

P^{ORTHOLE}

Presidio Yacht Club / Travis Marina

First Quarter 2011

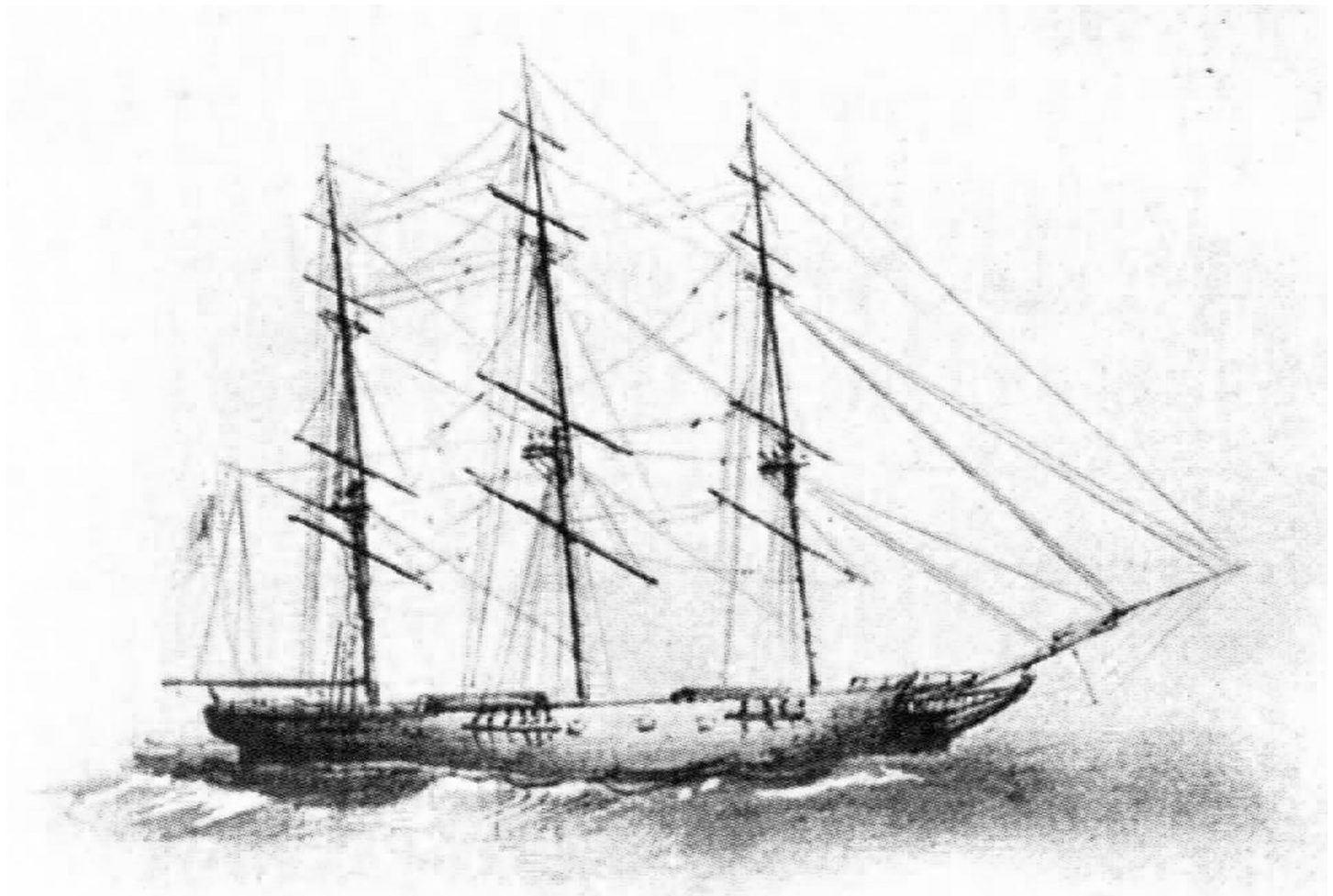
Word from the Editor

Greetings everyone,

You'll notice a small change in the newsletter this time around. Instead of dating it based on reports from the past quarter as I've done in the past, I will start dating the newsletters with when they are published. So, that will explain why I have "skipped" over the fourth quarter of last year.

This newsletter has the calendar of events proposed for this year, so print it out and keep it handy. We would like to see as many of you as possible at our events. Also there is a calendar of cruise-outs planned by our Vice Commodore. It is important that you contact him and let him know if you are interested in any of the trips as he has to coordinate with the guest club how many boats are coming. Also, if you do not have a boat but would like to crew on one going on one of the trips, let him know so he can put you on the list for the skippers to draw from.

