



TAHOE YACHT CLUB

# BLOCK & TACKLE

MAY - AUGUST 2020



# Dining on *Lake Tahoe*

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## Comments from the Commodore

First off, I am so grateful that, as far as I know, our members have stayed healthy and safe during the Coronavirus pandemic. While Jamie and I miss visiting with our dear TYC family terribly, we know this isolation will pass and we will all be together soon in celebration.

As I write this, my boat sits in the marina anxiously awaiting issuance of the 2020 AIS "Tahoe Only" sticker. Thankfully, the lake level currently sits 6227.7 feet, affording us plenty of liquid for the 2020 boating season. This year, TYC celebrates its 95th anniversary alongside the Thunderbird Yacht's 80th birthday.

COVID-19 has certainly changed the way we socialize, work and go about our daily lives. Staff and member safety are paramount as we implement plans for re-opening. Your Board of Directors has held numerous strategy meetings and is closely monitoring local and state phase-in guidance. Once our doors open, we do anticipate near term occupancy restrictions and abiding by mandated social distancing. Things that MAY change for a while: no reciprocity, limited guests, paperless bar tabs, furniture displacement and staff wearing PPE. I want to ensure membership that we are in a strong fiscal position, holding CD's, cash and other assets. Your Board of Directors has also been mindful of the impact this situation has had on our staff. Upon re-opening, please thank them for their service and dedication to TYC during this transition.

I want to commend our Vice Commodore, Bill Krivan and Communications Director, Erika Leone, for keeping our membership "virtually" engaged over the past few months. A sampling of completed events include cocktail hours, wine tastings, Kentucky Derby celebration, bingo, Opening Day on the Bay, and guest speakers. The Selak's have even provided home delivered hors d'oeuvres for these events.

As of writing this, many community events have been cancelled or are being vetted. Fourth of July fireworks events have been cancelled around the basin and concerts/movies at the beach, have been tabled until at least mid-July. I want to acknowledge that the TYC Foundation

has made the difficult decision to cancel the 2020 Concours D'elegance at Obexer's. Additionally, we are saddened to learn the Tahoe Maritime Museum will be disbanding their physical site.

We are working with agencies about the feasibility of on-the-water powerboat and sailing sanctioned events. At the heart of our club are the sailing nights along with our Over-The-Bottom powerboat series. I have high hopes we can hold our Rungatta, as NBC notes the American Century Celebrity Golf Tournament will likely proceed. It's always fun to support and heckle the likes of Sir Charles Barkley, Tony Romo, Steph Curry and my wife's favorite, Justin Timberlake. Let's show our TYC pride in front of the actors and athletes.

Enough of the humdrum, Ross! What CAN we do? We have secured America's Cup to provide a virtual presentation, specifically for TYC members. Stay tuned for details for this club sponsored free event. I want to thank our Port Captain, John Sakrison, for procuring our latest bar addition. The "Mr. Frosty" machine is capable of cranking out upwards of 160 frozen cocktail drinks per hour. We will be offering many recipe samplings this summer along with naming rights for signature cocktails. I've already received some great suggestions such as "Big Blue," "The 1925," the "Commodore" and others.

For those wary of visiting the lake soon, we are exploring a virtual retail store, so you can purchase new summer items from the comfort of your home. Since the Concours is rescheduled for 2021, we will have a large social gap in August. We are considering many options, such as bringing back the Big Kahuna and perhaps bringing some wooden boats into the marina for a scaled down TYC boat event. Of course, this is all dependent on municipal blessings and operating in a safe environment. I am fully committed to re-engaging our membership and being creative during these uncertain times. All suggestions are welcome.

Our first quarter event schedule was off to a great start with events such as the Fondue Party, Chinese New Year, Superbowl, Wine Dinner, First Fridays and Casual Fridays. Bill Mann and



Ross & Jamie Arno

crew once again demonstrated their culinary expertise with a sell-out crab feed. TYC welcomed the Vulcans for SnowFest, followed by our parade float the next day. Thanks to the Mullen's for trailering the sailboat. I do have some advice though - always make sure the trailer hitch is connected to your vehicle before pulling out onto the highway! I want to also commend members who volunteered for events that were cancelled due to Covid-19. The Greifensstein's were on deck to host the Italian dinner along with Sol Gold hosting a wine dinner.

I am pleased to announce that I have appointed a new TYC Director, Jerry Landers. He and his wife, Kathleen are very active club members. Jerry has served as a PICYA delegate, assisting our Vice Commodore, Bill Krivan. Jerry has immense private sector HR expertise, and is currently employed at Sutter Health. He replaces Director Frances Pierce, who dedicated her time on the board to ensuring a pleasant experience for all members. My sincere thanks to Frances for all her contributions over the years!

With the potential absence of Fizz Fling, we remember the members who have passed on since May, 2019. Eight bells were rung for Thomas Hughes, Trudi Lesam, Randy Walker, Evelyn Lockton, and Jimmy Gregory—they are missed.

As your Commodore, I could have never imagined these circumstances. I commend our membership and Board of Directors for their understanding, professionalism, and flexibility over the last few months. There has been no complaining, only suggestions on how we can safely adapt and provide value to membership. As we navigate back to the new way of normalcy, please refer to TYC email alerts regarding timelines and events. I assure you, we will resurface even stronger than before.

ROSS AND JAMIE ARNO  
Commodore and Commodorable

*2020 Celebrating our 95th year!*

**MEMBER:** Pacific Inter-Club Yacht Association (PICYA), Yachting Club of America (YCA), Antique and Classic Boat Society (ACBS), US Sailing Association, Yacht Racing Association (YRA) of San Francisco Bay, BoatUS (Group #84530V)

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Cover and Comments by the Commodore photos by:  
Steve Lapkin

**W**ow! What a crazy few months we have had. As I write this article, we are still under lockdown. Everyone is hopeful that a new normal will arise, and we will be able to start getting out more and more.

In the meantime, your Board of Directors and Staff have been active, planning virtual activities that keep us linked and communicating as a club. It has been interesting to explore the possibilities of platforms such as Zoom and Google Meet, enabling virtual Wine Tastings, Souper Saturdays, Cocktail Parties, not to mention our virtual Board of Director meetings. If you have any event ideas please let us know – we will try to put it together.

Many organizations, families and circles of friends have been communicating virtually as well. I have spoken to my extended family more in the last few months than I have all year, mostly to make sure everyone is healthy. Like many of you, I hope to make such virtual visits a more regular thing after the lockdown is over. Here are some of the enjoyable events that occurred over the winter since our last edition came out.

- First Fridays were well attended. Our hosts were always prepared and had great ideas on how to feed everyone.
- The Fondue party was a hit!
- Chinese New Year party and cooking class took place on the actual Lunar New Year's Eve, which I do not think has happened before.
- Thanks to Bill Mann and his Crew Steve Fuji, Terra Kanwetz and Alex Kanwetz, the Crab Dinner was phenomenal.
- The Vulcans from Minnesota once again showed up for a cocktail party at the club and the Snow-fest Parade. Our very own Commodore Ross Arno was knighted by King Boreas.

Unfortunately, the club was ordered to close and our last day of operation was on the 15th of March.

I would like to recognize the Board of Directors and the Staff who have been very supportive during this crisis. The club has a strong financial position. The following excerpt from one of our email blast communications best explains the fiscal situation.

*"We have collected over \$362,456 in annual dues so far towards 2020 Club operating expenses and have over \$397,000 in cash assets held in short-term CD's and liquid money market accounts that have no exposure to stock market volatility. Rest assured, years of solid financial advice, conservative spending and accurate budgeting by current and past BOD's will allow your Club to weather the current storm and be in a solid position once the waters calm."*

Going forward, we hope to reopen soon and following then current guidance, host a variety of events this summer while keeping everyone involved safe.

If anyone needs anything during this difficult time please do not hesitate to ask - the club and our members have a lot of resources to help when needed. ⚓



Andrew Casci,  
General Manager

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# Membership Update

MARGOT WOODWARD,  
MEMBERSHIP CHAIR

As I write this in early May, we are all navigating challenging times and are unsure. When will our Lake and clubhouse will reopen? What that will look like when we do? What we do know is that we will be back. As we travel these uncharted waters, we wanted to take a moment to thank you for your membership. We hope you and your family enjoy the many amenities your TYC membership offers; a beautiful clubhouse, boating opportunities, fun events and now a plethora of fun virtual activities for the entire family. For many years, we have sent out a Spring Mailer to relatively new home buyers in the Tahoe Basin inviting potential New Members to our New Member/June First Friday. It is always so fun to see old friends and meet new ones. In 2020, we have opted to delay this campaign. We hope that our current membership will reach out to friends, neighbors, coworkers and family to introduce them to TYC and help us to maintain the vitality we cherish. More than ever, sponsorship will be key to our continued successes. Thank you to those who sponsored in the early part of 2020: Mullen, Taylor, Woodward, Raduziner, Blum, Hauserman, Brown, and Keil.

## Welcome to our Newest Members!



### JONATHAN AND ALICE SHINN TAHOE CITY

Jonathan and Alice have recently moved to Tahoe City and are excited to meet more boaters and active members of our community. Their son sailed for Cal's sailing team along with the Mullens' sons. They are both accomplished sailors and Alice even taught sailing at the Richmond YC. They are interested in resuming their skiing (Penguins) and becoming actively involved in our sailing community. They are also members of the San Francisco Yacht Club and the Tiburon YC.

*Sponsor: Mullen*  
*Regular Membership*

### KIRK AND SUSAN HALEY ORINDA/TIMBERLAND

Kirk and Susan have owned a family home in Timberland on the West Shore for years. During the summer, Kirk and his three boys are found boating on the lake (actually lots of wake surfing) but they also spend lots of time skiing during the winter months, often at Homewood. They are now empty nesters and approaching retirement and anticipate spending more time at the Lake. They have been active members of the East Bay community and involved in many philanthropic activities. As they love games, they should be active participants in our OTBs!

*Sponsors: Taylor/Woodward*  
*Regular Membership*



### CHRISTOPHER AND LIZETTE PRIBUS INCLINE VILLAGE

A few years ago, Chris and Lizette sold their business and home in Laguna Beach and moved to Incline Village full time. They purchased a 1950s Chris Craft Holiday Cruiser which they have enjoyed immensely. They have been very active philanthropically in Newport Beach, Maui and Hong Kong, and are sure to become involved in the Tahoe Community. Chris is an active swimmer both in and out of the Lake and they both look forward to socializing at TYC.

*Sponsors: Raduziner/Brown*  
*Regular Membership*



### MIKE AND EVELYN KOPF MENLO PARK/TAHOE CITY

Mike and Evelyn split their time between their home in Menlo Park and Star Harbor/Tahoe City, where they are neighbors with several TYC members. They love to spend summer days on their Malibu boat skiing and wakeboarding and winter days on the slopes. They have attended a First Friday and are looking forward to participating in many of our social activities.

*Sponsors: Blum/Hauserman*  
*Regular Membership*

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# THUNDERBIRD: 80th Anniversary

BY BILL WATSON



## ROBERT AND MARIA LEFTWICH DONNER LAKE

Rob and Maria both grew up in the Bay Area but have lived and raised their son in the Truckee community. As they near empty nesting and retirement, their goals are to maintain both a mountain and a water lifestyle for years to come. They are all interested in sailing, paddleboarding, skiing/snowboarding and scuba activities. They have visited TYC and having been raised around clubs, they are seeking the social aspects of TYC while chatting about boats and mountain activities.

*Sponsor: Membership  
Regular Membership*



## JOHN ADAMS AND MONIQUE STEPHANSEN BELVEDERE/LAKE FOREST

John and Monique have owned a cabin in Lake Forest for many years. Initially keeping their Garwood at Sierra Boat and being involved with the Concours, they have now switched to a Chris Craft which is kept at the Tahoe City Marina. John and Monique love to ski at Squaw Valley (Monique grew up in Norway) and during the summer months, they hike, bike and boat around the lake. They enjoy being integrally involved in a community and are looking forward to being involved at TYC.

