

Lines & Bits

January 2021



DANA WEST YACHT CLUB

The Best Little Yacht Club on the West Coast

33° 27'.56 N Latitude • 117° 42'.01 W Longitude



Dana West Yacht Club 2021

SR. FLAG OFFICERS

Hydee Riggs

Commodore
714.813.3678
commodore@dwyc.org

Molly Dearing

Vice Commodore (VC)
949.842.4928
vicecommodore@dwyc.org

Nina McNeely

Rear Commodore (RC)
949.374.3654
rearcommodore@dwyc.org

JR. FLAG OFFICERS

Megan Noyes

Fleet Captain (FC)
949.573.1300
fleet@dwyc.org

Marnie Feely/Jan Casteel

Co-Port Captains (PC)
949.257.7570/714.287.1042
port@dwyc.org

DIRECTORS

Bruce Belanger

Director
714.963.1381
bbelanger@dwyc.org

Rich Blanco

Director
949.939.615
rblanco@dwyc.org

Brendon Dalrymple

Director
949.379.5346
bdalrymple@dwyc.org

David McGuire

Director
617.833.5657
dmcguire@dwyc.org

Leigh Ann Pack

Director
949.429.6077
lpack@dwyc.org

Dan Rodowicz

Director
925.262.3266
drodowicz@dwyc.org

STAFF

Tamara Tatich

Jr. Staff Commodore (JSC)
949.436.2899
jrstaffcommodore@dwyc.org

David Walsh

Treasurer
310.592.6522
tresasurer@dwyc.org

Cheryl Kelly

Secretary
949.374.2795
secretary@dwyc.org

Phil Eaton

Judge Advocate
951.225.8982
judgeadvocate@dwyc.org

COMMITTEES

Ray Bell

Dock Master
949.370.1269
dockmaster@dwyc.org

Nina McNeely / Tamara Tatich

Race Co-Chairs
949.374.3654/949.436.2899
race@dwyc.org

John MacPherson

Landlubbers
949.289.3089
Landlub@dwyc.org

Mark Williams

Youth Sailing
949.244.7226
juniors@dwyc.org

Brenda Berkery

Tin Cup Golf Tournament
714.743.7445
Tincup@dwyc.org

Julie D'Urso

Editor Lines & Bits
949.370.0171
editor@dwyc.org

Molly Dearing

Editor Weekly eBlast
949.842.4928
newsblast@dwyc.org

Cindy Salway

Health & Happiness
949.632.9897
happiness@dwyc.org

Nina McNeely

Member Services
949.374.3654
memberships@dwyc.org

Nick Ingerto

DWYC Anglers
757-646-5903
anglers@dwyc.org

Pam Northcott

Food/Beverage Charity Regatta
949.493.9777
f&b@dwyc.org

Helen Hawkins

Charity Regatta
949.212.9115
charityregatta@dwyc.org

Tamara Tatich

Webmaster
949.436.2899
webmaster@dwyc.org

Mike Metz

Finance & Long Range
949.295.1886
fc@dwyc.org

Mark Kovacs

IT
949.310.5163
it@dwyc.org

Patricia Chiku

Business Network Group(BNG)
714.595.8672
bng@dwyc.org

ISLANDERS

Nancy May

President
949.285.6531
islanders@dwyc.org

Linda Turner

Vice President
949.683.5465

Jan Pritchard

Treasurer
949.291.8281

Judy Rydburg

Historian
949.540.4417

Diane Hooper

Advisor
949.291.2198

SEAMEN

Kevin Riggs

President
949.547.6167
seamen@dwyc.org

Matt Dearing

Vice President
949.350.7005

Michael Tatich

Treasurer
949.2889.1725

Bryan Noyes

Secretary
949.606.4735

Don Belanger

Historian
949.291.7575

DANA WEST YACHT CLUB

Paul Musico

Office Manager
949.661.1185
admin@dwyc.org

Darlene Thompson

Administrator
949.661.1185
admin@dwyc.org

Office Hours

10:00 am to 3:00 pm
Mon., Wed. and Thurs.

ANCHORS A-WHERE?!

This monthly contest challenges you to find this anchor hidden within the pages of the Lines&Bits newsletter.



When you find it, email the page number or location description to editor@dwyc.org and you will be entered in a monthly random drawing to win a complimentary cocktail at the club courtesy of the Commodore!

SAVE THE DATE!

