

# Light Air

Newsletter of Lake Yosemite Sailing Association

September 2014



A few pics from the recent  
spinnaker clinic

**Lake Yosemite  
Sailing Association**  
P.O. Box 3994  
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**Commodore**  
**Suzanne Johnson**



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**Racing Captain: Jerry Johnson**

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**Port Captain: Vacant**

**Submissions:**

Deadline is the 22nd of each month.

Submit to Mike Strealy:

mstrealy@sbcglobal.net

**The Magician and the Parrot**

A magician was working on a cruise ship in the Caribbean. The audience would be different each week, so the magician allowed himself to do the same tricks over and over again. There was only one problem: The captain's parrot saw the shows each week and began to understand how the magician did every trick. Once he understood he started shouting in the middle of the show:

"Look, it's not the same hat."

"Look, he is hiding the flowers under the table."

"Hey, why are all the cards the Ace of Spades?"

The magician was furious but couldn't do anything; it was, after all, the captain's parrot.

One day the ship hit a rock and sank. The magician found himself adrift on a piece of wood in the middle of the ocean with the parrot, of course. They stared at each other with hate, but did not utter a word. This went on for a day, then another, and another.

After a week the parrot said: "OK, I give up. What did you do with the ship?"

Well, it seems we might have to perform a little magic in order to get someone interested in running for Vice Commodore and House Captain. As far as I know, we have no one interested in running for either 2015 Board position. Come on guys and gals, step up to the plate. If I can be Commodore, anyway can be Commodore. Linda Sorensen will be a hard act to follow as House Captain, but I know there are other qualified members in the club who will follow in her shoes very nicely. Remember, in order to keep the ship sailing we need a full crew, so to speak!

I am looking forward to our end of the year racing awards and dinner to be held on October 4, 2014. At which time, we will be announcing the winners of our 2014 Commodores award, Crew Member of the Year award and Most Improved Sailor award. Of course, we

*(Continued on page 3)*



## Vice Commodore

Peggy Larson



First, my apologies for not writing an article last month for the Newsletter, it was a very busy month work wise as well as personally. I am now Vice Commodore Peg Larson and I had the best time marrying John Larson on the 26<sup>th</sup> of July. We were able to slam together a really fun little party in just a couple of weeks and I could not be happier! Speaking of accepting new roles in life, the LYSA Board will be looking for new members to join soon. We can certainly use positive attitudes with the good of the club at heart. Please submit your name or someone you think might be an asset to the Board for the election coming up soon. One important issue that needs to be addressed is that there should be more participation in the general meetings. Our Commodore, Suzanne Johnson, always has a fun little game at the start of the meetings and there's even prizes for the correct answer, but you have to raise your hand! It's a great way to come out and enjoy some food and listen to what's going on at our club. Check the calendar for the dates and time and hope to see you there, if not I'll see you on the water.

**WANTED!**  
LYSA Members for 2015 Board positions. Step up and be a big part of your club next year.

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will be announcing the winners of our 2014 racing season. We might have a few other miscellaneous awards and recognitions to be presented as well. See you all on October 4, 2014.

Even though our water situation has been a bump in the road this year, we still have had a wonderful time at the lake. The Thursday night dinners following the races has been a huge success. Thanks again to Matt Loeffler and Michell Silveira!! I appreciate all of your participation.

As a reminder, please remove your boats from the lake by September 7, 2014.

Happy final days of sailing!!

## LYSA Holds Spinnaker Clinic

On Saturday, August 30th LYSA held a spinnaker clinic at the clubhouse for anyone that was interested. Dave and Katie Mosher were kind enough to bring a Buccaneer 18 that was spinnaker rigged for demonstration.

About 15 members and guests showed up to participate in the session. Dave gave a great talk on the history of spinnakers and the different types of sails used, then explained the parts of the boat rigging and how they act on the spinnaker. Katie demonstrated how to properly pack a spinnaker.

After the brief talk, Dave and Katie demonstrated setting and dousing a spinnaker on the Buccaneer. Next he invited those present to try their hand at it in the yard. Dave Aleman gladly jumped up and they did several sets, jibes, and douses.

Following the yard session, everyone took to the water. Tim Harden rigged his Merit 25 "Hard N Fast" and about 10 people took turns over the next hour or so performing many more spinnaker sets, jibes, and douses.

It turned out to be a great and informative event. Look for more instructional days at the beginning of next season!