*Sponsor: Keil  
RegularMembership* [🔗](#)



In the early 20th Century, flamboyant Captain George Whittell, Jr. was a very wealthy young man with many extravagant hobbies and obsessions, including acquiring the best machines that modern technology had to offer. He owned multiple airplanes, Duesenberg luxury motorcars, and a small fleet of watercraft, including custom-made vessels. Whittell enlisted naval architect John L. Hacker to engineer what would become one of Whittell's most valued prizes, the Thunderbird yacht. She was built in 1939 by Huskins Boat and Motor Works in Bay City, Michigan. Originally fitted with twin 12-cylinder Kermath 550hp Sea-Raider engines (and two 4-91 Gray motors for auxiliary power), the 18-ton craft topped out at blazing 43.1 miles per hour during her sea trials on Michigan's Saginaw River. Whittell fitted her with the era's latest technology: mahogany-paneled cabins, red leather upholstery, crystal mirrors, electric heat with window defrosters, running hot water, and a phone system to communicate from ship-to-shore. Total cost? \$87,000, or \$1.5 million in today's dollars.

Launched in 1940 on Lake Tahoe, Hacker's design was influenced by Whittell's love of aircraft, specifically the sleek look of his personal DC-2 aircraft, also named THUNDERBIRD. In 1962, an aging Whittell sold his beloved watercraft to casino mogul Bill Harrah. Harrah refitted the vessel with a pair of 12-cylinder Allison V-1710 WWII fighter aircraft engines from the P-38 Lightning, each delivering 1,150HP to 23" propellers. Having undergone multiple retrofits in her storied life, Thunderbird still captures the aeronautical beauty of the art deco age.



Aboard Harrah's new toy, Frank Sinatra negotiated a return to Nevada to perform in Harrah's showrooms (after casino regulators evicted the celebrity from the Silver State's casinos for cavorting with shady underworld characters), Sammy Davis, Jr. frolicked with his children, Gerald Ford contemplated his pardon of Richard Nixon, and Tony Bennett met his future wife. These are just a few of the stories handed down by guardian owners of Thunderbird over the years. Following two decades in the care of Joan and Buzz Gibb's family, retired casino-industry executive and Nevada historian Bill Watson purchased the yacht through his Foundation 36 so that she could return home to the steel boathouse at Whittell's Lake Tahoe mansion, Thunderbird Lodge.

This year, celebrating 80-years on Lake Tahoe, the Thunderbird serves the charitable and educational mission of the non-profit Thunderbird Lodge Preservation Society. To cruise aboard this classic piece of Lake Tahoe history takes one back to a simpler time of unadorned luxury, elegance, and indulgence. For more information, visit [www.ThunderbirdTahoe.org](http://www.ThunderbirdTahoe.org) [🔗](#)



## News from the Vice Commodore



Bill Krivan  
Vice Commodore

Welcome to Virtual Spring/Summer? How could we have known in late January when I began my B&T article with "Think Snow!" what circumstances would be like only three months later. Virtual First Fridays, Virtual Casual Fridays, Virtual Opening Day on the Bay, virtual wine-tasting events, Zoom cocktail hours with friends, cancellation of the Tahoe City July 4th fireworks, cancellation of our fabulous wooden boat show, the Concours d'Elegance, and the associated

Mahogany Magic event. Greeting friends with "How are you" and really asking that question! Saying goodbye with "Stay safe" and meaning it literally!

Your Board and staff have been working hard (remotely) to find creative ways to maintain member connections, even with the clubhouse "dark." The good news is that to my knowledge no one in our membership has yet fallen ill with COVID-19. May our collective Good Fortune continue!

As I write this in early May, we are anticipating new guidance regarding protocols for restarting businesses throughout California and Placer County. While awaiting such, your Board is preparing a draft protocol for TYC and procuring some of the materials we know we will need, such as

sanitizer stations. We are considering how we might control the number of members in the club at any one time and how to ensure maintenance of "social distancing" while still restarting activities. Local marinas are awaiting guidance regarding limitations on their operations, and are also awaiting receipt of "Lake Tahoe Only" or "Tahoe In and Out" boating stickers required for boats to operate on the Lake.

Rest assured that we will keep you informed as this dynamic situation evolves. In the meantime, do take advantage of the numerous creative virtual activities organized by our staff and publicized in our weekly email blasts, often with creative cocktails by Bar Manager Cynthia Lewis. Send photos/short videos or ideas for club activities to our Media & Communications Manager Erika Leone (now supporting TYC from New Orleans), to General Manager Andrew Casci or any Board member. Staying connected with TYC friends will help us all during these extraordinary times. ⚓



Bill Krivan, Vice Commodore



## Update from the Port Captain

As spring is upon us, the weather is perfect and the water is glass; but like everything these days, things are changing, stormy conditions may lie ahead, and it involves more than weather. As I write this, we are scheduled to have boats prepped, launched, racked and stacked by mid-May. However, it looks like we're fighting gale force conditions to be using them by Memorial weekend.

We will have to adhere to new regulations when we do open our awesome fleet of sailboats (three Lasers, two Sunfish, and one Pico), plus kayaks and SUP's. The Coast Guard will require every person to use a personal floating device (PFD), and Andrew will provide proper manuals and accessories (sails, paddles and PFD's).

We will be implementing sanitizing protocols for use of the vessels; these may include sanitizing paddles, vessels and PFD's with wipes and sprays.



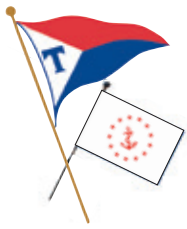
John Sakrison  
Port Captain

One thing that is a certainty - our love for the water, and our dedication to safety. This being said, please keep up-to-date with U.S. Coast Guard regulations and the ABC's of California boating. All boats should carry a marine radio: channel 16 is for emergency distress calls, channel 9 is for boater calling, channel 65 is for TYC, and channel 66 is for TYC events and regattas.

On a final note, this is a great time to work on your California Boater Card. As of January 1st, 2020, California law requires all boaters 35 years of age (or younger) to carry the California Boater Card. All boaters, regardless of age, are required to obtain the card by 2025 (visit [www.boat-ed/California](http://www.boat-ed/California) for more info).

Please be safe on and off the water, and have patience for what could be a rough season. Look to "On The Water" (in Block & Tackle) for upcoming uncertainties. ⚓

John Sakrison, Port Captain



## Report from the Rear Commodore

Greetings from the blustery shores of Lake Tahoe! Alpine springtime is always interesting, with sunny, warm days that warrant setting up the patio furniture and uncovering the BBQ, to those last minute snowstorms that sometimes hit as late as Memorial Day. Our Winter ski season was touch and go, with a few decent snow storms followed by long dry spells. Once the best snow of the season finally hit, the resorts had all closed for the season due to the pandemic! It's almost difficult to believe that Summer is nearly here, as March and April seemed to drag on forever. Nevertheless, we've been busy getting the club ready to support our members through what is ordinarily our busiest season.

It's been a much different year than I had first imagined when I took my position as Rear Commodore. As the officer responsible for staffing, I've supported multiple personnel changes including the decision to split the Club Manager position into three complementary roles, each supporting our General Manager, Andrew Casci. We now have Cynthia Lewis in the position of Bar and Inventory Manager, responsible for bar and retail inventory and payment processing. Erika Leone returned as a remote worker as our Media and Communications Manager. Both have been incredible in planning, coordinating, and executing myriad virtual events that have kept us entertained during quarantine. We are still looking for an Event Manager, the third position supporting our GM. We were hoping to

hire someone before the peak season hit, but were thrown off course a bit by the impacts of restrictions imposed by COVID-19.

Closures and restrictions have greatly impacted the club. I have been working closely with our staff to figure out ways to keep our membership safely engaged. As we move toward the summer season, your Board of Directors is working diligently to organize compelling membership experiences in ways that protect both our membership and staff. We have been closely following state and local guidelines in our preparations and planning. After a long spring of isolation and social distancing, we're all eager and ready to get out and enjoy the bounties of nature provided by the lake and surrounding wilderness areas. While we still cannot predict precisely what lays ahead, rest assured that Tahoe Yacht Club will endeavor to be the center of your social connections. Happy Sailing! 🚢



Shannon Madison  
Rear Commodore

Shannon Madison, Rear Commodore

## Volunteer Opportunities

Even with pandemic closures, we are always looking for more volunteers to help out the club and join our committees. Our club is built on volunteerism and we hope you will find an area in which you would like to assist.



The Holm's volunteered to host a First Friday

If you are interested in hosting a virtual event for the club, we would love to fill up our social calendar. We are looking for any members who would like to teach classes, lead talks about

important topics related to the club and the Tahoe community, or become the host of our recurring events, like First Friday and Casual Friday. During the COVID shelter-in-place, our events are being virtually held, so you can volunteer right from the comfort of your own home.

Our Over-the-Bottoms rallies will hopefully remain on track for this summer. If you are



Volunteer to host First Friday in the future!



2019 volunteers in the Murder Mystery Dinner

interested in helping Greg Barraclough plan out the races, set the marks or buoys, or help with timing and scores, please let us know. These races are some of the most fun days of the summer, so helping to improve and ease execution is always a formidable goal. Please contact me at [ClubManager@tahoeyc.com](mailto:ClubManager@tahoeyc.com) to join in on any committees or volunteer opportunities. 🚢

# Winter Wrap Up!

BY ERIKA LEONE

Before our social lives were altered drastically by COVID-19, the Tahoe Yacht Club did what we do best. We had fun! TYC member volunteers and staff were able to host three First Fridays and two Casual Fridays before required closures. They were well attended, thoughtfully planned, and all around fun parties. At the time I, nor anyone, could not have imagined how our social climate would be forced to change for the foreseeable future.

January First Friday was hosted by Shannon Madison and Deb Selak. At the party, Deb and Shannon provided some amazing and professional appetizers, setting a high bar for the year. The delectable food was complimented by a Sagey Gin Gimlet created by our bartender, Cynthia. Sage on the palate is such a wintery treat! February First Friday followed suit, hosted by Lynne and Fred Hurst. The club has a great turnout for the event and food and drink was enjoyed by all. For March First Friday, the Greifenstein's & the Schwoob's co-hosted and put out delicious appetizers that kept us all warm during the chilly winter evening. These members have signed up year after year to provide the wonderful First Friday experience, and we cannot wait until we resume these get togethers.

Our Casual Friday events in January and Friday lived up to their name! January Casual Friday focused on highlighting winter-centric ingredients and repurposing them into classic cocktails. The favorite of the night was a Cinnamon Rosemary Manhattan, which tasted so appropriately seasonal and really elevated the baking spice notes in the bourbon. February Casual Friday fell on Valentine's Day this year, so our drinks and appetizers were geared towards showcasing love! We had over 30 couples attend, an adamant demonstration of their love for each other and the club, if I do say so myself.

As we continue to have these wonderful member hosted events, we have seen the turnout of prospective members continue to increase. Members have brought friends, family, and neighbors along to these cocktail parties, inspiring those guests to seek out membership in the future. We are looking forward to our First Friday and Casual Friday events as soon as we can resume a normal social calendar. [📌](#)

## FIRST FRIDAY - JANUARY



Fred and Linda Greifensteins - March First Friday Co-Hosts.



John and Stephanie Caronna with Bill Keady.



Kent Lieginger, Gordon MacAulay, and Wes Schimmelpfennig



Jamie Arno and Nileta Morton



The Phillips and Pat Lucas.



Fred and Lynne Hurst

## FIRST FRIDAY - FEBRUARY



Judd Holiday, Wes Schimmelpfennig, Nancy Cunningham, Margaret Holiday, and The Holms

## CASUAL FRIDAY - FEBRUARY



The Ashleys



Kelly Bass, Robert Jordan, and Nileta Morton



Erica Mattson and John Siegel



The Mullens look happy on Valentine's Day!

Friday!

