

February 2021



Commodore - Keith Dines

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January was a rainy stormy month yet, how many of you took advantage of at least one sunny day and took your boat out for a sail or a cruise? Because every boater knows that any day on the water is a good day, that's what we all have in common. That and our loyalty to Oakland Yacht Club.

Now that I have your attention, here is the news and progress of our Board of Directors.

We now have a Nominating committee, chaired by Mike Jackson. His committee includes Michael Bennett, Michelle Leonard, Marlene Dines and Dave Lyman. The process to find interested, competent and committed board members is a long and intensive process so thanks, in advance, to our committee members for the important work you are taking on.

In the absence of a Social Committee chair, we are looking for volunteers who will commit to one event. In spite of the current pandemic restrictions, there are still options for connecting one way or another. Please volunteer. You can let me or Jennifer Mengel know what you have in mind. Remember, if you don't feel ready to join the Social Committee, how about offering to host an event? We are requesting members who can Sponsor or host a virtual social activity, like virtual bingo, card games, or Zoom cocktail hours.

Last year, Jim Jessie presented a slide show of his last circumnavigation with his late wife, Dianne. The presentation was in Commodore's Hall and everyone who was there loved it. We are seeking volunteers who would like to make a presentation to the Club - perhaps a slide show or home video of a significant personal voyage. We can easily display most media on Zoom. Let us know and we will help. Last month, Encinal YC extended an invitation to OYC members to a Zoom presentation by their members, Peter and Marg Benziger. They shared a video of their sailing circumnavigation, followed by a Q&A session, which was fascinating. It was an inspiration to many sailors with long-distance cruising dreams of their own.

Now that the state is allowing outdoor dining again, the House Committee is preparing a reopening plan for outdoor dining on the patio with those delicious take-out dinners from Chef Brandi. So, when they relaunch the plan, bundle up and come on down.

Marina Village Inn. The Alameda County “Turnkey” shelter program has expired, and the motel is being vacated.

Winter storms bring high winds and waves. Come back to the Club periodically to check on your slip and boat. Check for extreme abrasion on your dock lines. Test the cleats for loose bolts or broken wood decking. Look at your fenders. Check your roller furling jibs! We saw 3 sailboats in MV Yacht Harbor where jibs unraveled because of the high wind. One of them tore itself apart. If you see something wrong, tell someone!

Reach out to a friend you haven’t seen since the pandemic started. Connect by phone or FaceTime or Zoom. Most importantly, stay safe and healthy. We can’t wait to see you back at the club!



Vice Commodore - Julie Cheng

vicecommodore@oaklandyachtclub.com

With the changing of our COVID status back in the hands of the counties, I expect the restrictions to ease again. I for one am looking forward to being able to reconstitute my “pod” and sailing more, weather permitting! Still, we need to stay vigilant and continue our social distancing protocols.

I’m also looking forward to more vaccinations. I am too far down the list to think about getting a vaccine now, but I have been trying to get appointments for my 80+ year old parents. It’s been a struggle between the long hold times on the phone and trying to navigate the provider’s website, but one of these days I’ll succeed. That will ease a lot of my concerns for them once they get their second doses.

The storms over this past week have been rough, but luckily without too much damage to the marina. However, if you see any damage, please let Ben and Dan know as they might not be aware of any new damage.

The Harbor Committee has been looking into repairs of some of the worst piles, but we are still in process. Please bear with us as we figure out safe and cost-effective options for repairing the worst of the piles.

The Harbor Committee meets via videoconference, every second Thursday at 6pm – if you would like to participate, please watch for the Blast, or contact Ben Yamanaka, the Club General Manager (gm@oaklandyachtclub.com), for call in details. Come join us if you are interested in helping out, joining the Committee, or just want to listen.



Rear Commodore - Owen Bottler

rearcommodore@oaklandyachtclub.com

Well, another month of the “new normal”. Seems like the “new normal” has become the “old normal”. I have a feeling that the “old normal” and the “new normal” will turn into a “new new normal”, which will be a blend of the old and the new. That will be the challenge all of us will be facing this year. This is not good or bad, it is just different. That is good thing about us, we can adapt and meet the changes and challenges of the future.

