

# P<sup>ORTHOLE</sup>

Presidio Yacht Club / Travis Marina

Third Quarter 2011

## Words from the Editor

In June, we were fortunate to be able to host a return visit of Rima Hardy from the Blue Star Moms of Marin. The Blue Star Moms are an organization that represents mother who have sons or daughters serving in the military. They help other mothers with coping with their children's deployments. They also work together to collect useful items which they box up and send to service members overseas and veterans in medical centers. Our club collected \$400 plus numerous items for the troops.

Last year I wrote about two pairs of geese that decided to raise their families here in Horseshoe Cove. Well, this year they are back. And it looks like they may have brought another family. Or perhaps they are the offspring of the original family. Whatever the case, it is nice to see wildlife making a home at our club's "home".

Travis Air Force Base has sent the Park Service a letter regarding a long-term lease. If negotiations go well, a long-term lease will open the doors for Travis to spend more money on capital improvements around to the club. Something they cannot do with a short-term lease. Keep your fingers crossed.

As you will read below, our club had a enjoyable cruise-out to the Petaluma Yacht Club. A few members sailed or motored up the river while several more drove up and joined the festivities.

At the beginning of this quarter, we had our annual Fourth of July barbecue and boat rides. This year The 60th Force Support Squadron sponsored a free lunch for all active duty members. This year we served approximately 150 service members, veterans, club members, and their families. The best part of this year's Fourth was the volunteer efforts of two of our members. In years past we have used smaller sailboats. While these have always been perfectly safe, when the wind picked up in the afternoon the passengers tended to get a little nervous. Not the case this year. This year Frank Beauchamp in "Avalon" and Warren Roll in "Sorento" gave rides in their two large power boats. They easily navigated the winds. Words from the passengers were glowing with praise. We also were able to serve up a great lunch for everyone that came. Praise to all of volunteers who helped with the food, crewing, and mooring: John Cashman, Steve Mahaley, Jack Machun, James Pennington, Joanne Beauchamp, Keith and Dianne Featherston, John and Jaunie Federowicz, Paul Ikeda, Roy Pitts, Michael Sligh, Steve Peters, Ernie Filippo, Mary Jane Hutchinson, and Bob Thompson. Thanks to all! (I pray I have not





*Fransons at the Petaluma Yacht Club*

add, Donna had not been out on the boat for a couple of years since there was (until now) no pottie.

Mr. Vice had arranged for several of us, including Warren and Suzie Roll on "Sorento", to rally at various points and cruise up the Petaluma River together. The Rolls were gracious enough to shadow us up past the Brothers and into the Petaluma channel. Fortunately they did since:

- a) I had left my new GPS at home (uh oh!) and had to rely on some not-very-up-to-date (but newly purchased) charts
- b) The first few channel markers are kaput
- c) The channel narrows to about 100 ft. wide as you near the river entrance, and is not suitable for tacking a sailboat
- d) Just when the wind was completely foul against us, our Universal "Anemic" Four engine overheated and crapped out.

The upshot was we ended up on a mud bank. Being the Good Samaritans they are, the Rolls pulled us off in short order, and took us under tow – all the way to Petaluma. Their kindness was especially welcome since about an hour short of Petaluma, it started pouring rain, making steering the boat in an open cockpit a somewhat less-than-sunny event.

Once inside the bascule bridge at the entrance to Petaluma Marina, we got tied up, dried out, and – eventually – the sun came back out. While the PYC contingent did not win any awards but one, I am told we won the Saturday evening "South of the Border" party. The one award received is that I am now a Rear Admiral in the Petaluma Navy – except I was in the gents' room when they announced the award.

The Rolls volunteered to tow us back down the river (our engine was working just fine) Sunday afternoon and away we went. However,

forgotten anyone.)

Jason Funk

### **Commodore's Report**

And we are still glad we went...

As Commodore, I don't really have any "assigned duties", so it is hard to come up with items anyone else should care to read. Not so, this time!

As Mr. Vice reports elsewhere, the PYC had a large contingent showing up to the Petaluma Yacht Club's soiree over Memorial Day weekend. Donna and I, aboard Manyana (the "y" is in place of the squiggle over the middle "n") on which I had not ventured north of Raccoon Straits, set out on Saturday morning to "sail" to Petaluma. I might



*Warren Roll*

## NEW MEMBERS

Richard Doyle  
Edward Hearst  
Steve and Kathy Franson  
Joyce Bussard  
Duncan Ballantine  
Patrick Korthis  
Carl Valentine  
Chris and Liz Yost  
Trevor Taylor  
Anthony Butters  
Dan Fischer  
Benjamin Sandel  
Michael Kucsera  
Shane Eaton  
Israel Pinero  
Mathew Clayton  
Rebecca Carlson  
Chris McGarvey  
Dallas Varnig  
Whitney Smith  
Alberto Cruz

Welcome aboard!

when Susie Roll tossed us the tow line it ended up in our propeller, which resulted in my learning that the Petaluma River is not - thank heavens - melted snow. A few minutes wet work and we were underway.

Are we glad we went? Yes! Will we go again? Yes, but we will asphalt cruise. The Petaluma River is (a) no place for a fixed-keel boat (try tacking every 20 feet of forward motion) and (b) not terribly scenic.

James Earhart

### Contact information:

James Earhart, Commodore, [jwearhart@yahoo.com](mailto:jwearhart@yahoo.com)  
James Pennington, Vice Commodore, [coastalcruiser@gmail.com](mailto:coastalcruiser@gmail.com)  
Robert Rames, Rear Commodore  
Jason Funk, Website, and Porthole Editor, [trap1@wolfkraft.net](mailto:trap1@wolfkraft.net)  
Louis Canotas, Manager, Travis Marina, 415-332-2319, [travissailing@sbcglobal.net](mailto:travissailing@sbcglobal.net)  
Jack Machun, Sail Master, 415-456-3495, [mach-2@att.com](mailto:mach-2@att.com)

[www.presidioyachtclub.org](http://www.presidioyachtclub.org)  
[groups.google.com/group/presidioyachtclub](https://groups.google.com/group/presidioyachtclub)

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## CALENDAR

### JULY

4 Fourth of July BBQ and Boat Rides  
9 Workday  
17 Fourth Race  
23-24 Cruise out to Angel Island

### AUGUST

13 Workday and Dinner  
21 Fifth Race

### SEPTEMBER

10 Workday and Dinner  
12 PICYA Delegates' Dinner  
17 Cruise-out to Treasure Island YC  
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  
31 New Year's Eve Party