# moments from the Social Scene

## SUPERBOWL

The San Francisco 49ers, the hometeam to many TYC members, made their way back to the biggest football game of the year-the 2020 Super Bowl in Miami, Florida. The 49ers were competing against the Kansas City Chiefs, who were slightly favored to win the game. The club filled up to capacity to watch Kyle Shanahan's 49ers dominate their opponents! With outstanding players like Jimmy G and George Kittle, it looked like the 49ers were going to come out on top, but late in the game the Patrick Mahomes-led Chiefs came back to win it all! Although disappointing to our membership, the party at the club was a comforting place to be amidst the loss. Our potluck offerings were filled to the brim with chips, dips, chili, and the works of football fare. We hope next year brings better success to the San Francisco 49ers so that they can bring home the W!



Members packed the club to watch their 49ers play in the Super Bowl!



Suzanne Boucher and Carla Sakrison cheer on their team!



The Taylors and their family enjoy the food and the game

## CRAB FEED



The Arnos and the Wharburtons

We had another sold out Crab Feed for the books! Once again catered by Bill Mann, Steven Fuji, and Terra Kanwetz, members filled up the club to enjoy the decadent crab and sides provided by the crew. Delicious dungeness crab claws and crab legs filled guests plates accompanied by fresh, hot garlic bread, pasta, and large, bright, mixed green salads. As one of the highlights of the winter, we were so glad we could all get together and dine so finely with friends!



The Crab Feed was another sold out event!



Hosts of the Crab Feed, Steve Fuji, Terra Kanwetz, and Bill Mann with Diane Shore



Andree and Larry Benson crackin' crab legs!

## COCKTAILS WITH THE VULCANS



*Commodore Ross Arno and the Vulcans*

Every year on the eve of the SnowFest Parade held in Tahoe City, the Saint Paul Vulcans of Minnesota come and visit the Tahoe Yacht Club. The Saint Paul Vulcans are a Krewe of notable Minnesota residents who travel to many winter festivals to promote community awareness, volunteerism, and the festivals' charitable organizations. Current Krewe members have been long time friends with some members of the TYC, so we gladly host a cocktail party for them before they participate in the SnowFest Parade the following day. The Morton's brought in a delicious cake for us to enjoy, with the Vulcan's famous message splashed across the top, "Hail the Vulc!"



*Nileta Morton and her Vulcan Pal*

## SNOWFFEST PARADE

Whether the snow is coming down by the foot, or it is the warmest day of Winter, members of the TYC march along the Tahoe City parade route to participate in the SnowFest Parade. Our float this year was themed 'Nautical' – a very fitting look for the Tahoe Yacht Club. The Mullen's towed along their boat and allowed members of the club to ride along! Our GM Andrew's children, Mya and Nico, passed out candy and treats to onlookers. This year, donned head to toe in a glorious winter suit, Commodore Ross Arno and his wife Jamie led the TYC float as we marched along the parade route. This event has been a great way to engage with the Tahoe City community that we adore so much.

## VIRTUAL WINE TASTINGS



*The Caronnas sweet set up for the virtual wine tasting!*

A first for the Tahoe Yacht Club, Virtual Wine Tastings became a huge hit for the members as we navigated our "new normal" of having the club closed in accordance with social distancing regulations. We had virtual tastings with two California wineries, Integrity Wines and Ceja Vineyards.

Our first virtual tasting was hosted by Integrity Wines on April 25th. Over 40 members ordered the tasting package to be delivered right to their front doors! The seven wines featured in the tasting were:

- 2019 SAUVIGNON BLANC, DRY CREEK VALLEY
- 2018 CHARDONNAY, ARROYO SECO
- 2018 ROSE, SANTA CRUZ
- 2018 PINOT NOIR

- 2017 CABERNET SAUVIGNON, SANTA CRUZ MOUNTAINS
- 2017 OLD VINE ZINFANDEL, LODI
- 2018 RIESLING, SANTA LUCIA HIGHLANDS

Each wine was described by the winemaker himself, Mark Hoover, as he highlighted informative tasting notes and offered valuable wine pairings. My personal favorite was the 2018 Rose. It was a perfectly balanced, light, crisp wine that I hope to drink all summer long!

It was unanimous that the membership enjoyed having mini bottles of each wine to taste as compared to having full bottles. The ability to try more wines over having to finish off whole bottles was an absolute treat.



*At home wine tasting kit from Integrity!*

# moments from the Social Scene

## COCKTAILS BY CYNTHIA

Over the last year and half, Cynthia Lewis has become an extremely fun, inventive, speedy, and dedicated bartender. She has crafted dozens of cocktails for each event, coming up with fun plays on drinks for holidays and fitting cocktails into an array of themes. Below are some of her extremely successful drinks that she has debuted at the club & virtually.



*Honey Ginger Gin and Tonic*



*Bunny Mary  
Easter Cocktail*



*Berry Cucumber Gimlet*



*Sage Gimlet*



*Pineapple and Tajin Margarita*



*Mexican 75*



*Raspberry Lime Spritzer*

## EVENTS "IN THE CLOUD"

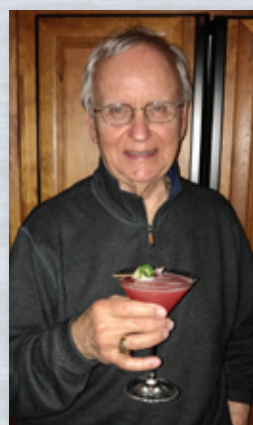
In the time of COVID-19, we were faced with the challenge of creating a "new normal" for members of the Tahoe Yacht Club. One of the main draws of the Tahoe Yacht Club is our social events. Without being able to meet at the clubhouse because of its closure, we needed a new way to "get together" and have fun! That's when we realized there was a way we could do a lot of our events – but online!

Our first virtual event was a small test-run cocktail party 'hosted' by the Krivan's via Zoom and promoted on our Members Only Facebook site. It was such a hit! About 12 members joined in, made drinks over their video conference, and chatted and laughed the night away. After the success of that evening, we took some of our originally planned events and converted them into a virtual format.

Instead of a wine dinner, we hosted a virtual wine tasting event, with amazing California wineries! The winery we partnered with for this event was Integrity Wines. The tasting had a great turnout with lots of knowledge to learn.

We've gone on to host virtual bingo night, online scavenger hunts with Facebook posts as participation, weekly cocktail demonstrations on Facebook Live, and so many more. In lieu of the Kentucky Derby, a large and well attended event normally at the club, we held a Derby Hat-making tutorial, a Mint Julep lesson, and a Dress-Up contest for members' best derby attire!

It's safe to say that we would not have chosen to reimagine our social calendar as a strictly virtual one, but we are so glad that TYC members have fully embraced this alternative and are continuing to have fun participating in our revamped events! 📌



*Bill Krivan enjoys his  
homemade cocktail  
taught by our bartender,  
Cynthia Lewis*



*Cocktails during Trivia Night*



*The Raduziners submission for the  
Easter Scavenger Hunt*



*Shannon Madison  
enjoying her wine and  
appetizers, courtesy of  
the Selaks*

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# ON THE SHORE

## What's in an Event?

### Some History Behind Our Social Gatherings



*The Fortes enjoy NYE 2018*

The Tahoe Yacht Club is so much more than its name implies. It is not just a “yacht club,” solely focused on boating and the lake. It is a multifaceted, well-rounded social club that has brought together people from all over the country. The members of TYC have a common love of the lake, but have found that through membership of the club, they can enjoy all manner of social activities. Our calendar is packed with events, some recurring monthly and others happening once or twice a year. No matter the season, days are filled with member-sponsored events, potlucks, boat races, skiing days, holiday parties, and everything in between. Maybe you’ve been to all of these events over the years, or perhaps you joined recently and have yet to attend any. Whatever the case, we hope you learn a bit more about what the club has to offer.

At the very beginning of the year (or maybe the end of the year depending on how you look at it), we throw an exceptional New Year’s Eve party, with a theme, color scheme, and decadent hors d’oeuvres and lots of freely flowing champagne. Members and their guests are invited to dress formally, take pictures in our photo booth or in front of our special backdrop, and cheer with a toast as the clock strikes midnight on the East Coast. This makes the TYC NYE the perfect start to your New Year’s festivities, or gives you a chance to turn in early.



*A Holiday Spread at First Friday*



*Wes Schimmelpfennig \_ Nancy Cunningham  
Serving Themselves at a First Friday*

Every month we have two recurring events; First Friday & Casual Friday. We sign up member-volunteers in August with everyone who would like to host a social event on the first Friday of the month (hence “First Friday”). Our hosts (typically one or two couples) plan appetizers, drink specials to be featured by our bartenders, and pick themes or decorations. Member hosts are reimbursed for their spending up to a seasonal limit. First Fridays of the past have had themes like ‘Under the Water,’ ‘Americana Picnic,’ ‘Cinco de Mayo,’ and ‘Winter Wonderland.’ Casual Fridays happen every third Friday of the month. These

parties hold true to their name in that they are casually less structured. The Commodore works with the staff to plan these evenings, whether it be themed around the food served, like Make-your-own-Nachos or chili set out with a plethora of toppings, or more involved like Bingo Night, Bouquet Making, Karaoke, or other participation-driven activities. Friday’s are a fun time to be hanging out at the club, no matter which week it is.

Throughout the winter months, we hope you have found your

way or plan to join an outing with the Penguins - our extremely active ski group. Penguins gather at a selected ski area and time, with a Lead Penguin who is very familiar with the specific area. The group skis hard all morning, then settles in for a convivial lunch shortly after noon. After lunch,



*A First Friday in 2019*



*A First Friday Table*

some continue skiing, others call it a day. Outings are arranged at favourite areas around Tahoe, such as Squaw Valley, Alpine Meadows, Diamond Peak, Homewood, and Sugar Bowl. At the end of the season the Penguins join together for a final luncheon at a suitable location. Over the years, long-time member Walter Nelson has traditionally hosted for this end-of-season gathering at his West Shore home.



*Penguins skiing at Squaw Valley in 2017*

Christmas at TYC is a special time. The clubhouse is decorated to the nines with garland, lights, elves, reindeer, and other holiday decor. We invite members to join in decorating our tree, the focal point of the Commodore's Room with a view out on Lake Tahoe. The Friday before Christmas, we always have the local Tahoe community chorus join us at the club to sing Christmas Carols for all the members and their guests. As Christmas Eve & Christmas Day approach, we get to have a visit and a Lunch with Santa himself. Children, grandchildren, and family members are invited to decorate cookies and ornaments, followed by the kids letting Santa know what they want for Christmas. An excellent photo opportunity.

The week of the Tahoe City SnowFest is filled with engaging activities all over town, including our traditional Cocktails with the Vulcans. The Vulcans are a non-profit organization based in St. Paul Minnesota - ene-

mies of winter, the men tasked with overthrowing Boreas, King of the Winds, at the climax of the Winter Carnival, St. Paul's ritualized coping mechanism for Minnesota winter blahs. The Vulcans also travel from city to city to participate in other winter festivals around the US. Their main goal is to help the festivals raise money for the charities that these events are supporting. They stop by the Tahoe Yacht Club on the eve of SnowFest and join us for drinks, laughs, and fun.

On the day of the SnowFest Parade, the yacht club enters a float in the parade. TYC members and staff meet in the Safeway parking lot to decorate our float. Some years, TYC has included one of our boats in the parade, in keeping with our nautical focus, while in other years we decorate a



*2016 SnowFest Float*

flatbed truck. Members who wish to ride in the float or walk behind it are given bright and sparkling masks or hats to wear, while children of families participating get to hand out candy and treats to the parade viewers. The parade marches from North Lake Boulevard to the other, starting at the Safeway Parking lot and ending at the intersection of North Lake Blvd and West Lake Blvd.



*Santa grants wishes for Carla Sakrison, Susie Mason, and Pam Laesch*

Lake Tahoe and all of its surroundings are home to extremely interesting, educated, and philanthropic people. We make it our goal to take advantage of this resource by hosting presentations by such people at the Club a few times a year. We do this at our event, Souper Saturday, where we invite presentations by an interesting speaker followed by a question and answer session. We provide a delicious lunch from Tahoe House Bakery in Tahoe City - seasonal soups, sandwiches platters, and cookies for members to enjoy before the speaking engagement begins. Souper

Saturday has highlighted the work and accomplishments of many, from the League to Save Lake Tahoe and their work to Keep Tahoe Blue, to Bill & Fritz Briner's achievements at Squaw Valley and at the Tahoe Yacht Club. Souper Saturday has blossomed into an extremely popular event at TYC, offering information about ways to improve our community and learn about its history.