(See articles for event details)

Port	1/1/2021	PJ Party
Portt	1/4/2021	Social Committee Meeting
Port	1/6/2021	Odyssey Book Club Zoom
Commodore	1/24/2021	General Membership Meeting
Silver Stars	1/24/2021	Silver Stars Breakfast
Seamen	2/10/2021	Tequilla Tasting
Juniors	2/13/2021	Racks/Lockers Rebuild & Retrofit
Fleet	2/19/2021	Fleet Kick Off

**All dates are tentative. Check for latest in eBlasts!*

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Cover photo: Julie D'Urso



COMMODORE'S REPORT

By **HYDEE RIGGS**

Dear 2020: Thank you for the lessons.

Dear 2021: *Please* be nice.

And here we are! The beginning of an exciting year ahead of us! Last year was a very surreal time. A strange virus, the shut down of the world, social distancing, the wearing of masks. Our lives were changed in so many ways. I hope by the time of this article, that we have passed the bitter end and are ready to raise our anchors to sweet beginnings for the 2021 season.

I chose this year's theme as "Island Life". Why? Well let me tell you. My favorite memories and most relaxing times have been on islands with my husband... Catalina, Hawaii, Nantucket, BVI's, USVI's, Australia, New Zealand, Tahiti... the list could go on. The times where our boat is moored or anchored and we must dinghy to reach the shore. Places where you can only reach by boat. These are the times where I am in my "happy place" being outside, on and in the water, relaxing in the sunshine with a drink in hand and daily responsibilities put away for the time being. I hope we will all get a bit of that feeling this year on our very own island here in Dana Point.

I am extremely excited to be working with my new officers, directors and committee chairs. Each one of them brings something exceptionally special to the table and I am thankful for their volunteerism and commitment. Thank you all!

You will note there are a few new sections in the Lines & Bits this month. First, we have a hidden anchor somewhere in the issue. Find it and send an email to editor@dwyc.org and you will be entered in a random drawing for a complimentary drink on me! We will also be spotlighting some of our Directors, Officers, Staff Commodores and Members so you can get to know them better. I hope you will enjoy the information we have gathered about them and the history of our club.

You have probably noticed that you have not received any notification regarding the 2021 Commodore's Ball. While I would have loved to have it happen in January like usual, because of COVID and other restrictions, we have had to postpone it. So the Commodore's Ball is now scheduled for October 9, 2021 to be held at El Adobe! That's right!

We are headed back there! More details to follow over this year, but in the meantime, get it on your calendar!

As you may have already heard, the Commodore's Cruise is set for August 2021 starting in Venice, Italy and traveling the Croatian coast. This cruise is very special to me as it was one of the areas that my mother and I had planned on visiting together but were unable to. So, I am proud to be going with my second family (YOU) to this magical place. If you have not already signed up and are interested, see Tracey Breedon.

Finally, the general membership meeting is scheduled for January 24, 2021. Come join us to find out the club state of affairs and have breakfast to support the Silver Stars before the meeting!

Thank you again to all for your patience and support. And cheers to a great 2021 year! 

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VICE COMMODORE'S REPORT

By **MOLLY DEARING**

Happy New Year!
I hope that you had a wonderful holiday season!


I am honored to be appointed as Vice Commodore this year, and I am looking forward to this year being slightly closer to normal. Of course, we will still face some challenges due to Covid-19, but hopefully, we won't have any new surprises.

The Food & Beverage Committee, chaired by SC Pam Northcott, continues to work hard behind the scenes to adapt to ever changing regulations. As I write this article, the club is currently closed for indoor and outdoor dining and open only for takeout. We are not sure exactly how long before we will be allowed to be open again for dining, but the Commodore, our Judge Advocate Phil Eaton and the F&B Committee continue to keep us updated and adapting to the latest state and local mandates.

Until we are open again for dining, please support the club by ordering takeout! The menu is being updated frequently, so keep your eyes open for new additions. We also offer new weekly lunch and dinner specials. And, don't forget to take home your favorite cocktail or bottle of wine with you as well. We are also looking into possibly offering delivery for your convenience.

The best way to stay connected to the club is via the weekly eBlast and the club's official Facebook page, where we will post the weekly menus and specials as well as other important club and event updates. Also, we invite your suggestions on food and beverage or the club in general. Suggestions can be placed in the suggestion box at the club or via email to a Senior Flag Officer (please remember to provide your name and membership number with your suggestion).

Keep your eyes open for a new membership directory coming soon! Thank you to Commodore Hydee Riggs and Brian Stowe for your hard work to make this happen.

As always, if you have any questions or comments or even just want to say "hi," please find me at the club, send me an email or give me a call. Cheers! 

