga diverge as they headed north.

After a leisurely sail north we arrived in Nuku'alofa on the 23rd and dropped the hook at Mama's Yacht club across from the main harbor. Mama's is a mile away and a world apart from the commercial wharf area and is the only place to hang in Tongatapu. It's time to throw the kayaks in the water, do some snorkeling and begin taking deck showers.

The trip from New Zealand to Tonga is a lot like San Francisco to Hawaii in the sense that you start off wearing all of your foul weather gear and several layers of fleece and then peel a layer or two off every couple of days until its

trunks and t-shirts. I've got to admit that my body has come to appreciate warm air and tropical water.

Our year in New Zealand flew by. We spent two months traveling around the whole country in our Toyota Camper van. The bottom of the South Island stays pretty chilly, but I guess that's why you get to see glaciers and Penguins. The scenic beauty is over the top and every thing is close by. We also spent December (summer) cruising the Bay of Islands, one of the worlds premier cruising grounds. A lot of cruisers either return home or settle into Opuia and don't take the time to explore



what's right next door. We spent New Year's out at Great Barrier Island with every boat from Auckland. The anchorage makes Fourth of July at Catalina seem a little tranquil.

We'll stay here for a week or so and then head north through the Ha'apai group of Islands and then on to Vava'u where we'll spend about a month exploring the anchorages and reefs. I suspect we'll be off to Fiji before this year's Milk Run fleet catches us. We'll be there through September and then it will be time to head back uphill to Western Samoa, Palmyra and then back to Honolulu in November. Then, quien sabe?

George Deane and JoAnne Clarke
S/V Hana Hou, Norsemen 447, Nawiliwili HI



House Captain

Linda Sorensen



House reservations keep coming in, thank you.
 Fence painting: the UC Merced sailing club and junior sailors applied a coat of undercoat on all the new fence wood. Later we had a fence painting party with 14 members taking part. Due to the strong wind the sheltered front and left side only were painted. At our regatta the newly repaired and painted fence got rave reviews. However the job isn't done yet with the left and rear sides needing a coat of paint. This needs to be done before the Shrimp Feed. Date and time will be posted soon. If you haven't helped with the painting this will be your chance to do so.

See you around,
 Linda



SCHEDULE FOR 2014

(See the online calendar for updates throughout the year)

JUNE

- 21 **Open House/Shrimp Feed**
- 28 One Design: Dick Gardner Race #1 of 4

JULY

- 4 Independence Day Potluck BBQ & Fun Sail
- 19 One Design: Dick Gardner Race #2 of 4
- 19-20 High Sierra Regatta (Keel Boats)
 *Maybe Plan a cruise to coincide with the HSR
- 26 Special Needs Sailing Day

AUGUST

- 16 One Design: Dick Gardner Race #3 of 4
- ?? Racer's Dinner

SEPTEMBER

- 20 One Design: Dick Gardner Race #4 of 4

OCTOBER

- 4 Octoberfest/End of Season Awards & Election Dinner
- 25 Halloween Costume Theme Party

NOVEMBER

- 7-10 Cruise: Monterey Bay

DECEMBER

- 6 Lighted Sailboat Parade in the Bay
- 13 LYSA Christmas Party

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