*The Vulcans join us in 2017*



*Paul Cunha blends up a Gin Fizz at the Fling 2005*

To welcome in our boating season, we host the annual TYC Gin Fizz Fling. We launch the season with complimentary gin fizzes and a “Blessing of the Fleet” by a pastor from a local church community. The pastor recites a blessing to watch over our members and ensure a safe, successful summer boating season. Following the blessing, members enjoy complimentary Gin Fizzes, a classic cocktail that incorporates Gin, lime juice, and some other secret ingredients to make a foamy, delicious drink. The drinks are even better as they are whipped up by members of the Board of Directors. Food is catered by Melanie Jackson, a local caterer who incorporates seasonal California ingredients with inventive and creative preparations. The Gin Fizz Fling is one of the best attended events year after year. Make sure you wear your seersuckers and finest summer boating garb.

As summer rolls around, the Tahoe Yacht Club’s social calendar begins to burst at the seams. Events are happening weekly and sometimes daily as the days grow longer and the weather gets warmer. One of the highlights of summer, especially being on Lake Tahoe, is the 4th of July. Independence Day at the TYC is a blowout bash that is complimentary for members to come enjoy a delicious buffet, a plethora of drinks, and the best viewing seats for the fireworks over the lake. Our buffet is provided by local caterers, Mountain Magic, who put out a spread of homemade that often includes chips & dips, steak skewers, sliders, salads, grilled salmon, sausages of all types, and baby back ribs. The food is complemented by bright, summery drinks featuring local ingredients from the Tahoe City Farmer’s Market. As evening rolls around, we open our broad doors to face the lake, letting everyone fill up the balcony that overlooks Lake Tahoe so we can watch the fireworks light up the night sky.

In accordance with our name, the Tahoe Yacht Club is of course fo-

cused on boating and being out on the water. One of the highlights of the summer boating season is the Over-The-Bottom (OTB) rallies. And what are those, you might ask? They are powerboat events, similar to the time and distance navigation rallies traditional in the sports car community. OTB’s are scheduled over the course of the summer, with a party at the end of the season to celebrate the new winner, hosted and paid for by the winner of the past year. Before the race season starts, we schedule an Over-The-Bottom Opening Party at the club with delicious appetizers and drink specials for the evening. This event is an opportunity to sign the required waivers and learn the event rules. Most OTB’s start in the waters off of the Tahoe City Marina, or occasionally other marinas with restaurants attached for post-rally lunch. The boats gather around 8:30am to get their starting number and a packet of instructions. Beginning at 9 am, at one minute intervals, participating boats motor across the starting line in order of their starting number and follow the instructions regarding speed, time, direction, and relationship to visible landmarks. There are also trivia questions and a poker hand involved. The rally takes about an hour and is followed by a late morning brunch. If the race finishes at the club, we feature our amazing Make-Your-Own Bloody Mary Bar. Winners receive prizes for each event and the overall season winner gets the big trophy, bragging rights, and opportunity to host the season-ending party the following summer. If you’ve never participated, you should try and join the crew of an experienced member and see how all the fun goes down.

If you’ve got a boat or the ability to take a ride on a friend’s boat, join us for the Rumgatta! Members and their friends travel by boat to the American Century Celebrity Golf Tournament held at Edgewood in South



*A Vulcan in Full Dress*



*Our SnowFest Float in 2017*

Lake Tahoe, anchoring off the 17th fairway. You can go to shore and stand mere feet from the professional athletes and celebrities like Steph Curry, Ray Romano, Tony Romo, and Justin Timberlake. While you are relaxing on your boat and enjoying the sights of the golf tournament, the TYC mothership will be cruising around delivering complimentary rum drinks to everyone aboard. Last year we had Hurricanes and Dark n’ Stormies as our featured drinks.



*Commodore's Cruise in Emerald Bay, 2018*

Another favorite lake outing is our Commodore's Cruise. TYC members travel by boat to Emerald Bay for a barbecue and potluck dinner. The club has permission to bring our big barbecue, where we grill up burgers, dogs, and veggies. We make our special Commodore's Corn every year over a big fire pit - a delicious salty, buttery, and decadent preparation of corn, perfect for a picnic by the lake. Members also bring something to barbecue, and side dishes to share. Wine and beer are complimentary for attendees, packed and provided by the club.

If sailing is on the forefront of your passions, I would suggest you participate in any number of our sailing races. The Wednesday Night Racing Series (formerly known as the Beer Can Races), is a series of two 7-night buoy races on Wednesdays during the summer. The race includes upwind and downwind legs and sometimes even triangle courses set between Dollar Point and Tahoe City. Each leg may be up to one mile depending on wind speed. There are three different divisions based on PHRF Ratings. Races last until the wind dies or it gets dark. At the end of each series there is a party to celebrate and trophies for the winning competitors.

When the Trans Tahoe rolls around, sailors from all over the country descend upon Lake Tahoe to participate. The Trans-Tahoe Regatta has multiple sailing races throughout the weekend, featuring different PHRF divisions with afternoon buoy races and a full day long distance race. The TYC hosts two parties to celebrate the Regatta, including a welcoming party at the River Grill in Tahoe City, and an awards ceremony the following night.

The Laser Racing Series runs on Monday nights, starting at 6 p.m. at the Lake Forest Boat Ramp. This is a One-design race of 14' single-handed boats. There are usually about 25 to 30 boats and the races last until the wind dies or it gets dark. Buoy racing consists of upwind and downwind legs which are usually about 3/10ths of a mile each way. Join in on any of these races if you are interested, or join a crew, as members are always looking for more crewmates.



*Laser Racing in 2017*

As August approaches, Tahoe and its surrounding communities begin to buzz with excitement for the Lake Tahoe Concours D'Elegance. The Concours d'Elegance is the USA's premier wooden boat show, a weekend long event put on by the Tahoe Yacht Club Foundation. The longest running boat show on Lake Tahoe is held every year, recently on the West Shore at Obexer's Boat Company. The event showcases the most well-preserved and restored wooden boats in the world, demonstrating the art of preservation and the importance of boating and maritime tradition. After strolling around to view these beautiful, floating art pieces, you can also visit a number of tents featuring food, drinks, and art from local businesses. You can have a delicious glass of wine, buy handcrafted jewelry, purchase exciting new items for your boat and boat outings, and try fare made by local businesses.



*Greg Barraclough hands out numbers for OTB participants in 2019*

The weekend is a treat and allows you the opportunity to bond with other aquaphiles while viewing rare boats, enjoy the Lake Tahoe scenery, and make lifelong memories that create friendships in and outside of the TYC. The Concour D'Elegance is an event you do not want to miss.

If you have details, stories, or photos of any of these or other historical Tahoe Yacht Club events, please contact Rear Commodore Shannon Madison at the club. She is preparing a detailed history for our 100th anniversary and would love to hear from you! 📍

# ON THE SHORE

## TYC On Shore Blasts from the Past

The Tahoe Yacht Club prides itself on being a multifaceted social club filled with members who are passionate about more than just boating and being on the water. This proved true as members created their own outlets of having fun, and helped to create new subgroups for participation in other summer activities off the water. Some of those activities include Bocce, Bridge, Golf, and Tennis. Fun was had, friends were made, and getting off the boat and on to dry land was a priority.

The Eagles, a group of golfers from TYC, started their outings many years ago. Groups of upwards of 20 players from the Tahoe Yacht Club would play rounds at some of the most beautiful courses around the lake. Some highlights of past seasons have been playing at Northstar Resort, where the leader of the group, Doug Brown, was able to set up 18 and 9 hole rounds for members every Friday. Pizza parties at the clubhouse followed after that. Almost 70 golfers came out to play at the end of the 2016 and 2017 season, hitting record highs for the group. The Eagles have also had many tournaments throughout the year, like 2014's 9 and 18 hole tournament at Old Brockway Golf Course and Northstar's tournaments in 2017 and 2018. The Eagles had great participation and hope to schedule another golf season soon, even though the social calendar of TYC members is always jam packed.

Tennis was a club favorite for many years as well. Led by Kelsey Ferris with help from Debbie Nicholson, many yacht club members got together multiple times every summer to play round robin doubles events. You could find participants playing matches in local neighborhoods throughout the town, like at the Northshore Condominiums, the St. Francis Lakeside Condominiums, and at Dollar Point. It's hard to imagine better places to play a match on Saturday Morning. Following most matches, the group would head back to the yacht club where they'd enjoy luncheons, leading up to the end of summer awards ceremony.

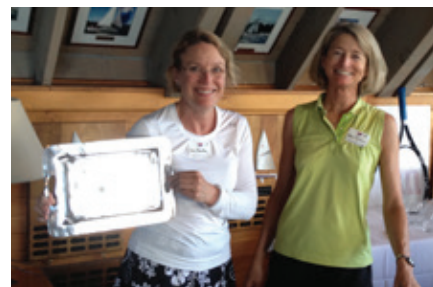
Hopefully, as golf courses and tennis courts begin to reopen for the season, members of the TYC will find their way back to these groups and give them new life for years to come. If you are interested in helping organize these events, please contact Andrew or any Board member. See you on the links or the courts! ⚓



Past members gather for the 2012 Tennis Social



The Eagles of 2018



Debbie Nicholson gives out awards at a Tennis Social

## Tahoe Yacht Club Bocce Team



The Liegingers, The Mullens, The Woodward's, and The Scarcias play bocce at Wolfdales

For the past several years, the Tahoe Yacht Club has entered a team in Wolfdale's Annual Bocce Ball League. There are approximately 10 to 12 teams competing each Thursday night from July till the playoffs at the end of August.

Each team receives a scrumptious platter of appetizers as they compete, and there is a well-stocked bar available for the players and guests.

The TYC team generally consists of 6 to 8 members (four players and some "reserves") and a rooting section of other members to cheer on our team. It is a nice way to enjoy a cocktail, nibble some appetizers and mingle with TYC friends old or new. Due to pandemic restrictions, the 2020 Bocce Ball League has been postponed until further notice. Stay tuned! ⚓



The Bocce Crew of 2019

# Penguin Ski Group Update



FROM HEAD PENGUIN AMY FORTE



22 skiers joined in at Squaw Valley!



Another beautiful ski day in Austria



The Penguins on their trip to Austria!



Penguins at Diamond Peak



The Penguins at Alpine Meadows

The Penguins ended January with a great turnout at Diamond Peak on the 31st. It was a beautiful sunny day and Judd Holiday was our fearless leader. February came, but unfortunately new fresh powder didn't. In spite of that, we had a wonderful turnout on February 7th at Squaw Valley with 22 people. Skiing was beautiful and we loved our lunch at a new restaurant, Tremigo. The restaurant was very accommodating for our large group and the food was delicious. February 21st brought a smaller group at Alpine Meadows, but that didn't deter from all having a wonderful time.

The Penguins had another successful outing on

March 6th led by our Diamond Peak specialist, Judd Holiday. Margot Woodward planned a snowshoeing outing to Chickadee Ridge on Mount Rose, which was led by Nancy and Matt Taylor. It was an adventurous Penguins excursion that was an enjoyable change from our usual downhill outings.