The following applicants were approved as members at the December Board of Directors meeting:

Sam and Laurie Svitenko

Boat Owner – San Clemente

Bert and Christina Smit

Boat Owner – San Juan Capistrano

Bill and Paula Koop

Boat Owner – Anaheim Hills

Bryan and Dionne Hill

Boat Owner – Laguna Niguel

The following applicant has been posted for approval at the January Board of Directors meeting:

Terry and Wendy Converse

Boat Owner – San Juan Capistrano



The By-Laws require that new applicants for membership be posted on the Bulletin Board for twenty one (21) days. Any regular member may place an objection against an applicant by submitting the objection in writing to the Board of Directors prior to the next Board meeting.

Dana West is a 501(c)(7), not for profit, mutual benefit corporation. In compliance with the California State Liquor Laws, we must have an Officer of the Day at the door, and all guests of DWYC members must be signed in by the member with our "Swipeon" system before entrance. All visiting yacht club members must present verification, sign in with "Swipeon" and must wear a guest badge, printed by the "Swipeon" system. The OD must verify individuals, by requesting them to present their current membership card. Most members have their cards ready as they enter.



REAR COMMODORE'S REPORT

By **NINA McNEELY**

Hello, 2021! Boy, are we glad to see you! I gotta' tell ya', the year that came before you was a real kick in the pants, but we're all hoping this year is full of smooth sailing!

Did all of you club members get everything you wanted for Christmas: Health, happiness, a vaccine? If not, fear not! The DWYC Ship's Store is here! We have a great new vendor making the coolest sweatshirts. They feature the DWYC burgee in velvet relief and come in a variety of colors, with a hoodie or crew neck. We also have fun new hats and visors with a new embroidered design and burgee.


We continue to partner with Reyn Spooner, and I am really excited about what will be coming into the Ship's Store in the coming months! Here is a fun fact: Reyn Spooner was founded by men's wear designer Reynolds (Reyn) McCullough from Catalina Island and custom surf trunk seamstress Ruth Spooner from Waikiki. The bikini-clad beauty featured in the logo is an update from an original version – in which she did not have on a top at all! As the company expanded into larger retail stores, the logo was changed so as not to offend the customers (or their wives)!



We are also talking to a notable manufacturer of luxury resort wear to create something as special for the ladies as Reyn Spooner has been for the men. Think soft, affordable cashmere! Look for updates in the weekly eBlast so you can get one for yourself or as a perfect Valentine's gift.

The Member Services Committee is available to any member who needs a little help! If you are staying at home and need someone to pick up groceries, prescriptions or even if you just need help getting on Zoom, please don't hesitate to reach out. There are several volunteers who can safely offer assistance. Email memberservices@dwyc.org or call my cell listed at the front of the newsletter.

Ship's Store hours will be posted in the weekly eBlast as well as Facebook. If you need anything, just email me!

Personally, I am excited to start off a brand New Year and serve as your Rear Commodore for 2021. Last year showed that DWYC has a strong, gifted and resilient membership! I hope we all get to see more of each other in 2021. See you at the club! 





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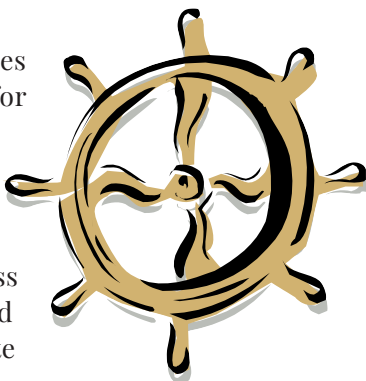
FLEET LOG

By **MEGAN NOYES**

Happy New Year! Welcome 2021, good riddance 2020!

I am so excited for the opportunity to be Fleet Captain this year and am very appreciative for all the support I have received. While I know there is a lot to learn, I can promise you that I will do my absolute best to create a fun filled cruising season.


We are still in the early stages of scheduling the events for this year, so I don't have many details to report yet. We will have a Cruise Kick Off meeting February 17, 2021 to discuss ideas and planning and hopefully find and designate



volunteers to chair the cruises. I invite anyone who is interested in being a part of these events to please come and join us at this meeting. Your suggestions and participation are invaluable.

I want to thank the Blanco's for sitting down with me and providing much-needed information to help get started on planning all our upcoming cruises. Thank you to Hydee Riggs and Molly Dearing also for their input and assistance.

I am so excited to help make 2021 one of the best years yet and am looking forward to seeing everyone at the club and on the water!