COVID is still with us. By all reports, it will be with us for the foreseeable future. It was nice to be able to open up the outside area near the Regatta Room for members to dine after picking up their takeout dinners. Given the weather conditions, wet and cold, this may not be an option for all. Please, if you choose to dine there, follow all the County and State guidelines for the protection of all.

Speaking of the future, I am pleased to let the membership know that in January, the House Committee recommended to the Board the replacement system to our current Club Management System. The Board approved the selection recommendation. The recommendation and approval came as the result of over a year’s worth of work of assessment of the club’s needs, current and future, evaluation of vendors, asking lots of questions of both the vendors and their current clients, all leading to the selection. The system which has been selected is Clubessential.

Now that the selection has been made and the contract signed, the real work starts. Staff, Club Management, and members are faced with the task installing, testing, and flipping the switch turning on the new system and website. The installation of the new system will take two different paths. One path is the system itself and the second path will be the design of the new website. As this will be an integrated system, it is our intent to bring both paths live at the same time. It is anticipated that we will begin the process in early March with a three-to-four-month installation schedule.

As we begin this journey, I am again asking the members for feedback as to what you want to see on the new website. Please provide Ben or I your thoughts and ideas.

Stay safe and try to enjoy the virtual events along with the takeout prepared by Brandi.



Membership Chair - Jennifer Mengel

membership@oaklandyachtclub.com

OYC Member Virtual activities:

In January we started the Saturday Coffee Klatch which will be held the last Saturday of each month at 10am via Zoom. By the time you read this we will have had our inaugural call and I hope you were able to attend and catch up with other club members!

We are also looking for more creative ways to help our members stay connected. Some ideas that were suggested are:

- Virtual Wednesday lunch dates
- Educational presentations / Member cruising updates

Please send me a note if you have additional ideas or if you are interested in bringing these ideas to life. Mostly we need help with communication and hosting duties.

Public Virtual activities:

In late February we are holding a seminar on the first year of boat ownership and what to expect. We'll have 3 panelists from OYC talking about their experiences while helping the rest of us avoid those UH OH moments. Exact details will be published in the upcoming Blast. The goal is to hold these seminars 3-4 times per year (with varying topics) to provide non-members a chance to get exposure to our club and to allow current members to share their experience or learn from other members.

To make all of these are successful, we still need one key ingredient – YOUR PARTICIPATION! As a member owned club, we depend on our members to participate and stay engaged so that we can all get the most out to the OYC community. If you are interested in supporting any of these events or in joining the membership committee, please reach out to me at membership@oaklandyachtclub.net or give me a call at 408-636-3727.

Until next month, I hope to see you at the Coffee Klatch!

Jennifer



Race Committee Chair - Debby Ratto

debbyratto@yahoo.com

2021 Race Season continues to lag but we are hopeful that we will be back racing soon.

2021 YRA Guidelines for Holding Races under the tiered COVID-19 system As of 1/25/21*

The YRA has been in talks with the USCG and has developed these guidelines to more clearly define what types of races should be run under each of the currently defined tiers during the COVID pandemic. As an organizing authority headquartered in Solano County, the YRA will be following the current health orders/tier status of Solano County to determine what type of race we will run. These guidelines will be updated as necessary as the course of the pandemic changes and county and/or state orders are revised. We encourage all organizing authorities to follow these guidelines and to follow the tiered status of the county they are headquartered in to determine what types of races they can run. Check back frequently for updates.

County Status: California State Regional Stay at Home order in effect:

- Canceling or postponing races is preferred.
- If an event is held, Single handed, or Same-Household-doublehanded crews only, are OK
- No pre or post race activities.
- RC is limited to a sole individual or volunteers from the same household.
- Races should not count for a series unless the series is designed for singlehanded or
- doublehanded crews only, regardless of the county Covid Status.

County Status: Widespread / Tier 1, Purple tier:

- Racing is limited to singlehanded or double handed crews. Doublehanded crews from
- two separate households are OK.
- RC is limited to 3 households. Race committee members must practice social distancing.
- Masks are required for all participants and race committee members.
- Crewed divisions can opt to race double handed but races do not count for a series.
- No pre or post race activities.

