

**February 2024 Edition**

# The Lee Rail

**Newsletter of the Elkhorn Yacht Club**

**This Month's Look Ahead:  
Super Bowl & Valentine's Celebration**

## **Letter From the Commadore**

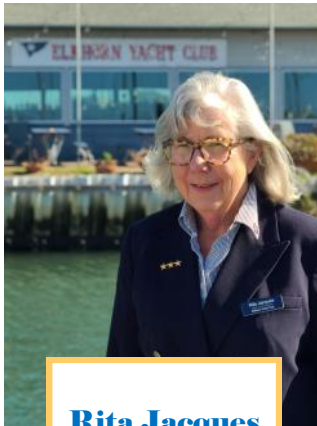
January has been a very busy month. The finance committee completed the preparation for the budget for fiscal year 2024 and it was passed by the board. The new budget provides for continuing maintenance of the club and meeting the increased expenses that we have all seen over the last few years in our personal budgets.

We are focusing on bringing back Monday night dinners and Friday night appetizers. Those have always been great gathering opportunities for our members. I know we have a lot of great cooks out there so if you would like to participate, just get in touch with a board member or our club manager.

Sheri Bugalski, the head of our garden committee, has some great plans for increasing the usefulness of our barbecue area. Please get in touch with her if you are interested in assisting in the garden.

Personally, I can't wait for warmer weather and getting back on the water.

Rita



**Rita Jacques**

## **EYC New Year's Celebration!**



The club was packed for the New Years Eve Dinner and Party.

See more on page 7

# EYC BOARD UPDATE - TONI SCARBOROUGH

## JANUARY BOARD MEETING BRIEFS

### Membership

New Members:

Sean Fitzharris - Fran Fitzharris - Flag

Leah Hudkins - Steve Hudkins - Flag

Robert Cabrera - Bobbie Cabrera - Associate

### Reports

Commodore Rita Jacques-Thank you to everyone for helping to get our new manager and bookkeeper in place. Invoices for the quarterly dues have not gone out yet, the bookkeeper is trying to bring everything up to date. We've been talking about sending invoices by email. It takes 60 cents now to mail a letter times 160 members. We will be emailing the membership about this before it happens and anyone opposed to it can contact the office to have an invoice mailed to them. She recognized DiAnn Tarhalla for working on the web-site. The gates to the club property were closed and locked from 4 January to 5 January 2024

Treasure Stacy Hughes- The Budget was presented and major changes in expenses were the employee salaries. First attempt of the budget was about a 30,000 deficit. To fix that deficit the approach was 1. To increase bar sales by 13%. 2. To impose a dues increase of \$100 dollars a year for flag members and other categories would go up proportionally. Dues have not increased in at least the last 5 years. 3. Looking at having closing hours for bartenders to reduce the overtime. Other small adjustments were made. All the adjustments corrected the deficit. Toni made a motion to increase Flag membership by \$100 a year. Hillary seconded. Discussion was held. All approved.

Jim made a motion to approve the budget, Toni second, Discussion was held, All approved.

Club Manager: Melissa Raney - We are having problems with the phone line. She is more than happy to give out her cell phone number to anyone that needs it, If not please email her. She is in the office Wednesday thru Saturday. They are looking into possibly changing the phone carrier.

Fleet Captain: Diane Garrett - The Dock is ready to go just waiting for nice weather to put it together and in the water.

Bar Manager: Shane Dowling - Shane is stepping down from Bar manager. Toni has been appointed the new bar manager.

Bylaws Committee: Stan Jacques - Has been considering a reorganization of the bylaws. There are new provisions that have been presented still wrestling with how and if we want those incorporated. The piece that was done put the bylaws in a more natural sequence. More information to come.

Cruising Coordinator: Keith Chastain - Rita has given him copies of social and race committee schedules. He will look at open dates to schedule cruise events.

HR Committee: - Hillary Thomas/Dan Garrett - New requirements for 2024 for employees: Moving forward staff will take the required training online. Dan drafted a policy to bring us up to date with California laws.

Membership Committee: Katie Dowling- Thursday is hard for her to get here all the time so Tiffany will co-chair to fill in when Katies not here.

Property Chairman-Frank Lewis - Seawall - We're going to have to update the budget for the seawall. Just finished the wall in the back room. We have 3 large storage rooms. In the Annex there are 2 large storage rooms and several small ones. Frank's creating maps and what belongs in each area for each storage room. Board members will each get a copy. for all storage areas and what goes in them.

Property Safety: Gary Skillett - Rita reported that they will be doing a safety walk through the first part of February. All tenets will receive notice.

Race Director: Dan Garrett/Lara Jacques - Race committee met and we are now a committee of 3. Apps seminar 01/27 Dan Garrett leading. 02/03 safety equipment seminar. More details to come. Jim was presented with a race committee flag and pin.

Social Committee: Lori Robinson - Committee meeting held last Saturday. 12 members attended. Working on making an events postcard. Rita brought up board members hosting a month to get members to sign up to host friday night appetizers and monday night dinners. Lori suggests 2 dinners and 2 appetizers per month.

Workshop: Jim Brady - Workshop has become a storage area again. It is currently difficult to work there. Need to find a different place to store stuff.