If you have any questions or comments or just want to say hello, please find, email or call me. 



PORT REPORT

By **JAN CASTEEL
& MARNIE FEELY**

Hello and Happy New Year

Jan Casteel and Marnie Feely are Co-Captains this year for Port. We want to thank our 2020 PC, Nina McNeely, who succeeded in bringing so much needed relaxation and entertainment to the club with safe social distancing.


As of today, we are hoping the Club will be open New Year's Day as we have calendared the annual New Year's Day Pajama Party, starting at 9 AM.

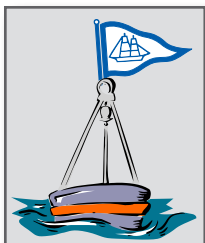
We are planning on continuing the Music on the Patio twice a month as weather permits.

We will be scheduling social committee meetings. Any member who is interested may join us. Our social committee is made up of members who want to help with our social events. We look forward to hearing from you as



to what type of events you would like to see at the club. If you would like to help make that next event great or have special skills that you think will help, please join us at our next meeting scheduled for 1/4/21. We are hoping to have it at the club if it is open. Your help and friendship are what makes DWYC the "Best Little Yacht Club on the West Coast".

Sending warm wishing and great expectations for the year! We are in this together and we will have a fun year. 

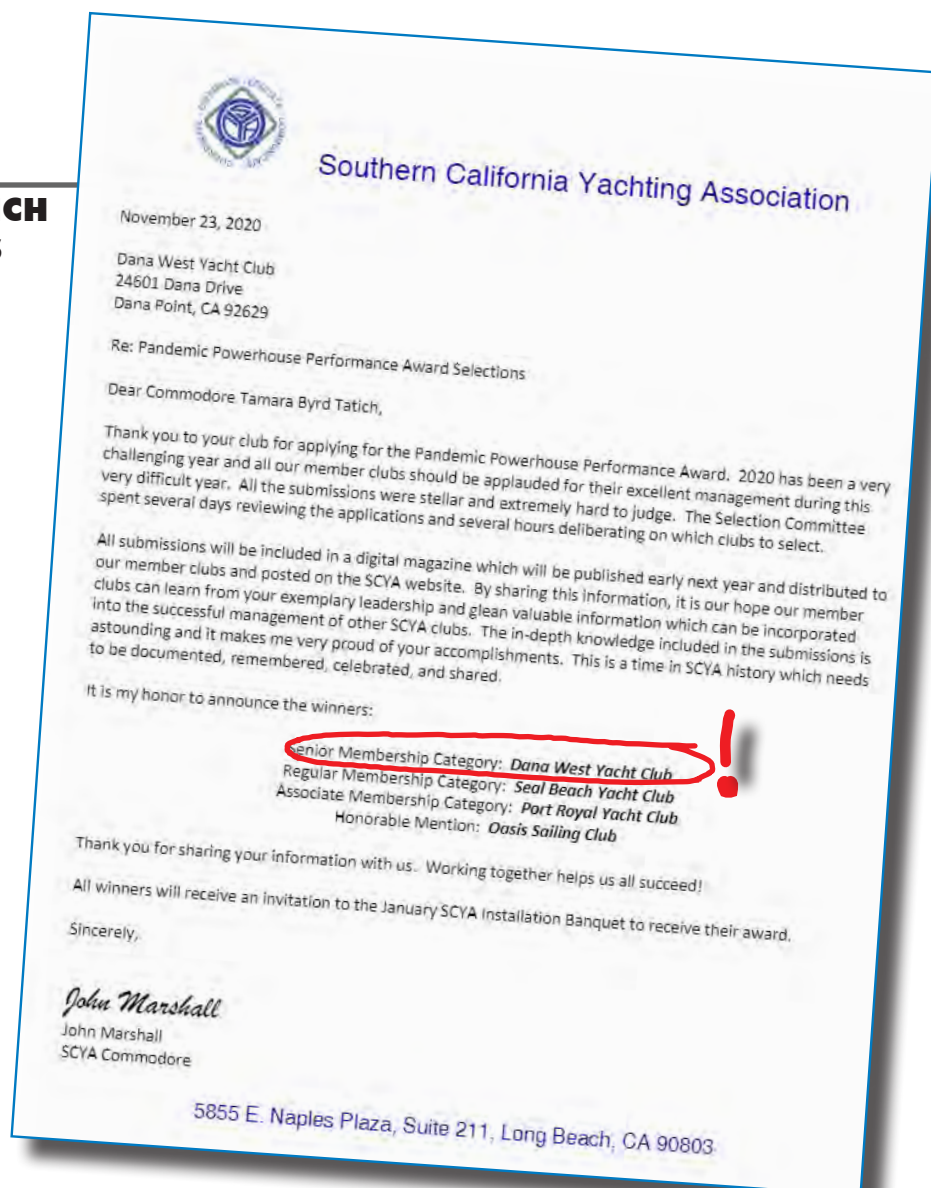


EXTRA BITS

By **TAMARA TATICH
& HYDEE RIGGS**

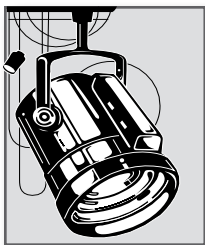
DWYC WINS!

This summer, Southern California Yachting Association reached out to clubs during the COVID pandemic to submit for the Pandemic Powerhouse Performance Award. DWYC was chosen as the winner and will accept the honor on January 16, 2021. The presentation was prepared by Port Captain Nina McNeely with contributions from many. It outlines the Club's response to our Membership during this past year. To see the slide show for yourself, just visit DWYC.org, click on Stay Connected, then scroll to the "DWYC WINS THE PPP AWARD!" post!



BLAST FROM THE PAST!

Do you recognize the DWYC members in this 1997 photo?



MEMBER SPOTLIGHTS

DIRECTOR

DAN RODOWICZ

Membership Number: 3267

Did you have a nickname growing up or now? If so, what was it and where did it come from? I was given the nickname “Fingers” when I was the organist for the Oakland A’s (in honor of Rollie Fingers, longtime A’s pitcher).

Occupation: Senior Director, Institutional Sales – Yamaha

Favorite foods: Too many to list, but I’d have to go with Philly Cheese Steak (Pizza Steak with grilled onions, to be exact) or a Hoagie!

What is the strangest thing you’ve ever eaten? Donkey

Favorite movies: (Please don’t judge me...) Dumb and Dumber, Caddyshack, The World According to Garp,