County Status: Substantial / Tier 2, Red tier:

- Crewed racing is OK. Crews must wear masks at all times.
- Crew should be made up from a "social bubble" of no more than 12 people.
- Limit crew below deck to one person at a time for the duration of the sail (including pre
- and post race).
- Race committee members must wear masks and practice social distancing.
- No after pre or post race activities.

County Status: Moderate / Tier 3, Orange tier:

- Crewed racing is OK. Crews must wear masks at all times.
- Crews should be made up from a "social bubble" of no more than 12 people.
- Race committee members must wear masks and practice social distancing.
- Host yacht clubs can be open for outside bar service or take out only and must follow the
- bar and restaurant guidelines of their county.

County Status: Minimal / Tier 4, Yellow tier:

- Crewed racing is OK. Masks are recommended.
- Crew should be made up from a “social bubble” of no more than 12 people.
- Host yacht clubs can open for inside bar service with a limit of 50% capacity and must follow the bar and restaurant guidelines of their county.

In addition to these guidelines for what type of race to hold, the following guidelines are still recommended for the running of regattas.

Guidelines for Organized Regattas during COVID-19

In the interest of the health and safety of race organizers, race committees and regatta participants, the following guidelines are recommended for running races during the COVID-19 pandemic. Races must be run in compliance with the current county and state health orders in effect for the organizing authority’s county of residence.

Race Committees/Race Management

1. Race Organizers must ensure their regattas follow the current health orders and social distancing requirements for their county.

2. Race Committees must be comprised of the least number of people needed to safely start and finish a race.

3. When more than 1 person is on the race deck social distancing measures must be adhered to, including remaining at least 6’ apart, wearing face coverings as appropriate and not shaking hands or engaging in any unnecessary physical contact.

4. Race Committees must maintain a Contact Logbook tracking which volunteers are on the race committee, including their county of residence.

5. Race entrants must be limited to single-handed divisions or crewed divisions where all persons on board have been sheltered in home at the same residence, unless the current county orders permit mixed household outdoor activities.

Race Committees may want to consider:

- Having All RC personnel take their temperature the morning of a race. Anyone with an elevated temperature or anyone exhibiting other symptoms should stay home.
- Wiping down common surfaces used by the race committee with disinfectant wipes.
- These include items such as radios, rails, pens/pencils, clipboards, etc
- Using only sound signals and omitting flags to minimize the number of people needed to start a race. Use of VHF Radio to announce courses and starting sequences is highly recommended.

The Yacht Racing Association of San Francisco Bay (YRA) is the primary promoter, coordinator and administrator of organized racing in Northern California. It is an association of approximately 900 individual skippers representing over 75 yacht clubs. Our yacht clubs sponsor sixty-plus regattas during each racing season.

- Using alternative starts, such as rabbit starts.
- Using programs such as RaceQS to track finishes or asking participants to text finish times to the race committee.
- Using a scoring program or other system that allows racers to maintain a crew manifest for contact tracing purposes.
- Asking race committee members to provide their own food and water
- When possible, using fixed marks for race courses to avoid the need for more than one committee boat.
- Offering Non-Spinnaker divisions for family crews.

- Modifying sailing instructions to allow the use of hand signals for important hails as facemasks may impair the ability to hail.
- Race Organizers should consider designating a flag to indicate “Penalty Accepted” or some other method of accepting penalties to avoid a protest hearing.

Regatta Participants

1. Participants in a regatta must ensure they are following their current county health orders and social distancing requirements.

2. When at their marina, launching their boat and putting their boat away, racers must comply with social distancing and health/safety protocols posted at the site and any other restrictions, including prohibitions, on access and use established by the Health Officer, government, or other entity that manages such area to reduce crowding and risk of transmission of COVID-19.

3. If not racing singlehanded, crews must be limited to only those who have been sheltered in home in the same residence, unless the current county orders permit mixed household outdoor activities.