In early March, a TYC contingent, led by Penguin Pat Lucas, ventured to Austria to ski the Alps in the Arlberg Valley in the area surrounding the small village of Zurs. We stayed in a delightful small family-owned hotel, the ArlbergHaus, with immaculate rooms, a fine restaurant and a 100-meter walk in the mornings to the gondola. The first day was a spectacular bluebird day, with intense blue skies, brilliant sun and immense snowy mountain ridges as far as the eye could see. Fabulous picture-taking conditions - what a treat for our first day. Subsequent days were more challenging. There was a ton of fresh powder, but overcast skies and continued light snow made skiing quite a challenge, frequently in near

white-out conditions. However, then came evenings, with high-spirited camaraderie first in the hotel's small, informal bar then moving to our large group table in the lovely dining room for a fabulous multi-course dinner. What a life-time experience. We all returned three days prior to Austria shutting down all restaurants, hotels, tourist facilities and such, as the country locked down in response to the COVID 19 pandemic. Home just in the nick of time! However, as a result, we were all in mandatory 14-day quarantine after our return. Fortunately, all emerged from quarantine in good health and checking with our hosts in Zurs, all the family and staff there were also OK. We had hoped for more skiing at Tahoe, but sadly the local ski areas also closed due to health concerns, which ended the Penguin's season. We hope that all TYC members continue in good health. Look forward to a great ski season next year! 📌

# ON THE WATER

## Under Sail

BY DAN HAUSERMAN

To quote the Coast Guard Officer I spoke with in late April, “anything you write now will be 100% different by the time it goes to print.” That being said, this article could then be best used in a toilet paper emergency.

The Officer did go on to mention that he felt, “the safest place for a family to isolate this summer might just be in the middle of the lake on your boat.” And as of now, he stated that, “the Coast Guard considers all is normal, but that States and Counties are in charge of getting on the water, and nothing is clear.” He did continue by suggesting Nevada State side might have easier regulations, and there could be a difference between Placer and El Dorado Counties.

If you tow your boat in, it could be a tough year in a “Costco-like line” if the public ramps are even open for operation. Patience will be needed for all, and plan on wearing a mask when you get gas. Tahoe City Marina will be coming up with their own safety protocol measures. The best plan is to check ahead with your marina ramp and TYC before every departure. ⚓



## Racing Rules of Sailing

For the past several years, TYC’s Sail Committee has conducted seminars on sailboat race management and the racing rules of sailing. In 2019, we conducted a formal US Sailing Race Management seminar to train race committee volunteers on how to run proper races. This year on May 27th, TYC hosted a virtual Zoom meeting focused on the racing rules. The event was led by John Siegel, a TYC member who races a Laser and a Moore 24. He is a US Sailing National Judge. He is also a Certified National Race Officer, and a member of the YRA of San Francisco Association Appeals Committee.

The Zoom meeting comprehensively covered many topics in the forum of racing rules of sailing. John informed the attendees of rules and regulations, signals and their meanings, definitions of concepts like ‘right of way,’ and when it is appropriate to protest another boat. The meeting was entirely interactive and included a lively discussion and Q&A on the racing rules. The Sail Committee believes that education such as this will lead to better, fairer racing for all competitors. If you are interested in learning more about sailing, please contact anyone on the Sail Committee or John Siegel to clarify information or answer any questions. ⚓



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# Over-the-Bottom

## A Tahoe Yacht Club Tradition Worth Keeping

BY MIKE SIMMONS

I'm honestly not even sure how to start this year's spring launch article for the OTB 2020 Series. Although we will all know more about summer activities by the time Block & Tackle goes to print, there is obviously a 50/50 chance that much of this season's scheduled events will be impacted. I look forward to the beginning of summer in Tahoe. It draws in all my senses: the smell of the lake air as I rev the engine and speed toward the start line for the first Over-the-Bottom race, the Lake's cool mist on my face, and the silence on the water early in the morning.

I, like many of you, wouldn't miss the OTB experiences for the world. And until just recently, I would have said that I love the OTB series. But that's not true now. I love my freedom, and I love my life. I love my family, close friends and companionship. These are now the things I hold dear that the word love must be reserved to reflect.

Okay, so I just greatly enjoy every OTB that I've participated in, and I am sure many of you would agree. We are all most-privileged to enjoy this unique adventure. To enjoy it with our families and close friends on the boats! To enjoy the camaraderie of the OTB Fleet! And to enjoy all the beauty Lake Tahoe has to offer on early summer mornings.

Last year's fleet included 22 boats with an average of five crew per boat. That's 100 family and friends that joined together to celebrate the lake's beauty in this special way. Although we may have to figure out ways to achieve our common goals while still social distancing on 25 foot boats, I sincerely hope everyone can join the 2020 OTB Season Series.


Please begin signing up for the series by contacting the TYC staff and paying the series fee of \$170, with \$30 of this fee going toward the Award Luncheon at the end of the season. We will continue to offer both a non-member fee of \$40 for a "one-race-only" promotion, as well as offering this for members that have time to enjoy only one OTB during the season.

For those of you that were on last season's OTB Group Text, you will receive a request from Mike Simmons' cell to continue on the list a week prior to Race #1. If you are not on this list yet, we encourage participants to use texting for race communications. Please send us your best on-the-water cell number so we can communicate critical information regarding race cancellations or delays. Mike's cell phone to text is 925-708-3374. Just provide your name and boat name in the text once you've signed up. I will maintain a list that allows for common communication with everyone at once, so do be aware when replying! We also encourage all OTB participants to have a marine radio on board your boat (and turned on) during all TYC boating events.

It will be fantastic if solutions to this world crisis allows members of our special TYC community to regain control of our lives and all the things we hold dear. But if one season of Lake Tahoe boating is disturbed for the greater good of our communities, and the world, then it is well worth this small contribution. As Yogi Berra always said, "Ninety percent of an OTB race is half mental." Maybe that will mean holding the 2020 OTB Series in our heads, either as memories for prior years, or dreams of future challenges and achievements.

Even if races are postponed or canceled, you will find me heading out on the Lake around 8am on the following dates to greatly enjoy the most important aspects of the OTB event; the rewards of closeness being with family and friends, and the companionship I love with my TYC comrades.

**Friday June 12 Launch Party (POSTPONED)**  
**Saturday June 13 OTB (POSTPONED)**  
**Friday July 10 Launch Party (T.B.D. @ 5:30pm)**  
**Saturday July 11 #1 Start T.B.D (TYC finish)**  
**Saturday July 25 #2 Gar Wood start & finish**  
**Saturday August 1 #3 Start T.B.D (TYC finish)**  
**Monday August 10 WOTB Replacement event – T.B.D.**  
**Sunday August 16 #4 Start T.B.D (TYC finish)**  
**Saturday August 22 #5 & Awards Luncheon**  
**(TC Marina start & finish)**

And heck, we've already gotten the 2020 OTB trophies engraved, so unless you want to discover your First Place trophy bowl at the TYC bar filled with pretzels, you'd better plan to join me out on the water! 



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**HURST TAHOE**  
ASSOCIATES

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# ON THE WATER

## 48th Lake Tahoe Concours d'Elegance Postponed Until 2021

The Board of Directors of the Tahoe Yacht Club Foundation has announced that the 48th Lake Tahoe Concours d'Elegance has been postponed until August 2021.

The Board (Doug Ball, Bud Bensley, Manoj Kashyap, Terry Feist and Ward Sproat) has been meeting over video conferences every week over the last two months to discuss the possibility of holding the show as planned this year. The discussions included the event organizer, Liquid Blue Events, who were able to relate what other events are doing in response to the uncertainties of the pandemic. The board also discussed the situation with the management of Obexer's Marina, where the Concours would be held.

After considering the safety of the attendees, volunteers, staff and exhibitors, along with the uncertainties associated with what the State and counties involved would allow in August, the Board unanimously decided to postpone this year's show until August 13-14, 2021.

This year's Marque Class of boats, Boats of the 1960s, will be featured as the Marque Class next year. So, if you have a boat from the 60's, you have another year to get it into Concours condition for the show. [↓](#)

From our 2017 laser season

## Laser Fleet

BY RICK RADUZINER

(I HOPE WE ARE SAILING BY THE TIME YOU READ THIS!)

What a crazy winter and spring this has been. I hope you are all well and that we are out on the water soon. I can't wait to sail on beautiful Lake Tahoe again. Let's hope we are mostly virus-free and lake-full so we can get out there and play with our fellow boaters and sailors. Here is our tentative schedule:

Our season will be kicking off with the usual Monday Night Laser Series, beginning on June 1st. AND... once again the TYC with support from your Sailing Committee and BOD is bringing another major regatta to Lake Tahoe. The Open Laser Pacific Coast Championships will be held July 24-26. The sailing venue will be between the TYC and the Lake Forest Boat Ramp. We are looking for volunteers. Please contact Lynn Mullen with your interest. Exciting close racing and expert boat handling skills makes this a great spectator sport from your motorboat. Make your plans to come out to enjoy the show.

The TYC's first sailing events are always the Laser races, which are held every Monday throughout the summer. Normally this series starts on Memorial Day, May 25th. As of May 9th, we have dropped the first night of racing and are on track for a June 1st opening day. The Spring and Summer series are 7 weeks each. We have three coed fleets racing each week known as the Laser A, B, and C fleets. The C fleet is our Jr. fleet that races the Laser Pico. The Laser A and B fleets can be sailed with the Standard sail or smaller and more manageable Radial sail. The sailor makes the decision at the dock. If you have some basic boat handling skills and want to come out to play, the "B" fleet is a great way to get involved.

Since 1996, the Laser has been chosen as the Olympic Single Handed boat. The men race with the standard sail and the women race with the radial sail (somewhat smaller sail area). The Laser is the largest one-design fleet in the world today.

The season usually finishes up with the annual two day Laser Fleet Championship and campout at Stampede Reservoir in early September. This campout with all the sailing participants has been a fun tradition for more than 25 years and is definitely the perfect way to finish the season. Last year we had over 40 boats competing making this well attended event one of the largest annual Laser Regattas in CA. Even if you don't compete, you are welcome to come out and camp, spectate, and volunteer. Please contact Staff Commodore Rick Raduziner about this regatta. [↓](#)



# Exchange and Reciprocity with ROYAL YACHT SQUADRON NEW ZEALAND

STEVEN LAPKIN, STAFF COMMODORE



Steve Lapkin with "The Mug".

American veteran wooden boat legends can be found just about anywhere now, well beyond the shores of Lake Tahoe. "Big Blue" still supports and maintains a diverse mahogany repository, but many of the iconic relics are now found at all points on the globe.

In 2007, New Zealander Philip Andrew ventured to California in search of a particular runabout which he hoped to acquire and transport 'down under' for his family and friends to enjoy during their summer seasons/our winter seasons. He just so happened to fancy a particular Century runabout that had been part of my father's ("Bud" Lapkin) collection – in storage at Sierra Boat Company. Unbeknownst to me then, he purchased the boat and shipped it in a container to Wellington on New Zealand's northern island.

The following summer, Philip returned to Tahoe to attend the Concours d' Elegance at Sierra Boat Company. It was then that the late Tahoe Yacht Club Staff Commodore Tom O'Rourke provided an introduction for Philip and me. I had the opportunity to learn about this unique wooden boat enthusiasm, particularly with Century runabouts, which quickly led to an immediate, and to-this-day, enduring friendship.

Last November, Philip encouraged me to visit New Zealand and once again drive my dad's boat. He also planned for us to attend the New Zealand Wooden Boat Festival at Lake Rotoiti, in the Nelson Lakes region of the South Island. I purchased air fares, and with cameras in hand, departed for a one week journey on March 2nd. The venture to the Southern Hemisphere was for wooden boat fellowship with Philip, his family and over one hundred fellow veteran woody-owners...but it also afforded me the opportunity to spend a full day in Auckland. Excitedly, I was able to visit the Royal Yacht Squadron of New Zealand which presently holds the

cherished America's Cup won by Emirates Team New Zealand in Bermuda in 2018.

Described as having rolling green hills, majestic mountains, breathtaking fjords and amazing landscapes from one island to the next, I was (as anyone would be) overly impressed and in awe. Beautiful colors, cultural diversity, charming and welcomingly hospitable citizenry, and an amazing yet simple cuisine had me locked in for future travel here. For those of you who have had the opportunity to visit New Zealand, you know the charm, the verve, the camaraderie! If you are a 'foodie,' you will delight in seasonal oysters, crayfish, lamb, 'whitebait' fritters, fish & chips, and a plethora of wine varietals from the South Island "Marlborough" district (much like our famed Napa Valley).



The trophy case at the RYSNZ clubhouse.