Favorite musical performers: Bill Evans, Diana Krall, Chick Corea, Billy Joel, Michael Bublé

Tell us something we may not know about you: In 1981, I won the Yamaha National Electone (Organ) Festival at the age

of 17 and represented the US in the International Electone Festival that year.

I also have a Gold Album for my keyboard work on Levert’s “The Big Throwdown”.

Best vacation ever taken: Too many choices, but I would have to say the most inspirational and unexpected was The Holy Land.

Hobbies: Sailing, playing music

What is your secret talent? I can say the alphabet backwards as fast as forwards! I can also form my tongue into what looks like a rose.

If you could choose a lifetime supply of something, what would it be? Wine

What is on your bucket list? I want to visit Poland. I am of 100% Polish descent and would love to visit where my families are from and meet relatives.

STAFF COMMODORE

VITO FERLAUTO

Membership Number 111

Staff Commodore 1984

Current or past occupation: Retired from law enforcement. I initiated the Orange County Sheriffs Department’s bomb squad and oversaw the Orange County Harbor Patrol (of all three harbors in Orange County) for five years

Do you own a boat and if so, what is her name: I own a 41’ power boat named *Babe* and just sold our second boat, a 45’ power boat named *Athena*.

Favorite alcoholic beverage: Vodka and Bourbon

Favorite movie: Indiana Jones Raiders of the Lost Ark

Hobbies: Boat mechanics and hunting

Best vacation ever taken: 10 years of cruising the Northwest Pacific and Canada with my wife Karen on our boat *Athena*.





What is your secret talent? Keeping secrets.

What is your favorite memory of being Commodore? Helping to open the clubhouse, hiring the manager and being supported by a great Board.

What was your Commodore's theme? "Getting it Right".

Tell us something we may not know about the history of the club: DWYC began and operated for years without a clubhouse. When it opened, it was run by volunteers.

Tell us something we may not know about you: I obtained my 100-ton USCG license and held that for 25 years. I also administered the Patrick Walsh Memorial Scholarship at DWYC for about fifteen years.

What is on your bucket list? Continuing cruising and taking a trip to Africa.

STAFF COMMODORE

PHILLIP EATON

Membership Number: 527

Staff Commodore: 1991

Currently: Judge Advocate

Current occupation: Attorney

Did you have a nickname growing up or now? Phillip Dale. Because Okies always include a middle name.

Best vacation ever taken: Two months in Anglet, France.

Do you own a boat and if so, what is her name: Not currently, but had a 35' Four Winns Cruiser named *Eaton Alive*.