4. If mixed household crews are permissible for that regatta, the same crew should be maintained for a minimum of 3 weeks.

Racers may want to consider:

- Taking their temperature the morning of a race. Anyone with an elevated temperature or anyone exhibiting other symptoms should stay home.
- Wiping down common surfaces with disinfectant wipes.
- Maintaining a Contact Logbook tracking who is on the boat for each race including their county of residence.

Protest Hearings

1. Protest hearings should be handled via Zoom or some other remote platform when possible

2. Protest Hearing procedures should be added to sailing instructions.

Skippers Meeting/Post Event Parties

1. Skippers Meeting should be held via Zoom or some other remote platform, unless the county is in a tier that allows group gatherings.
2. No pre or post-race in-person gatherings or activities may be planned unless the county is in a tier that allows group gatherings.

And by the time you are reading this our next decision will have been made for our raced scheduled for 2/7/2021, Super Bowl Sunday.

**OAKLAND YACHT CLUB
2021
SUNDAY BRUNCH SERIES**

January 3, 17 & 31; February 7 & 21, March 7 & 21

INTERESTING AND CHALLENGING COURSES, UTILIZING THE ENTIRE ESTUARY, BEAUTIFUL PROTECTED WATERS WITH MILD WEATHER



Cost: Only \$70 for the series (\$80 after 12/31/20), or \$15 for each single race (\$20 if you sign up the day of the race).

This series will be sailed in compliance with Alameda County Covid-19 Health Orders: See <http://www.acphd.org/2019-ncov.aspx>
These rules may be as amended so please stay current.

To register online go to:
<https://www.jibeset.net/OYC000.php?RG=T00752810>

Want to join the Race Committee; we'd love to have you. Meetings are the 2nd Tuesday of each month, 7pm in the Regatta Room. For additional information about the OYC Racing Program, call Debby Ratto @ 510-390-1620 or e-mail: oyracecom@gmail.com



PICYA Delegate - Mike Fanfa

Fanfa_m@yahoo.com

PICYA 1896 – 2021 125 YEARS

Saturday Feb 20, 2021. In honor of the 1939 Golden Gate Expo. The Unity Parade, Noon to 3:00pm. A Parade Around Treasure Island / Yerba Buena Island, Clockwise. No registration, just show up, enter the parade from any point you choose and proceed clockwise around the Island. Take and submit a photo of your boat in this parade for COTY points.

Opening Day on the Bay is April 25, 2021. The theme this year is Back to the Future. Two examples Given are Tesla to Tesla and Pandemic to Pandemic. The committee is working with the God Squad to have the actual blessing of the boats for those who are “bubble boaters”.

The parade this year will be virtual again, as last year’s was a huge success. Look for model boats, adults, kids, grandchildren, tubs, sinks, pools, ponds and videos and who knows what else!

PICYA Leadership Conference will be on Saturday Mar 20, 2021 and will be virtual from 2:30-5:30 They are expecting to have guest speakers. Topics include Boating Safety, Security, Keeping your boat Safe in the Community, and How Clubs are Keeping Active during Covid.

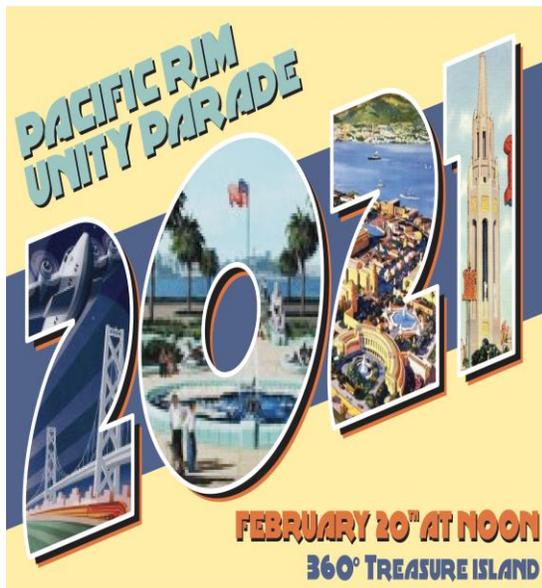
Register online at www.PICYA.org

Data for the 100th Edition of Yachting Yearbook is due by 15 Feb 2021. If a club orders a case of yearbooks, it earns COTY points. Order forms can be found on the website. www.PICYA.org

RBOC has reminded us that the Governor’s Jan 8th budget has increased the cost of boat registration. They have projected the said increase to equal \$20mil lion over the next two years. Even though this last year has produced a record number of boat sales, sales taxes and registrations.