The big news in the Bay Area of course is the news about the America's Cup race. It was officially announced last month that the next America's Cup race will be held in the San



Francisco Bay. Plans are already being proposed for the renovation of several of the old piers on San Francisco's bayshore to show-off the million dollar racing yachts. 2013 will become a VERY interesting year in the San Francisco Bay!

For those of you that have not been at the last few dinners, let me introduce the new bridge: the Commodore is Jim Earhart, the Vice Commodore is James Pennington, and the Rear Commodore is Bob Rames. Please, join them as they organize this year's events at the club.

The Commodore has mailed out the membership cards. Unfortunately many of them were returned with bad addresses. So, if you have moved in the last year or so, please e-mail us with your new address so that we may update our roster.

Jason Funk

Commodore's Report

In the two months I have been your commodore, I have discovered that "Commodore" is an anagram for "or Commode". Not that everyone dumps on the Commodore, but...

As a parting demonstration as Rear Commodore, our new Vice, James Pennington put on a fabulous New Year's Eve Feast for seventy some PYC members and guests. The roast beef was excellent, as was every thing else.

At the foggy, misty and cold January 8 workday, your new Rear, Bob Rames, several volunteers, and I spent the morning giving the galley a less-than-thorough, but badly needed cleaning. I don't recall having done so much KP since going through basic training in 1962. As a result of this cleanup, and suggestions from past Rear 'or Commodes', we will be suggesting several improvements to the galley for both safety and sanitary reasons.

For those of you who don't know me, I have been an member of the PYC since early 1969 making me one of the most senior members of the PYC. (Any challengers?) I even kept my membership while working in Iran during the Shah's final years. I served as Rear and then Vice Commodore in 1993 and 1994. For motives that I don't quite understand, I agreed to serve this year. I hope it proves to be a good one.

James Earhart

Vice Commodore's Report

CRUISE-OUT CALENDAR

Please, contact Vice Commodore James Pennington at "coastalcruiser@gmail.com" if you are interested in any of these cruises so that he can plan accordingly. All cruises subject to change. Additional cruises are being worked.

26 - 27 March	Corinthian Yacht Club
28 - 30 May	Memorial Weekend at the Petaluma Yacht Club
18 June	Summer Sailstice in Clipper Cove, Treasure Island
10 - 11 July	Cruise out with the Yacht Club of Poland to Angel Island
24 - 25 September	Dragon Boat Festival and pig roast at the Treasure Island Yacht

As I move into the duties of Vice Commodore, I can only view my duties as the guy who tells you where go. We are going to the Golden Gate Yacht Club, Petaluma Yacht Club, San Francisco Yacht Club, and a host of others. Dinners, Lunches, Parades, and Picnics. As we sail out, with ideas that I, with the help of others, have plotted and planned, the details will be posted and e-mailed out as they come available. I highly encourage all of our members to take part in these. Last year I met several new members with boats who were looking forward to getting involved with the cruise outs we have in mind. If you don't have a boat, you are always welcome to crew or just drive to the clubs and meet us.

On the Racing, we have a myriad of races planned for the 3rd Sundays of the coming months. The race calendar is posted on our website. Jack Machum, Annie Springer, and John Cashman will be our Race Committee this year. My hats off to the three of them as coordinating our club racing activities are a real challenge for me.

A word on the America's Cup. In my estimation, and as the year progresses, even though the race will not be until 2013, we will hear more and more about it. The first large hurdle for our club will be one of safety and courtesy. As I understand it, the boats that want to compete in the America's cup have to come here and win the Louis Vinton race. To give you an idea of how large they are, imagine a boat that has to wait for low tide to come into the bay. The Golden Gate Bridge is 226 Feet off the water. What that means for our races cruise outs, sail training, and time on the water, is one of safety and courtesy. We need to give them a wide berth, especially during their training as well as during the many qualification races. But all in all, I think we are headed to a banner year for sailing.



A note as your Yacht Racing Association (YRA) delegate. After visiting my first YRA meeting as your delegate, I have two matters of interest to report to you.

1. There is a movement within the leadership of the YRA to move the right to mediate appeals from the Clubs to a YRA Committee. There are some clubs that welcome this and others that deplore the idea. There is considerable debate and opposition within the YRA to the idea.
2. Races and cruise outs have fallen across the board by 30% at all the clubs. This with one notable exception, the Party Circuit, which has remained level at 411. The feeling is the drop in participation is attributed to a lagging economy and recession more than any public perception of sailing.

All in all, I think our club, because of the dedication of its members and their love of sailing as well as the many social aspects of the sport, remains a public standard of yacht clubs in America

James Pennington

NEW MEMBERS

**Mike Routleau
Fernando Cruz
Ed and Donna Meager
Joe and Ana Morrison
Anne Jahn
Jens Hansen**

Welcome aboard!