Favorite food: Anything spicy.

Favorite alcoholic beverage: Red Wine

Favorite musical performers: Eagles, Fleetwood Mac, Linda Ronstadt, Andrea Bocelli, Mario Frangoulis, Rolling Stones, Cal Tjader, MJQ, Charlie Mingus.

Hobbies: Genealogy, trying to learn the banjo.

What is your favorite memory of being Commodore? Visiting other clubs on Opening Days. I made a lot of long lasting friendships.

Tell us something we may not know about the history of the club: There was some resistance to our first efforts to expand and build a deck (some called it a "balcony"). At one general membership meeting on the subject of building a deck, one of the members was objecting because the fresh night air would make her hair "frizzy".

Tell us something we may not know about you:

I was in a Catholic seminary, but my interest in girls overcame my holiness and I was expelled.

What is on your bucket list? My bucket is just about empty, and there is a hole in it.



Amsterdam: "Wonder why they call this one Green Dragon?"

MEMBER

GEORGE “JERRY” WETZLER

Membership Number 56

Did you have a nickname growing up or now? If so, what was it and where did it come from? George is my real name.

My dad's name was also George. When my mom would call out “George”, we would both answer, so she nicknamed me Jerry which stuck.

Favorite thing about the club: DWYC is a fun club with fun people just getting through life with a common interest.

Occupation(s) (or previous occupation(s)): Most recently, I am a retired fire captain for the City of Pomona and have been retired for 26 years.

I was also in the United States Coast Guard during the Vietnam war as an electrician's mate third class. My duty station was at Avalon on Catalina Island. I also worked on a 125-foot search and rescue ship named *Maurice*, was a licensed United States Coast Guard Captain with a 100-ton license for both power and sail boats and I used to deliver boats all over the world, charter boats and race boats racking up over 150,000 sea miles.

I also owned and started Dana West Marina Yacht Surveys.

I also was a produce manager for Food Giant market for six years and before that I worked for Food Town Markets and was voted box boy of the year at the ages of 10 to 12. Finally, I trapped muskrats and minx in the marshes on Mujaw Creek in Point Pl., Toledo, OH.

Do you own a boat and if so, what is her name: My fireman brother, Dave Spencer, and I built a 40-foot catamaran sailboat named *Freestyle* that we launched in 1976. She was named *Freestyle* because that is the fastest a human can swim through the water.

Favorite foods:

Fresh fish, all types of Mexican food,
nothing spicy and German Kraut.
I didn't get this big because I was picky.

Favorite actors/actresses:

The traffic girl on Channel 7 in the evening.

Best vacation ever taken: I raced *Freestyle* in the Transpac race to Hawaii in 1979 which we won! We then cruised the islands for six months and sailed back.

Hobbies: Sailboat racing, snow skiing, water skiing, traveling the world on small boats, fishing, hunting and helping people.



What is your secret talent? I can stick out my tongue and touch my ear.

If you could choose a lifetime supply of something, what would it be? Toilet paper, I have everything else.

If you could give your 16-year-old self advice, what would you tell yourself? I wouldn't change a thing. But practice the 3Rs: respect, responsibility and remember who helped you.

What do you pride yourself at being really good at? Racing any kind or size of sailboats. I can fix anything except a broken heart.

Tell us something(s) we may not know about you: I was a very, very good altar boy in the Catholic Church but I knocked a candle over on the altar and started it on fire. I should've known I was going to be a fireman right then. I am also one of the founding members of DWYC.

What is on your bucket list? Our trip on the great American 100 passenger paddle-wheeler to Portland, Maine, to the islands in the bay, to Nova Scotia then across Canada to the Great Lakes on the St. Lawrence seaway. COVID-19 canceled it but we're trying again in 2021.



JUNIOR'S CORNER

By **DAWN RASMUSSEN**

Happy 2021! RS TERA CHAMPIONS! DWYC Juniors can congratulate Oliver & Delaney Ernest, who won and placed second for the California RS Tera Series Perpetual Trophy. They are the top RS Tera Racers in California! This year was unique with only eight of 12 regattas happening. Winners were chosen by the highest point totals overall. Out of seven regattas, Oliver went undefeated, winning every race he was in; Delaney placed 2nd or 3rd. As you may remember, Oliver didn't get to go to the South Africa World Championships last April, but let's hope we can support these two racers to get to the Championships in Denmark in August. Sincere congratulations to Oliver and Delaney Ernest and to Coach Anthony Capri!