Check out the RBOC link at the website www.PICYA.org

Cheers!



Spring Leadership Conference

Join us Saturday, March 20, 2021

From 2:30 to 5:30 pm

Safety In Boating

Death or disability due to Carbon Monoxide

Security

How to keep your boat safe

Community

10 ways to get new Members for your Club

Maritime Tech

Is your Club tech ready?

Programming in development - please register now

OYC Women's Book Group

The Women's Book Group meets monthly. All female OYC members, spouses & significant others are welcome to attend. These days we meet "Virtually". The meetings have been well attended with plenty of lively discussions. In February we will switch to Zoom from Go To Meeting.

Group members are emailed a log-in/call-in access code a few days prior to the meeting. We ask that everyone download the Zoom app to make the process easier. If you are not already a member of the Women's book Group, you are still welcome to join us. Just contact Mindy individually, via cell or email, well ahead of the meeting, for a full set of instructions.

Attendees are able to begin accessing the meeting by 5:30. We ask everyone to log in no later than 5:50. This gives everyone ample time to log-in ahead of the discussion, which begins promptly at 6:00.

Next Meeting: Thursday Feb 25

Book: Trancendent Kingdom

Author: Yaa Gyasi



Want more information about the Women's Book Group, to be added to the email list or to get this month's log in instructions? Please contact our group Coordinator, Mindy Hart-Shaw at mindyhart@sbcglobal.net or 510-882-5371 (C).

January Meetings

These meetings are open to all members. Your attendance is encouraged and welcome.

2/04	House Committee	6:00 pm	Virtual
2/9	Race Committee	7:00 pm	Virtual
2/9	Membership Committee	6:00pm	Conference Call
2/11	Harbor Committee	6:00 pm	Virtual
2/18	BOD Meeting	6:00 pm	Virtual

COMMITTEE CHAIRS (until the Board Meeting)

Amateur Radio – Rich Beckett	Parliamentarian – Kim Lonie
Budget & Finance – Julie Cheng	PICYA & RBOC – Mike Fanfa
Cruise – ??	Racing – Debby Ratto
Education & Safety – Angelo Perata	Reciprocity – Julie Cheng
Harbor – Julie Chen	Risk Management – John Eglund
House – Owen Bottler	Seascope – Marlene Dines
Librarian – Len Cardoza	Social – ??
Membership – Jennifer Mengel	Social Communications – Millie Ramirez
Merchandise – Michelle Leonard	Staff Commodore – Brad Budinger
Nominating – Mike Jackson	

Send me some great photos!

OYC is going to be updating the website with new software this year. We need great photos of fun times with OYC members to put up on the website. Michelle Leonard has offered to collect the photos.

Requirements:

They must be full resolution so if sent by email -don't send more than 4 at a time.

They need to be clear and not too dark.

Lots of people pics! With mostly current members please.

Send them to Michelle Leonard's email by February

15: ALmichelle34@gmail.com

February Birthdays



John	Speakman	2-Feb
Diana	Rose	5-Feb
Jo Ann	Damiano	10-Feb
William	Tulloss	13-Feb
Debby	Ratto	13-Feb
Robin	Ollivier	14-Feb
Pam Chun	Joyce	16-Feb
Jim	Baack	24-Feb
Richard	Keller	26-Feb
Shannon	Behm	26-Feb
Allison	Sojka	28-Feb
James	Thomas	28-Feb

Seascope is written by the members of the Oakland Yacht Club, for the members of the Oakland Yacht Club. Articles, photos, and event flyers are due to the editor before the 4th week of each month. For additional information contact Commodore Brad Budinger at commodore@oaklandyachtclub.com.