## Cruise/Social Capt. Matt Loeffler/Ryan Schwartz



Hello Everyone,

I hope you all have enjoyed our shortened sailing season. Even though we didn't get our boat out on the water till late, I have had a great time sailing on it as well as other boats. The last day to get the boats out is on the 7<sup>th</sup> a Sunday. I'd like to pull out on the 6<sup>th</sup>, I sure that there will be a crowd there so let's all get together and help out.

I'd like to remind people of the upcoming events scheduled for October. On the 4<sup>th</sup> we will be having our end of the season awards and elections dinner. For dinner we are planning on having BBQ Pit cater, cost will be \$5 a person. Now I may be having a problem with the Ed and Matt awards. I haven't talked to Ed about this yet, but my band saw isn't working, hopefully I'll get it going before too long.

Also in October, the 25<sup>th</sup>, will be the Halloween party. Put on your favorite Pirate, Ghost, or Goblin costume and come and enjoy the festivities. How about having a Hot Dog / Hamburger BBQ with a potluck for sides, I'll get the fire going sometime between 4 and 5.

See you at the lake.



### SCHEDULE FOR 2014

(See the online calendar for updates throughout the year)

#### 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

## End of Season Party!

**Saturday, Oct 4th**

**5:00 pm (Appetizers/Cocktails)**

**6:00 pm Dinner**

**\$5.00 per person**

**Club Officer Elections!**

**Racing Trophies!**

**Matt & Ed Awards!**

**Door Prizes!**



## Past Commodore

**Mike Strealy**



We are winding down to the end of our season. September the 7th is still the drop dead date to have all of the boats out of the water per MID. They have not informed us of any plans to extend so neither should you.

All of the winter storage spots have been assigned. If your boat is parked by the house as part of summer dry sailing, you need to take it away by Sunday the 7th so that the boats using winter storage can park there.

Please remember, it is not ok to leave your boat or trailer in the parking lot overnight. Respect the county rules.

Changing topics, I hope to see everyone at the end of season and awards party on Saturday, October 4th. It is also the elections for the 2015 board positions. Plan on attending!

Until next month . . .

## Lake Yosemite Sailing School

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## Sail Camp Recap

Matt Loeffler

Junior Sailing was a blast to teach this past year. We had record numbers of kids in the classes. If you didn't know we even finished up with a group of fine young ladies and gentlemen from Turlock High's ROTC program.

Before I go any further I want to thank some very special people. Number one is the junior councilors that work for us. We had Jacob Harden, Joe Malta, Bridget Farmer, Sharon Antner, Colin Frost, Dalton and Noah, and Everett Bowers-Loeffler.

Everyone needs to give a special thank you to both Jerry Rokes, and Darrell Sorenson. Without them the program would have been stuck in the mud. They are both highly dedicated to the program,

offering up time and more time and skill to keep it going.

Jerry comes out every Monday evening, after classes, to let past students set up the boats and go sailing. He had kids out almost every week. We also had Eric Swenson helping out for part of the time.

He and Darrell had a make-shift hall out yard for boat repair; you could smell the wood cutting, ozone from the drills boring through metal, and some fiberglass curing throughout the summer.

Every year Brigitte and I try to give appreciation gifts to Jerry and Darrell and they always balk at it. This year they can't complain because what we have done is set up two scholarship funds in their names. For Jerry it will be for children and grandchildren of active and retired military personnel. Darrell's will be for young children in foster care. Another person that has essentially set up his own scholarship is Gary Hogston. Every year since Brigitte and I have been involved with the Jr sailing program Gary has provided for scholarships. These three people deserve special thanks from everyone in the club, I cannot thank them enough.

I'd like to thank all the club members that made it out to see the kids sailing, it is good for them to see you out there showing interest and I tell you I get a great joy out of seeing all those little boats out on the water with kids

grabbing on to something that I love.

Our first session was the smallest, with an almost full class; the second was full, third and fourth were the largest we have ever had with 16 kids each. Fortunately we have been building the fleet; you probably have noticed all the extra boats in the yard. We are now up to 5 lasers, 3 El Toro's, and 5 Lido 14's, with another Lido in our sights.

This season provided some of the most extreme in conditions all in the same day. The wind went from zero to "heck I don't want to go out there" in nothing flat. For some of these conditions we had to come up with some creative ways to teach kids. We did some compass orientation,

and El Toro paddling races. If you haven't looked at the LYSA Facebook page go there and see a bunch of photos of the summer.