In advance of my trip, I reached out to Commodore Ross Arno and suggested that I take along a Tahoe Yacht Club burgee to present to the RYSNZ during my visit. Once there, I was greeted with open arms by their Club Membership Director, Kim Bond (I had emailed to Kim in advance of my trip such that our face-to-face meeting was cheerfully ebullient).

The RYSNZ Clubhouse is a contemporary, yet overwhelmingly trophy-festooned two-story structure overlooking a massive sailboat-laden marina with dazzling views of the Auckland skyline beyond. It is a perfect setting for selfies and a pint of Steinlager at the Club bar (modestly priced at 10 NZD (which is approximately 6 USD)).

I have successfully secured an open invitation for all Tahoe Yacht Club Members to visit and enjoy cordial reciprocity at the RYSNZ in the future. The Good Lord willing, there will be ample opportunity for sailing fellowship for all with the planned re-staging of The Cup in 2021 in Auckland. [📍](#)

# RECIPES FROM THE GALLEY

## DRINKS You Can Make in the Comfort of Your Home!

BY CYNTHIA LEWIS  
& ERIKA LEONE

Over the last few years, we have taken pride in creating a new, fun, and unique experience at the Tahoe Yacht Club bar. We have had the opportunity to play with new products, develop quirky recipes, test out eccentric ingredients, and present exciting new menus weekly for events. We've taken some of your favorite recipes from our popular events and modified them so you can create them at home, either for yourself, in batches, or as a mocktail (cocktail without alcohol).



### *The Silver Fox*

- 1.5 oz Hendricks Gin (or your preference of gin)
- 0.5 oz simple syrup
- 0.5 oz fresh squeezed lime
- 1 fresh egg white

Combine all ingredients in a shaker tin and dry shake (without ice) for 30 seconds. Add ice to the shaker and shake again for 30 seconds. Strain while pouring into a coupe/martini/glass of your choice and serve with lime zest on top.

### *The Almendra*

- 2 oz of Patron Anejo Tequila
- 1 oz of fresh squeezed orange or blood orange juice, depending on what is in season
- 1 oz of Amaretto Liqueur

Combine the tequila, orange juice, and amaretto liqueur in a shaker tin with ice. Shake vigorously for 30 seconds. Strain and pour into a martini glass. This drink is simple, boozy, and lightly sweet!



### *Berry Medley Bellini*

- 1 oz Strawberry, Blueberry, Raspberry Puree
- 1 oz Ketel One Vodka
- Top with Korbel Sparkling Brut

To make the puree, begin by blending fresh or frozen strawberries, blueberries, and raspberries and 1 cup of white sugar, or any sugar of your choice. Once combined, put the mixture into a sauce pan on the stove and simmer over medium heat for 5 minutes. Let cool.

To make the Bellini, start by building your drink in a champagne glass. Pour in 1 oz of the berry puree, 1 oz of vodka, and then top the rest with sparkling wine. Garnish with a frozen berry or two! To make this non-alcoholic, follow all the directions but omit the vodka and champagne, and instead top with Pelligrino or any of your favorite sparkling water or club soda!



### *Watermelon Sangria*

- 2 cups fresh watermelon
- 1 cup of frozen watermelon, cubed
- 1 bottle of Chateau St. Michelle Riesling
- 1 cup Ketel One vodka
- 1 medium lime, sliced
- 1 medium orange, sliced
- 5 large strawberries, sliced

Instructions: First blend the fresh watermelon cubes in a blender until you get a nice smooth puree. Strain puree through a strainer into a large pitcher, utilizing the watermelon juice. Pour the wine and vodka into the pitcher. Mix the lime, orange, and strawberry slices into the sangria. Chill for 4 hours before serving. Use the frozen watermelon cubes as ice cubes for the sangria and enjoy!





## Buttermilk Pie

BY ERIKA LEONE

This recipe is the epitome of six degrees of separation for me, because even though it is my favorite family recipe ever, I have never met the person who made it! Over the past eight years, I have spent Thanksgiving with my best friend Claire's family, the Goodes. The recipe I am sharing was originally shared with her mother by her grandmother, so it has been in their family for generations. I begged Mrs. Goode for the recipe, and when she finally shared it, I began making these pies for every special occasion I could.

## Everything you ever wanted to know about SOURDOUGH, but were afraid to ask...

Seems like everyone stowed away on the good ship Sourdough during the quarantine. If you have yet to climb aboard, here are some tips for getting started. What you should know before you start:

- It's easier and less time consuming than you think. Most of the time involved is "down time," and you can bake on your own schedule by putting your active dough into the refrigerator to slow down the process.

- Your starter doesn't need constant attention. You can put it into the fridge for up to a week and ignore it. You will need to "wake up" your starter before baking, and that takes about 24 hours.

- You can use almost ANY flour, but you do need a bit of white flour as a base (at least 70%). Add whole wheat for more texture and nutty flavor. Sift out the bran from whole wheat for springy density. Add rye, spelt, or any other flour for texture. Bread flour has more gluten proteins, which will give you bigger holes and a springier loaf.

- You don't need any special equipment. You can use a wooden spoon instead of a stand mixer, and create a shaggy, sloppy mix that looks nothing like dough. Letting it "autolyse" will finish the mixing and start fermentation, letting the yeast do most of your work. You can bake your bread on a cookie sheet. If you have flour, water, and salt and an oven, you can make bread!

- Dividing the fermentation process into two stages allows you to build up flavor and texture. You can retard the Bulk Ferment with a nice long rise until it doubles in size, and then or retard the second proof by putting it into the fridge so that you aren't a slave to your bread's timing.

- Proof in greased parchment, seam-side down to avoid disturbing your dough. Using greased parchment will also prevent sticking and staining.

- Start hot (the maximum your oven will go!) & cover your bread. Drop your bread directly into the pre-heated cooking surface using the parchment (either directly onto a cooking stone, cast iron griddle, or dutch oven). Cover for the first 30 minutes of cooking time to develop the crust using the moisture of the bread to create steam.

### RECIPE:

- ¼ cup of all purpose flour
- ½ teaspoon of salt
- 1 ¾ cup of white sugar
- ¼ cup of melted butter
- 3 eggs
- ½ cup of buttermilk
- ½ teaspoon of vanilla extract
- 1 unbaked pie shell

Combine flour, sugar, and salt. Melt butter and add to flour mixture with eggs, beating slightly with mixer. Add buttermilk and combine by hand mixing with a spoon. Add vanilla extract and blend again. Pour into the unbaked pie shell and bake at 350 degrees for 1 hour or until custard is firm. If browning too quickly, cover with foil for the last 15 minutes of the bake. Let cool (overnight preferably) and enjoy!



- You can increase the crispiness of your crust by opening the oven door during the last 10 minutes of cooking. It will release the steam and dry out the surface of your bread.

## GETTING STARTED: EQUIPMENT

What do you "knead" (and probably already have)?

- A big bowl, enough for four to six quarts of dough
- A sturdy wooden spoon
- A scale. You can measure by volume but mass is far more accurate. Grams are easier to math than pounds and ounces, and FAR easier than cups and teaspoons.
- Flour, de-chlorinated water (filtered is fine, or set tap water out overnight to evaporate the chlorine), and salt
- A pan to bake your bread in
- A lid that fits over your baking pan or a way to create some steam such as another pan in the rack underneath your baking pan
- Tea towels or plastic wrap to drape over your dough so that it doesn't dry out during fermentation/proofing

## WHAT'S NICE TO HAVE?

- Stand mixer with dough hook. I know, I said you don't need one but it does help get the initial mix of flour and water together. Just don't overdo it. 30 seconds, just until it's incorporated, is fine.
- Rubber/silicone spatulas will help scrap up the dough
- A 6qt "cambro" or tupperware container with lid will work a little better for fermenting your dough

*Continued on next two pages...*

- Parchment paper for easy transfer from proofing to oven, and to prevent sticking/staining
- Spray oil to prevent sticking
- Dough/bench scrapers will help you when kneading the dough on the counter
- A banneton or brotform for proofing, with a cotton liner
- A baking stone or dutch oven will give you a better crust than a loaf pan or cookie sheet
- A lame or razor blade to score your bread before baking

## CARE & FEEDING OF YOUR STARTER

At least once/week, remove your starter from the fridge to feed it

- In a new jar, pour 100g water (about ½ cup)
- Add 50g starter. If you don't have a scale, stir the starter well to deflate it as much as possible, and measure ¼ cup
- Stir to dissolve the starter in the water, then add 100g of any flour (~¾ cup if you're using dry volume measuring). If you use whole wheat, sift out the bran first. \* You can use a mixture of plain white "AP" flour with rye, wheat, spelt, etc. You should have at least 50% of some type of white flour whenever possible.



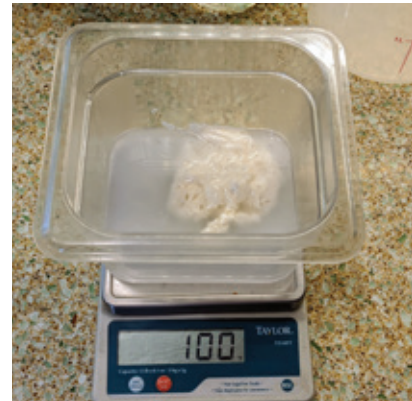
Flour, water, and recently activated starter

What do I do with the rest of the starter? You can keep it. I always keep 50g of the previous batch just in case I do something stupid while feeding the new stuff (like accidentally bake it) You can give it away (your neighbors will love you, and then get sick of you) You can make stuff with it. It's really good to add to anything that you use flour for. It has loads of lactobacilli and probiotics and it's very good for your tummy. I use it up in pancakes, waffles, gravy, biscuits, cookies, etc etc etc You can throw it out. Really, it's ok. You have more growing. Also, don't stress if you forget to feed it. It might take two or three feedings to bring it back to life if you forget it in the back of the fridge for a while, but you can really ignore it for several weeks and still be ok.



## SOURDOUGH BREAD IN TEN EASY STEPS

**1** Reactivate your starter by creating a LEVAIN: Mix 10g starter + 20g water + 20g flour. Let rise for 4 hours. If you just refreshed your starter yesterday, skip the rise and use 50g starter directly.



Starter floating in 100g water

**2** Create your HYDRATIONS. Create the SALINE HYDRATION by mixing together 50g water and 25g salt until the salt is completely dissolved. Create your ACTIVE HYDRATION: Mix the 50g levain + 600g water until the starter is dissolved.

**3** Create your AUTOLYSE by mixing together your active hydration with flour: add 1000g flour to the levain mixture (don't add the saline yet) and stir with a sturdy wooden spoon flipping it over and scraping the bottom until you no longer have loose flour in the bowl. What you should have is a shaggy mess, so don't worry if there are slightly unincorporated bits. Let that rest 15 minutes.



This shaggy mess of barely incorporated flour and water forms the autolyse



Resting the levain and autolyse

**4** Add in the dissolved salt/saline hydration, then give the dough another rough stir to fully incorporate the salt water. Let it rest another 15 minutes. After resting, stirring, adding salt, resting and stirring again, the autolyse is fully mixed.



After resting, stirring, adding salt, resting and stirring again, the autolyse is fully mixed.

**5** Prepare your FERMENTATION. Once you've fully incorporated your flour & water, prepare your glutes for fermentation by pulling, stretching, and folding the dough. Either in the container or on the countertop, pull up one side of the dough and fold toward the other side, pressing down to seal. Turn the dough 90 degrees (or grab the perpendicular edge) and repeat, until all four sides have been folded in. Let rest for 30 minutes, then repeat 3 more times over the course of 2 hours.

**6** LONG FERMENT your dough. You've done enough work for one day. Pop that bad boy into a bowl or container with a lid, and slide it into the fridge. The longer the ferment, the more lactic acid and yummy sourness will develop. If you don't like sour, move on to the next step sooner rather than later. Let it rest in the fridge anywhere from 8 to 24 hours.

**7** Wake up your dough. The next morning, pull the dough out of the fridge, dust or grease your countertop, and give the cold dough a good knead. If you don't like kneading, let the yeast do the work by just resting it on the countertop for 30 minutes before dumping it out. Let it rest 30 minutes, uncovered.