2021 GOALS: As we shared in October, our program goals for 2021, (dependent on the COVID restrictions), are:

- Year-round camps/programs for the Junior sailors
- Fundraising: Critical to the program for Spring program and summer camp early in 2021. Watch for: Spring Fling, Tin Cup, Fall FUNdraiser & Regatta and more!
- Expanding the fleet: one RS Tera (thank you!) has been donated and we would like to purchase three more.
- Recruitment of new kids and proposal of a junior membership to DWYC

WINTER/SPRING PROGRAMS: are open for registration on our website, www.dwycjrs.org. Programs will start January 11th through April 16th.

- Intro to Jr Racing/Intermediate Sailing
- Junior Racing
- DWYC High Performance Racing.

In addition, Dana West Yacht Club/Youth Sailing will host 2021's Mid-Winter Regatta for Juniors in February.

Looking for handy volunteers to help us Saturday, February 13th, for our rescheduled rack & locker rebuild/retrofit. Check Facebook @DWYCJuniors & Instagram pages @DWYCJrs and our website for updates.

We are having some tech issues with the Amazon Smile Donation program. Thank you to all who were interested and we will advise when it is online and available!

We are a 501(c)3 non-profit so your donation to our program, is tax deductible! Please go to our webpage at www.dwycjrs.org to make your gift donation. 🚢



Oliver Ernest RS Tera Champion.



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ISLANDER'S UPDATE

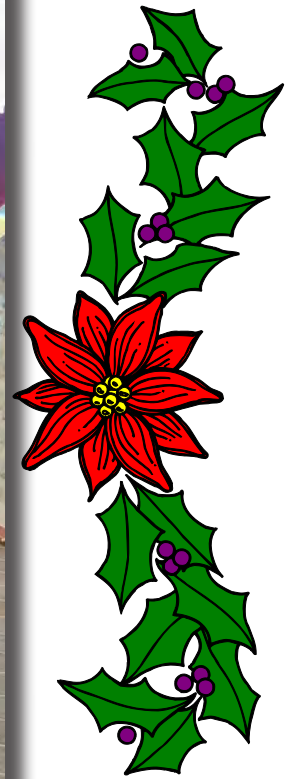
By **NANCY MAY**

Our annual Islanders Gift Exchange luncheon on December 5th, was attended by 33 enthusiastic and festive Islanders. The decorated club looked beautiful and we dined on delicious open faced turkey plates with trimmings followed by giant chocolate chip cookies. Thanks to Joel and staff for making our meal so perfectly yummy! Thanks to Mike for taking care of us the whole time at the bar! We watched as each one unwrapped a "Secret Santa" present from under the tree. We were so pleased to be able to wrap up (no pun intended) our year with this incredibly fun event!

Thank you to my Islander Board this year for always participating with ideas, willingness, flexibility and smiles each uncertain month! We all look forward to carrying on in our same positions and hopefully in a bigger way next year! Our board once again is: President – Nancy May, Vice President – Linda Turner, Secretary – Karen Blanco, Treasurer – Jan Pritchard, Historian – Judy Rydburg and Adviser- Diane Hooper.

Next year, we have plans to hold our spring luncheon in April, Kentucky Derby in May, Blackjack in June, Mystery dinner in September, Election Social in October and our Gift Exchange again in December. If all goes as planned, summer mixers will be the 3rd Thursdays of the months of June through September on the patio.

Happy New Year to all – Stay healthy, positive, optimistic and smiling! 🚤







SEAMEN UPDATE

By **KEVIN RIGGS**

As 2020 wraps up, the Seamen are happy to put this year behind us, as I'm sure many others are as well. Remember the Y2K glitch? Maybe we're in for something crazy every couple of decades.

So, with that in mind, I've decided to have a new Seamen motto going forward for 2021, maybe some shirts will make it to the Ship's Store next year. Now think back to Kevin Costner and the Field of Dreams. What was his plan? As Seamen President, I think, "What can we do to plan events and get people to attend? How do we adapt to current restrictions and still live? How do we have fun during these hard times? Well, with a little motivation from said movie above our motto for 2021 is:

"If We Do It, You Will Come!"

So, we have scheduled our Seamen Tequila Tasting event for February 10, 2021 at 6pm. We have selected Herradura

Tequila and will be tasting through 5 different hand selected varieties. We will taste all the way through to their flagship tequila, Seleccion Suprema extra Anejo. Cost will be \$50 per person and seating will be limited, so act quickly. Tasting will include a Baja-style lobster dinner and all the fixings. As always, keep an eye out for the usual fun Seamen gifts and raffle prizes.