As I am writing this I keep remembering people that need to be thanked. Diane Sousa and Debbie Harden deserve praise for helping out selling plates for Taco Night. Michell Silveira did a fabulous job taking over the dinner prep

with fantastic Italian cuisine. Linda Sorenson was great helping out in the kitchen. Mostly I'd like to thank Brigitte for making it all work by lining up all the students and keeping control of the administrative end, I couldn't have done any of that. If I have forgotten anyone please accept my apology and thank you all.





## Secretary

Ian Cooke



### Board Meeting 8/5:

Called to order at 7:00

Peg Lawler, Vice Commodore: reading of the minutes, minutes approved.

Diane Souza, treasurer: not present

Peg Lawler: Yard sale on Saturday August 16<sup>th</sup>. Jerry volunteered to do a phone tree and ask each member to bring an item. Peg offered to have the office opened after 5 on Friday to organize before the garage sale on sat. Diane will be in charge of the money and change for the event.

Ian Cooke, Secretary: No report

Matt/Ryan Cruise and Social: No report, junior sailing is going well.

Linda Sorensen, House Captain: Gary Davis came and sprayed the house for insects and fleas.

If people want to reserve the club house for non member, a member must be present for the ENTIRE event. If you have any questions please call Linda.

The house looks great, thanks Linda and Darrell!

Jerry Johnson, Race Captain Jerry is working on the trophies for the end of the year race party. The party will be October 4<sup>th</sup> at 6:30.

Mike Strealy: Dock Captain: After the water goes down, they will walk the doc and figure out what it will cost to fix the dock in certain places. The end of the season is September 7<sup>th</sup> to comply with MID. **All boats must be out of the water by this time.**

Now until August 15<sup>th</sup> Mike will be taking names for winter storage. On August 16<sup>th</sup> the slips will be decided by draw if necessary.

Suzanne Johnson, Commodore: Reminder to get light air articles to Mike before the 22<sup>nd</sup> of each month. Up-coming elections are around the corner please get your nominations in.

If you can't make a meeting please let someone on the board know so that they are not waiting for you.

Need to schedule an orientation for new members to get them familiar with the club and its members/functions

Next month will begin the combination of general and board member meetings in September. The next meeting will be Tuesday September 2<sup>nd</sup> at 6:30 potluck meeting 7, board meeting to follow.

Old Business: Discussion of nominees for new board members.

New Business: Peg has volunteered to print up new membership brochures to have handy at the house. Jerry will bring a stand for the brochures.

Junior sailing: Junior sailing discussion. ROTC from Turlock was out for three days. They learned the ropes and had a great time. There were 12 kids total.

Adjourned: 8:19

### General membership meeting 8/12:

Called to order: 6:57

Suzanne Johnson, Commodore: 3 questions for prizes!

Ian Cooke, Secretary: Reading of the minutes

Diane Souza, Treasurer: Treasurers report read. She would also like to see the club become a 501(c)3 organization. We qualify under the application and it will cost \$400. It will be good for any donations to the club and tax write offs.

A motion was made by Tim Packwood and seconded to spend the \$400 on the application. Approved.

December 6th is the date for the end of the year Christmas party, not the 13<sup>th</sup>.

Peg Lawler, Vice Commodore: Discussion of a membership drive to bring in new members. Together with the junior sailing we have a great group out here, but we need to bring more people in regardless if they own a boat or not! We would like to do a social in September to invite back the junior sailors and maybe the boy scouts to gain new members.

August 16<sup>th</sup> will be the garage sale, please donate items, all proceeds go to LYSA.

Linda Sorensen, House Captain: People need to reserve and register to use the club house online for their event so the event can put on the calendar by Linda. That way there are no mix ups. YOU cannot reserve the clubhouse in person, it must be done online.

Matt Loeffler, Cruise and Social: Thank you so much for helping with Taco Thursdays, we are doing great and making money. With the money we got several things to help with junior sailing such as rigging for the lidos.

Christmas party will be Dec 6<sup>th</sup>, we need volunteers to help cook.

Jerry Johnson, Race Captain: Please participate in the garage sale and bring items. Thank you to all who helped with setting marks and with race night.

Matt/Brigitte, Junior Sailing: Junior sailing has had over 70 kids this year. Over half are repeating and it has been very successful. Brigitte has started a fund in the name of Darrel Sorensen for a scholarship for foster/adopted

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children for junior sailing. Started with \$150. Thank you Darrell for all that you have done to make junior sailing so successful.