**8** SHAPE your loaves. Divide the dough into loaves. One loaf is about 750g to 1kg, one baguette is about 250g, so decide how you want to divide your dough. Take your divided dough, and shape them into nice tight boules, batards, or baguettes. This technique can take a bit of practice, so I recommend spending some time on YouTube looking at videos for "shaping your sourdough loaf."

**9** PROOF your dough. I've found that the easiest way to manage your sourdough at this point is to proof on greased parchment, so you can drop the fully proofed loaf directly on or in your baking surface. Spray



*Shaped "boule" ready to proof in greased parchment, lightly covered with plastic wrap*

your parchment with oil, place it into your banneton, brotform, or even just the same bowl you used for fermentation, and place your formed boule into the center of the parchment. Lightly cover the top with greased plastic wrap, and place the container in a warm spot.

**10** BAKE your bread. Preheat your oven to the highest it'll go, 500°F if possible. If using a dutch oven or baking stone, place it inside your oven prior to preheating. Preheat your dutch oven or baking stone



*Four differently shaped loaves, fresh out of the oven*

for at least 30 minutes. If using a dutch oven, pull it out and put it on your stove top. Place a pan of water on the bottom rack of your oven and close the door.

Lift your fully proofed dough out of the proofing bowl by grasping the edges of parchment, and drop the loaf with its parchment onto or into your heated cooking surface, vessel, baking sheet.

Brush or spray water gently onto the top surface, then use a razor blade or scissors to cut vents into the top of the loaf. It's ok if it deflates. Place the dough into the oven. Bake with steam for 10 minutes. Reduce heat to 400°F. Bake for another 20 to 30 minutes, checking every 15 minutes, until the crust is a deep golden to light brown color.

Leave your bread in the oven for ten minutes after it finishes cooking. Turn off the heat and open the oven door a few inches. This will allow any steam to escape, creating a nice crisp crust. Wait 30 minutes after removing the bread from the oven before slicing. Resist the urge to dig into your bread the moment it's out of the oven or you'll end up drying out the bread.

That's it. Bread isn't cake. It's not an exact science. Use your gut and make adjustments and feel free to mess with it or add more or less flour or water. If in doubt, letting it rest for 15 minutes will usually fix most fails.

Recipe steps have already been adjusted for our alpine altitude, which involves higher oven temps, shorter cooking times, and some flour/water ratio adjustments. You should usually use half as much yeast at altitude, but the cool thing about using a sourdough starter is that it was RAISED (see what I did there?) here, so no adjustments are necessary. [↴](#)

# The BENEFITS of your membership

As a member of the Tahoe Yacht Club, you enjoy many benefits of your membership that we hope you have or plan to use. Here are just a few to remind you.

**RECIPROCAL VISITS** - As members of the Tahoe Yacht Club, you are able to visit many other yacht clubs around the world. While planning your visit to another club, make sure to contact the club and understand what is required for your attendance. Some clubs require your current membership card and a letter of introduction from TYC, while others only need you to bring your current membership card. Not all clubs allow reciprocity, but the majority do and are exceptionally easy to visit. If you need a letter of introduction call or email [gm@tahoeyc.com](mailto:gm@tahoeyc.com).

**PRIVATE PARTIES** - You can rent the entire club for up to five hours to host a private party for a rental fee of \$300. This includes any resources at the club like tables, chairs, linens, plates, silverware, chafing dishes, decorations, etc.

**MEETINGS** - You can reserve the club for office meetings. We have excellent Wi-Fi and audio-visual equipment. Numerous members use the club to host their face to face meetings or conference calls. When the clubhouse is open, you can always find a quiet corner to work independently, even if you're not hosting large scale meetings.

**ON THE WATER** - Utilize our complimentary kayaks and paddle boards. You will be able to find our recreational equipment on the backside of the A&M marina, where you can launch them directly from the marina's diesel dock. You should call ahead to reserve the kayaks and paddleboards. Staff will provide paddles, floatation devices, or other necessary equipment for you to use.

**BUDDY BOATS** - Our Buddy Boat Program has three lasers, two Sunfish and one Laser Pico Sailboat. To use these boats, you are required to make a reservation in advance and have sailing experience. A staff member or sail committee volunteer will check out the equipment to you at no charge to your membership account.

**MARINA DISCOUNT** - If you are renting a slip in the Tahoe City Marina, you are eligible for a discount of \$500 toward your slip fees.

**BOATING** - We hope you will take the opportunity to go out on the lake with other members if you do not have a boat. Participation in our racing crews will help you make new friends and provide you with lifelong memories. Try joining our powerboat "Over The Bottom" rallies, where members are always looking for crew to help them navigate the course.



Members, like Margot Woodward & Frances Pierce, utilize our Paddleboards and Kayaks at their leisure



The staff will deliver drinks to your boat at the Rumgatta!



The Arno's visiting Vallarta Yacht Club with their TYC Reciproval privileges



Fred McElroy and Alice Heiman enjoy reciprocal privileges at the Monterrey Peninsula Yacht Club



Have fun with new friends while participate in OTB



Join a crew, like the Personal Puff team, to participate in Wednesday night sailing

We also have Wednesday Night Keelboat Races, where some of the boats need crew. If you are a novice sailor or above, join our Race Committee as they are always looking for volunteers.

**RUMGATTA** - Annually, we meet up by boat at the Edgewood Celebrity Golf Classic. The Club Tender will circulate from boat to boat to pass out free rum drinks for all of the TYC boats docked around us. This is traditionally known as the "Rumgatta" and we hope to see you there. 📍

# Social . . . . Distancing . . . . . Together!



*Social distancing outside, but together.*

The COVID-19 pandemic has presented new challenges and strange circumstances for everyone across the globe. We have found ourselves working from home, not being able to see our family and friends in person, and no longer allowed to participate in the social activities that once brought us together. Industries are changing rapidly to keep up with social distancing requirements that have been put in place to keep us all safe. Social distancing is our best weapon to help overcome COVID-19 and is every person's responsibility to uphold.

Thankfully, we have learned some tips & tricks to help navigate this new normal of social distancing! Some ways you can have fun while social distancing are:

- Set up a Zoom Happy Hour with your friends and family. Why not make a drink, turn on your computer, call up a few friends, and have a happy hour as you normally would? Free social networking platforms like Zoom, House Party, Google Meets, and Facebook Chat have made virtual meet-ups with people absolutely seamless.
- Start a new workout routine. Working out may not be everyone's idea of fun, but once you commit yourself to doing some sort of physical activity a few days each week, you will find that your serotonin level is boosted and some of your clothes may fit better. Plan a walk every morning, take a free YouTube yoga class, use books, water bottles, or filled-up backpacks as makeshift weights to pump some iron, or order an inexpensive set of resistance bands online. Having this much free time is unprecedented, so make the most of it.
- Find a new creative outlet. Some of us may not be able to draw, paint, sculpt, or do anything that we would consider as mainstream art, but that shouldn't stop us from trying. Dig out one of those cookbooks you have always been meaning to explore and cook an adventurous dinner. Find a way to repurpose some old furniture or clothing, maybe pick up a book or journal and let your imagination roam free, or even start a home improvement project. All of these creative ideas could help you create something you love or value, and might not have been able to happen if we weren't at home for this duration of time.
- Donate or Volunteer. Generally you should not be going to volunteer in person unless your health allows it, but there are many other ways you can help those who need it in your community. Visit websites of your favorite charities and donate when you can. Find out about your local food banks and purchase food and nonperishable items for them via Amazon wishlists. Send E-books to students who cannot afford to buy reading materials. Send money to animal shelters so they can get needed supplies, or better yet, foster or adopt a pet! Though this time may not be harrowing for some, others are in desperate need of help, and it is crucial that we do what we can to better our community.

Social distancing may seem like a burden, but it doesn't have to be if you can measure out the positives that have come from it. Working from home isn't ideal at most, but it has created a way for people to spend more time with their families and pets. Personally, my dog has loved to spend time with me all day compared to me being away from the house 8+ hours a day. Social distancing has forced us to look within ourselves and figure out ways to solve problems that we normally would not have to face. People are cooking for themselves when they normally eat out. Many people are finding the time to read, write, work-out, clean, organize, and just focus more on their own needs than they ever have before. Communicating with friends, family, and loved ones is now able to be prioritized instead of fit in between jobs and social commitments. Overall, although we could have never predicted that we would be in this situation, it is best to make whatever light we can of it and embrace the changes we are now living with. 📌



# Navy Reserve Ship History

BY VICE COMMODORE BILL KRIVAN  
CAPT USNR (RETIRED)



*The USS Cockrell 366*

Both the Cockrell and the Cowell were Navy Reserve ships stationed in the San Francisco Bay in the 1960's and 70's. In the period from 1965 through about 1973, I was a young officer on both ships as CIC Officer and as a bridge officer. Cockrell was moored in the Alameda Estuary, just upstream from Coast Guard Island, behind the Navy Reserve Training Center located there. Cowell was tied up at the piers on the East Side of Treasure Island. Returning to the pier on a Sunday afternoon after a weekend at sea was quite a challenge for the Cockrell. The Estuary would be full of small craft, particularly sailboats, that paid little attention to the Rules of the Road. With our large size we had little room to maneuver, so we did a lot of slowing, occasional backing down, and lots of whistle-blowing. Even for the Cowell, steaming back under the Golden Gate Bridge on a Sunday afternoon en route to Treasure Island was full of tension for the bridge team, with the Bay full of sails, power craft, fast-moving ferries and lumbering bulk carriers. It was always an adventure! Below is much more detailed information about the ships themselves.

## ORIGIN OF THE ALVIN C. COCKRELL, DE-366

Alvin Chester Cockrell, Jr., was born in Hazelhurst, Mississippi, on 18 September 1918. He enlisted in the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve on May 1st, 1937 and served as an enlisted man until accepting an appointment as 2nd lieutenant, USMCR, on June 25th, 1940. Over the next two years, Cockrell served at Marine barracks at Quantico, Guantanamo Bay, Parris Island, and New River (N.C.). He was appointed a 1st lieutenant on December 2nd, 1941, ultimately assigned to Company "B," 1st Battalion, 7th Marines, Fleet Marine Force. He landed with the 7th Marines on Guadalcanal on his 24th birthday, September 18th, 1942.

Within a week, the 1st Battalion, 7th Marines, was to conduct a reconnaissance in force of the region between the Matanikau River and the village of Kokumbona. This was led by the colorful Lieutenant Colonel Lewis B. "Chesty" Puller, USMC, on September 23rd. The point of Puller's battalion surprised elements of the Japanese Oka Detachment as they were sitting down cooking rice on the slopes of Mount Austen (Mambulo), late the following afternoon. The sound of firing having alerted the enemy's main body, a brisk battle ensued. 1st Lt. Cockrell, heedless of his own personal safety, led his platoon in assaulting a strongly held Japanese position in the teeth of heavy machine gun and rifle fire. He was killed in the ensuing action, one of seven Marines who died in the engagement. For his conspicuous devotion to duty and his exhibition of heroism under fire, Cockrell was posthumously awarded the Navy Cross.



*The USS Cowell 547*

The Alvin C. Cockrell (DE-366) was laid down on May 1st, 1944 at Orange, Texas, by the Consolidated Steel Corp. The ship was launched on June 27th, 1944 and was sponsored by Mrs. James A. Perkins, the sister of the late 1st Lt. Cockrell. It was commissioned on August 7th, 1944 at her builder's yard, and Lt. Cmdr. Merrill M. Sanford, USNR, was put in command.

After she had brought her fourth WestPac deployment to a close, the Alvin C. Cockrell was assigned Naval Reserve Training (NRT) ship duties with Reserve Escort Squadron 1 in 1958 and home-ported at San Francisco. Decommissioned on January 17th 1959, the ship was designated a Group II destroyer escort in the ASW surface component of the selected reserve and remained "in service" to provide underway training for her own selected reserve crew of inactive reserve officers and men. Two active duty officers and 36 enlisted men maintained the ship, and on the third weekend of each month, a reserve crew of 161 officers and men would embark to steam and train their own ship. For two weeks each year the reserve crew would embark, and, integrated with the active duty men, would carry out a two week reserve training cruise. In May 1959, the ship moved to her new home port, the Naval and Marine Corps Reserve Training Center at Alameda, Calif.