Sail Master's Report

We will be cranking up the sail training program the last weekend of March. In preparation we will hold an instructors seminar on Saturday, March 19. Prior to a luncheon we will reacquaint ourselves, discuss our previous years experience and discuss how to improve our 2011 sessions. After lunch we will do a practice man overboard procedure using the LifeSling. Non-instructors are invited to participate in this event.

The sail training course is four lessons, Saturday and Sunday, two consecutive weekends. Show time is 0900 on each

day for a classroom session of about 1 hour then on to the boats for on the water instruction. The sessions generally last until 1400 to 1500 depending on currents and wind. The boats we use are the Catalina 27. The class is limited to four students and we give active duty personnel priority on the schedule. We realize that when duty calls a class may be missed. We will arrange for a make up of any classes missed because of duty.

The cost is \$100 for active duty and includes the sailing textbook book while in the program. The cost for qualified non active duty is \$165. In Sausalito, a Basic Keel Boat course will cost you \$500 to \$800, so this is one heck of a deal.

We encourage students to do some pre-study before attending the course. Most libraries have a basic book on sailing. The sailing textbook is available at the Travis AFB library. This gives the student a leg up on sailing fundamentals and reduces the amount of classroom time.

Prior to attending the course, students should also go to the lessons page of our web site and watch "KQED Quest, The Physics of Sailing". This is the best description of the aerodynamics of sails we have seen. Non-students will enjoy this excellent video as well.

CLASS START DATES (Dates are subject to change)

- 2011-1 March 26
- 2011-2 April 30
- 2011-3 May 21
- 2011-4 June 25
- 2011-5 July 23
- 2011-6 August 27
- 2011-7 September 24

Jack Machun

**CALENDAR
2011**

JANUARY

8 Workday

FEBRUARY

6 Super Bowl Pot Luck
12 Workday and Crab Feed

MARCH

12 Workday and Irish Dinner
20 Warm-up Race

APRIL

9 Workday and Dinner
17 First Race

MAY

1 PICYA Opening Day on the Bay
14 Workday and Dinner
15 Second Race

JUNE

11 Workday and Dinner
19 Third Race

JULY

4 Fourth of July BBQ and Boat Rides
17 Fourth Race

AUGUST

13 Workday and Dinner
21 Fifth Race

SEPTEMBER

10 Workday and Dinner
12 PICYA Delegates' Dinner
18 Sixth Race

OCTOBER

8 Workday, General Membership Meeting,
and Dinner
16 Lady Skipper Race

NOVEMBER

12 Workday, Change of Watch, and Dinner

DECEMBER

10 Workday and Christmas Dinner
31 New Year's Eve Party

PICYA Report

A few tidbits:

PYC again held a dinner dance to celebrate the New Year. Vice Commodore James Pennington, our own chef, served another outstanding meal to approximately 90 revelers. They feasted on Prime Rib and Salmon along with wine and bubbly to toast the new year. The Roliens, Jon and Jean, along with the Miers, Pat and Manny, prepared and decorated the dining room for a special intimate evening.

Something about the new bridge. Bob Rames and his wife Linda live in Mill Valley. Bob is a retired fireman and Linda is in real estate. They also have a daughter. They have traveled extensively and enjoy fine cuisine. Bob also spends a few days working at Goodman's. Both have served on the bridge of another yacht club and are members of the Blue Gavel. We are lucky to have him as our new Rear Commodore. Rear Commodore Rames is seeking a few volunteers to host the work day dinners. It is a great way to get involved in the club and become an instant hero. Also, I should mention our new treasurer is John Cashman.

Some PICYA news. Opening Day on the Bay will be the first Sunday in May this year. Also, PICYA's new Commodore, Linda Breninger, will be installed this month. She and her husband live in Roseville and are members of Oxbow Yacht Club in the Delta.

In case you didn't know, PICYA dinners are held every month February through November at a different yacht club. Check out "picya.org" for details. All are welcome but reservations are required. On that note, the Presidio Yacht Club will host a PICYA dinner in September and will be needing volunteers.

Almost forgot. Saint Francis Yacht Club invites all yacht clubs and the public to the Yachtsmen Luncheon every Wednesday at noon. Notable and enjoyable speakers are part of the program. For more info check their web site or contact me, a frequent attendee and former speaker.

Manny Mier

Contact information:

James Earhart, Commodore, jwearhart@yahoo.com

James Pennington, Vice Commodore, coastalcruiser@gmail.com

Robert Rames, Rear Commodore

Jason Funk, Website, and Porthole Editor, trap1@wolfkraft.net

Louis Canotas, Manager, Travis Marina, 415-332-2319, travissailing@sbcglobal.net

Jack Machun, Sail Master, 415-456-3495, jmachun@gmail.com

www.presidioyachtclub.org
groups.google.com/group/presidioyachtclub

Disclaimer: The views expressed in this newsletter are those of the respective authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Presidio Yacht Club, Travis Marina, or the United States Air Force.