Another scholarship in the name of Jerry Rokes was also awarded. This scholarship will be for children of military personnel, retired or in service/veterans. Started with \$150 that was donated for Junior Sailing. They will be funded perpetually over the years. Jerry and Suzanne have offered \$20 for each fund as well as Tim Packwood. John and Peg Larson also donated for each fund. Thank you club members.

Mike Strealy, Past Commodore: Not present...Boats need to be out of the water no later than Sep 7<sup>th</sup>.

August 16<sup>th</sup> is the latest to sign up for dry storage. There are 11 spots available.

Suzanne Johnson, Commodore: Thank you to all who helped with the shrimp feed. Thank you notes are on the way! Special needs sailing day was on July 26<sup>th</sup>, thank you to everyone who participated, it is truly a great event.

There will be one meeting for the membership and board meeting starting the second Tuesday of the month. September will be the first Tuesday of the month.



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## House Captain

Linda Sorensen



**How to make a reservation for the LYSA club house.**

Log on to <http://www.lakeyosemitessailing.org>

- 1) Go to **ABOUT US**
- 2) Go down to **MEMBERSHIP**
- 3) Click on **Clubhouse Reservation Application**
- 4) Fill out the application, every box with a **red star** must be filled out or it won't work.
- 5) Click on **Submit Form** and you are done.

Later in September, after it cools down we will be scheduling a fence painting day to finish the project.

See you around, Linda

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## 2014 Dinghy Delta Ditch

### August 9th

The Dingy Delta Ditch is a race from Rio Vista to West Sacramento CA in the San Joaquin River Delta. Most of the 30 mile race is in the man made Sacramento River Deep Water Ship Channel. The race uses a pursuit start. Boats ranged in speed from a Fatty Knees to a 505.

The Dinghy Delta Ditch is now in it's 10th year and this year it did not disappoint. A consistent 10 knot breeze and a strong flood current pushed the fleet to LWSC in good time and kept the handicaps fair. All but 5 boats finished in a 21 minute window between 6:15 PM and 6:36 PM showing just how competitive this 30 mile race can be. Not only that but the participants were treated to a live band and a great BBQ after the race and with the good winds there was plenty of daylight left to enjoy the festivities.

We had 4 Windmills participating, a McLaughlin (Dave Neilsen & Audrey McNamara), an Advance (Michael & Olivia Johnson), Lathrop woody (Darrell Sorensen & MaryLou Brinich), and an old timer with wooden mast, original rigging (Elizabeth Dietz & Gracy Jineuez).

Light to 12 at the start, quarter mile upwind leg, with incoming current. Dave, Michael and myself were at the start at our designated start time (2:03:20 pm) and no horn.d When they did give us the start I found myself in the wrong position and it seemed to take for ever to round the weather mark. Within 20 minutes, Michael and Dave were 1/2 mile ahead of us. The next 28

miles featured Michael and Olivia (total crew weight of 190) and their bare-bones provisions and nice stiff Proctor vintage mast ooching away from Dave's 300 lbs plus a cooler full of provisions and gallons of water. Our crew weight was more like 360 lbs plus cooler. Sadly there isn't much you can do, as each burst of speed multiplied by 28 miles results in a big gap. No power planning, just a nice but not overly exciting pace. We were almost the last non spinnaker boats to start. The view I will never forget was a whole bunch of white sails ahead of us and behind about a dozen colorful spinnakers bearing down on us.

Michael & Olivia Johnson were 1st place in the Windmills & near the overall lead at the finish. Next was Dave Neilsen & Audrey McNamara, then Darrell Sorensen & MaryLou Brinich. Elizabeth Dietz & Gracy Jineuez were lagging back from view & we were glad to see them come across the finish line. Time from start to finish was about 4 1/2 hours, not bad for sailing 30 miles.

We all had a great time. There were large fleets of Thistles & Lasers, with a Thistle taking the overall win.

I would like to thank Ed Dietz for towing our LYSA Windmills and saving the hassle of making a mad dash to Lake Washington to catch the shuttle back to Rio Vista. While we were sailing Ed, Jill and Linda enjoyed a nice lunch Fosters Bighorn in Rio Vista and shopping at IKEA.

Darrell Sorensen

Dinghy Delta Ditch by fred eagle for YachtPals.com