For the next two years the ship maintained this routine, until the Berlin crisis in the autumn of 1961 resulted in a call-up of reserve units. In September 1961, President John F. Kennedy directed that all ASW surface components of the selected reserve forces report for active duty. Accordingly, the Alvin C. Cockrell was re-commissioned on October 1st, 1961, with Cmdr. Robert A. Bush in command. After the ship underwent a routine overhaul, her home port was changed to Pearl Harbor. She sailed for Hawaii on January 2nd 1962, and took part in a large-scale, opposed-entry exercise at Pearl Harbor ten days later.

Increased tensions in the Far East soon resulted in the Alvin C. Cockrell's sailing for that area of the globe. Following refresher training, the destroyer escort departed Hawaiian waters on February 24th, 1962 with CortDiv 72, which consisted of the Alvin C. Cockrell (flagship), Vammen (DE-644), Marsh (DE-699) and Charles E. Brannon (DE-446). Proceeding to Subic Bay via Guam and Midway, the Alvin C. Cockrell reported for duty with Task Force 72 upon arrival at Subic on March 11th, 1962.

One week later, on March 18th, 1962, the Alvin C. Cockrell sailed for Danang, Republic of Vietnam, for operations with units of the South Vietnamese Navy. She conducted intensive training assistance with units of that force, improving general ship-to-shore communications and providing on-the-job training for Vietnamese sailors.

Visiting Hong Kong in April 1962, the Alvin C. Cockrell then proceeded to Subic Bay, for tender availability alongside Delta (AR-9). Following that period of repairs and upkeep, the destroyer escort sailed for the Gulf of Siam, and conducted operations there. She conducted a four-day port visit to Saigon, the capital of South Vietnam, and then returned to Subic Bay. The Alvin C. Cockrell ultimately sailed for Yokosuka on May 21st, and then participated in exercises the first week of June. Proceeding via Midway, the destroyer escort reached Pearl Harbor on June 18th, 1962, and commenced a two-week availability alongside the destroyer tender Bryce Canyon (AD-36).

Sailing thence for San Francisco, the Alvin C. Cockrell reached her destination on July 17th, 1962, and was decommissioned on August 1st, 1962, reverting to "in service" status as a Group II NRT ship. She remained in that status for the rest of her career. During 1963, her two-week active training cruise took her to Hawaiian waters. In 1964 she conducted intensive refresher training at San Diego. The cruise for August 1965 found the ship visiting the Canadian ports of Vancouver and Esquimalt. In 1966 she operated out of San Diego. In the summer of 1967, the ship visited Vancouver and Seattle, Wash., in the course of her two-week cruise.

Decommissioned on September 20th, 1968, the Alvin C. Cockrell was stricken from the Naval Vessel Register on September 23rd, 1968. Her hulk was subsequently utilized in weapons testing, and she was sunk on September 19, 1969.

## USS COWELL (DD-547)

The second Cowell (DD-547) to be named after John G. Cowell (1785-1814) was launched March 18th, 1943 by Bethlehem Steel Co. San Pedro Calif. It was sponsored by Mrs. R. Hepburn and commissioned on August 23rd, 1943 with Commander C. W. Parker in command.

The USS Cowell, a 2050-ton modified Fletcher class destroyer built at San Pedro, California, was commissioned in August 1943. During November and December of that year, she operated with the fast carriers during the Gilbert Islands invasion and its associated raids on Japanese bases in the central Pacific. She continued to serve with the carriers throughout 1944, taking part in the Marshalls, Marianas, Palaus, Morotai and Leyte operations, the Battle of Leyte Gulf, and many raids. In mid-October she aided the cruisers Canberra and Houston after they were crippled by Japanese aerial torpedo attacks off Formosa.

Following a West Coast overhaul, the Cowell returned to the western Pacific war zone in time for the invasion of Okinawa in late March 1945. During the next four months she was active off that embattled island, covering landing operations and earning a Presidential Unit Citation for her steadfast performance as a radar picket ship. Though attacked several times by suicide planes, she escaped all but minor damage and provided assistance to other ships that had been hit by the "Kamakazes." After Japan's surrender, Cowell took part in occupation operations then followed by returning to the U.S. in November 1945. She was decommissioned in July 1946 and entered the Pacific Reserve Fleet.

The intensified Cold War brought the Cowell back into commission in September 1951. She served in the Atlantic during 1952, then deployed to the Far East for duty off Korea during the Korean War's final half-year. Cowell returned to the U.S. East Coast by way of the Indian Ocean and Mediterranean in mid-1953 and made a cruise in the Atlantic and Mediterranean in early 1954.

Following modernization to "four-gun Fletcher" configuration, the Cowell went back to the Pacific in January 1955 and spent the rest of her long career there. She deployed six times to the western Pacific between 1955 and 1962 and made another "WestPac" cruise in 1964. After returning to the West Coast at the conclusion of that tour, the Cowell was assigned to Naval Reserve Training duty, based at San Francisco, California at Treasure Island. While in that assignment, she made many brief cruises along the Pacific Coast from Mexico to British Columbia. In August 1971, the Cowell was decommissioned and transferred to Argentina. Renamed *Amirante Storni*, she served in that nation's navy until 1981.

*This article was originally written for submission to PICYA in April 2020 for use as part of their "Virtual Opening Day on the Bay" program portion about maritime history and memorabilia. The article has been included in this issue of the Block and Tackle as a member interest item, as we do from time to time. 📌*

## Retail Spotlight Teresa Prescott & The Boatique!

Over the last year, the Tahoe Yacht Club's Boatique has had quite the upgrade! With an experienced eye, Teresa Prescott, owner of the Tahoe Style boutique located in Squaw Creek, has helped reshape and revamp our amazing retail collection at the TYC. Teresa is originally from the



*Teresa Prescott has helped reshape our Boatique*

North East, where she was inspired to work in the retail industry by her father, who owned a ski apparel store called White Stag. Teresa got her professional start working for Nordstrom while living in Seattle and the Bay Area. After 16 years, Teresa and her husband Clay moved to



*The Boatique*

Tahoe, where she worked for Tahoe Sports and then opened up her own boutique two years later. One of the amazing highlights of this season's retail collection is the St. James Company boat neck shirts, which are perfect for sailing and cocktails. Another favorite of Teresa and our club members has been the Helly Hansen outerwear, specifically the rain jackets, winter jackets, and puffy vests. The club will soon have an online store, so make sure you check it out and see all the spectacular new TYC merchandise! 📌

# Pacific Inter-Club Yacht Association News & Activities

BY JIM MULLEN/JERRY LANDERS/BILL KRIVAN  
TYC PICYA DELEGATES



TYC is a long-time member of the Pacific Inter-Club Yacht Association (PICYA), formed in San Francisco in 1896 to improve communication between yacht clubs, provide uniform racing rules, and encourage yachting. From the 5 chartering clubs, today over 100 member clubs in Northern California have a combined membership of approximately 15,600 boating families.

## PICYA EVENTS CANCELLED

With the advent of the COVID-19 pandemic, the PICYA events we anticipated in our Fall B&T for the spring and summer have been cancelled, as the organization revised operations accordingly. The monthly delegate meetings have become Zoom conferences, the Spring Leadership Conference has been postponed to the fall, Opening Day on the Bay was re-imagined as a virtual Parade of (mostly model) Boats. As for all other organizations, 2020 has become an unexpected challenge, one demanding creative rethinking of operations.

## OPENING DAY ON THE BAY

The Opening Day on the Bay became a virtual Parade of Boats during an April 26 two-hour on-line event. Clubs submitted photos or short videos of model boats, many decorated to this year's theme "Bounty of the Bay". While certainly a major let-down from riding on the Committee Boat, watching the colorfully decorated boats stream by in the bright mid-day sun, as many of us did last year, the virtual event was nicely done and good fun. Below are a few pictures from the event, including entries from TYC. Thanks to our club members who participated.



## OTHER FUTURE PICYA EVENTS

We will need to stay tuned to accommodate COVID-19 impact on other planned PICYA events such as the 2020 Lipton Cup Regatta (August 7-9), the Wheelchair Regatta (Encinal Yacht Club in September) and the Leadership/Management Conference (October).



## RECREATIONAL BOATERS OF CALIFORNIA (RBOC)

PICYI created Recreational Boaters of California (RBOC) in 1968 as a governmental advocacy organization representing California boaters, committed to promoting the enjoyment, protection, and responsible use of our waterways. RBOC continues to work a number of issues with importance to the recreational boating community, currently including:

- **Boat Fuel Tax Dollars** - RBOC is pursuing several specific questions about how tens of millions of state boat fuel tax dollars are spent.
- **Boat Registration Fees** - RBOC is on alert about legislation that could substantially increase boat registration fees.
- **Recreation Office** - RBOC supports the prioritization of outdoor recreation, to include recreational boating as a key element.
- **SF Bay Conservation and Development Commission (BCDC)** - RBOC is supporting AB 2809 [Mullin] that would restrict usage of monies paid into the Bay Fill Clean-Up and Abatement Fund and also require procedures for review and resolution of enforcement cases.
- **Fix-It Tickets** - RBOC is supporting SB 904 [Monning] that would establish fix-it tickets for boating offenses such as failure to have the vessel identification or registration stickers applied or failure to have required safety equipment on-board. For details about these and other issues, please see: <https://www.rbo.org/boater-brief>

## CALIFORNIA VESSEL OPERATOR CARD

As a reminder, as of January 1, 2020, California boaters 35 years of age or younger must have a California Vessel Operator Card (CVOC). Requirements for others will be phased in as follows:

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

The BoatUS Foundation provides a free on-line Boating Safety Course approved by the California State Parks Division of Boating and Waterways that provides the certificate required by California to obtain a CVOC.

## SUPPORT TO PICYA & RBOC PROGRAMS

Each year, TYC members contribute add-on amounts designated for RBOC when renewing their membership, with this year's total of \$940. TYC also donated to the PICYA Foundation, in support of their scholarship program, with awards to graduating high school students or to college students wishing to continue their education. If you know of a potential candidate for one of these scholarships, please contact one of our PICYA delegates. "Thank you" to your Board of Directors and to you, our members, for continued support to PICYA's program! 📌

# 2020 Summer Calendar *Subject to COVID-19 Impact*

## JUNE

First Friday .....Friday, June 5th  
Summer Kick Off BBQ .....Saturday, June 6th  
Casual Friday .....Friday, June 19th  
BOD Mtg., Trans Tahoe.....Saturday, June 20th

## JULY

First Friday .....Friday, July 3rd  
Fourth of July .....Saturday, July 4th  
OTB Kick Off Party.....Friday, July 10th  
OTB #1 .....Saturday, July 11th  
Rumgatta .....Sunday, July 12th  
Casual Friday .....Friday, July 17th  
BOD Mtg., Commodore's Cruise .....Saturday, July 18th  
OTB #2 & Gar Wood's Regatta.....Saturday, July 25th

## AUGUST

OTB #3 .....Saturday, August 1st  
First Friday .....Friday, August 7th  
Concours d'Elegance .....Fri/Sat, August 7/8th  
WOTB .....Monday, August 10th  
Mahogany Magic .....Thursday, August 13th  
BOD Mtg.....Saturday, August 15th  
OTB #4 .....Sunday, August 16th  
Casual Friday .....Friday, August 21st  
OTB #5 & Party .....Saturday, August 22nd  
\*Annual Mtg. & Party.....Saturday, September 5th



## ON LAKE TAHOE'S BEST STREET!

Impressive 5-bedroom main house, 2-bedroom guest house, gym, pool (indoor and out), garages for at least 4 cars. Gated level acreage, expansive lawn, spacious patio area with built-in BBQ/kitchen. Game room, family room, even a room for fido with a bathtub. Privacy yet close to dining, Homewood, Squaw/Alpine skiing and Tahoe City. [2305Sunnyside.com](http://2305Sunnyside.com) \$8,500,000



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