Now to get back to work on the arduous task of designing a t-shirt. Here's to a great 2021! I'd also like to thank all the officers, directors, volunteers, staff etc. that got us through the difficult 2020 year!

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HEALTH & HAPPINESS

By **CINDY SALWAY**

In 2020, our norm was thrown out the window as we faced many challenges. We found ways to keep in touch with family and friends. We reached out to help others in need. Babies were born and loved ones passed away. We found ways to get out of the house whether on the water, on the road or on a new trail. I hope that 2021 brings you peace, joy and good health. Wishing you all a very Happy New Year!


“May your coming year be filled with magic and dreams and good madness. I hope you read some fine books, kiss someone who thinks you’re wonderful and don’t forget to make some art — write or draw or build or sing or live as only you can. And I hope, somewhere in the next year, you surprise yourself.” – *Neil Gaiman*

Bob and Cheryl Kelly’s family were personally touched by the Silverado Fire. Bob’s niece, her husband, 4-year-old son and dog were left homeless as their 100-year-old home burned to the ground. They lost everything that they didn’t escape with. The property was considered “historical,” so they were featured on the front page of the OC Register, and interviewed by CBS and KTLA news. The family have been living with Bob’s brother for now, and plan to rebuild. We wish them all the best during this challenging time.

Maimu and Bob Belhumeur’s daughter, was married December 12th. Samantha and Damian exchanged vows on a friend’s boat in Newport. From there, they continued on to the Montage where the couple shared their first dance and, keeping with tradition, Bob and Samantha shared a father-daughter dance. The wedding day may not have been as originally planned, but it was a beautiful day. We send them our hopes for a lifetime of joy and much love.

SC Jeannie Molinaro passed away on Sunday, November 15th. Jeannie was our 2010 DWYC Commodore. Information regarding a Celebration of Jeannie’s Life to follow. We send our deepest sympathy to Tony and family.

Gene Pritchard passed away on November 25th. He had been unwell for a few months. Gene was surrounded by Jan and several family members the day before he passed. Information regarding a service for Gene to follow. Our thoughts and prayers are with Jan and her family.

Let me know if you have a birthday or anniversary to celebrate in our weekly DWYC eBlast. To share any health and happiness news in this column, please email me at happiness@dwyc.org or text me at 949-632-0807. 

NOTICE RE: CALIFORNIA BOATER CARDS

Just in case you aren’t aware, by January 1, 2025, subject to certain exemptions, anyone who operates a recreational motorized vessel on California state waterways will be required to have their California Boater Card in their possession or face a fine. The card is issued by the Division of Boating and Waterways (DBW), which falls under the California Department of Parks and Recreation. The cost of the card is currently \$10, which is an amount that covers the cost of the program. Once you have a California boater card, it’s valid for your lifetime.

The requirement for having a California Boater Card is currently being phased in. California Harbors and Navigation Code Section 678.11(b) contains the following phase-in schedule based on operator age:

January 1, 2021 Persons 40 years of age or younger

January 1, 2022 Persons 45 years of age or younger

January 1, 2023 Persons 50 years of age or younger

January 1, 2024 Persons 60 years of age or younger

January 1, 2025 All persons regardless of age

According to California law, the following persons are not required to have a boater card to operate a motorized vessel on California waterways:

- A person operating a rental vessel.
- A person operating a vessel while under the direct supervision of a person 18 years of age or older who is in possession of a California Boater Card.
- A person who is a resident of a state other than California who is temporarily operating a vessel in California for less than 60 days and meets the boating requirements, if any, of his/her state.
- A person who is a resident of a country other than the United States who is temporarily operating a vessel in California for less than 90 days and meets the boating requirements, if any, of his/her country.
- A person operating a vessel in an organized regatta or vessel race, or water ski race.
- A person who is in possession of a current commercial fishing license.
- A person who is in possession of a valid marine operator license, for the waters upon which the licensee is operating, issued by the United States Coast Guard, or who is in possession of a valid certificate issued pursuant to the International Convention on Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Seafarers, 1978, as amended.
- A person who has successfully completed a boating course approved by the Commission on Peace Officer Standards and Training Post.

There are various safety course providers that are approved by the State of California. Some are free and some have a cost. These courses must be approved by the National Association of State Boating Law Administrators (NASBLA) and DBW. The courses may be classroom, home study or online. For more information about the California Boater Card and course providers, please go to www.CaliforniaBoaterCard.com.



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Ray Bell, DWYC Dock Master

dockmaster@dwyc.org