Website: Shane Dowling/ DiAnn Tarhalla- Discussion was held that the budget be listed on the members only section. It was denied. Will add information for Monday night dinner and Friday night appetizers

# EYC BOARD UPDATE

## DUES INCREASE



31 January 2024

To: Elkhorn Yacht Club Members,

In order to maintain the fiduciary health of our club, the EYC Board has increased the Flag Membership dues by \$25 per quarter at the 11 January 2024 meeting. Dues for other categories of membership will increase in accordance with the Bylaws. Without this increase we will be in deficit spending for fiscal year 2024.

California regulations have significantly increased wages for employees over the last several years. As a result the budget for wages has increased by approximately 20% in the last 5 years. Expenses for utilities, insurance, and maintenance have also had significant increases.

As we look at our aging property, there is much maintenance that is needed. The renovation of the women's bathroom in the annex has been at the top of the Capital Improvements list for several years and we are hoping to complete it this year.

Our Seawall needs repair at a cost of approximately \$30,000. We do not yet know the final costs as we are going through Monterey County and the Coastal Commission for the appropriate permits. This cost is only for consulting, materials and permitting as our members are providing volunteer labor.

Dues increases are never done lightly, but are necessary to maintain the spirit and beauty of our club for your enjoyment.

For the Board of Directors,

Rita Jacques, Commodore, Elkhorn Yacht Club

## MEMBERSHIP NEWS - KATIE DOWLING

### NEW MEMBERS

#### Sean & Fran Fitzharris

We are Sean & Fran Fitzharris. We have been married for 20 years and live in rural San Benito County, California. Our home sits between the historic Spanish mission town of San Juan Bautista and the city of Hollister. We have three furry companions, Max and Dottie the dogs and Wednesday the cat. We have a small business, Brewery Twenty Five, that celebrates its 10th anniversary this year. Sean has a full-time job with Cisco Systems as a Cloud Solutions Architect and helps in the brewery after hours. We are excited to be around others who share our passion for the ocean & sailing.

Fun fact: We are both Ham Radio operators, Fran KG6SPB & Sean W6MOW

Submitted by Sean & Fran

Sean & Fran were recently profiled in BenitoLink. Read more about their story here.  
<https://benitolink.com/eat-drink-savor-brewery-twenty-five-celebrates-10-years/>



#### Vrinda Quintero and Eli Wilkes



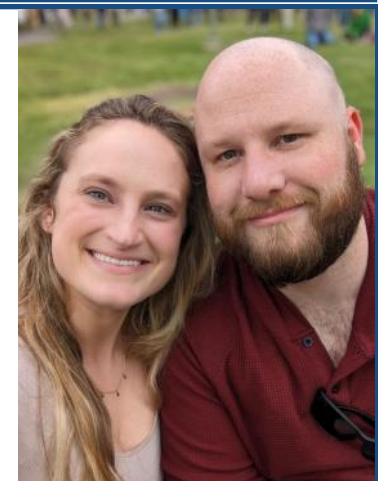
Vrinda and Eli came from the far away lands of Virginia and Venezuela. They know nothing of boats, but bring technical skills to the yacht club. Vrinda is a local culinary teacher at Sequoia and the small business owner of Areperia 831. Eli has been a commercial waterproofing consultant for the past 10 years; he can not cook. They both love helping friends and strangers and will surely be of value to the community at the club. They met in Santa Cruz nine years ago and currently live in Watsonville with their two dogs who will beg for attention without hesitation.

Submitted by Vrinda & Eli

#### Leah and Steven Hudkins

Hello and thank you all for the warm welcome to EYC. We are Leah and Steven Hudkins and we live on board Magnificent Madness in the North Harbor. We have two small dogs, Maverick and Cricket. We are originally from Indiana, but have been living in California since 2015. We love to be on the water and we're looking forward to learning how to sail in 2024!

Submitted by Leah and Steven



## MEMBERSHIP NEWS - KATIE DOWLING

### NEW MEMBERS (CONT'D)

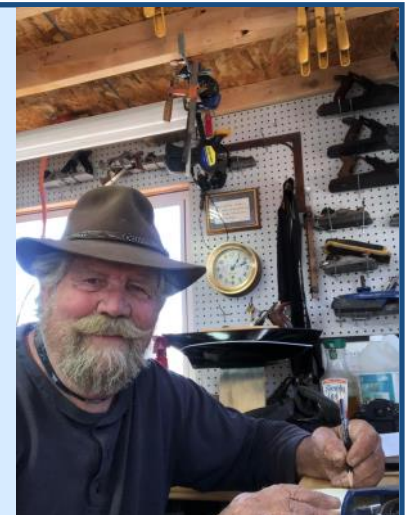
#### Bobbi and Robbie Cabrera



## FAIR WINDS & FOLLOWING SEAS IN MEMORIAM

Richard Arnold "crossed the bar" on November 30, 2023. Born December 7, 1943, He passed quietly in his sleep surrounded by loved ones.

Survived by his loving wife (of 43 years), Kathleen Kelly-Arnold, a son, Richard Taylor Arnold, and a daughter, Kirby Kathleen Arnold.



#### **"Crossing the Bar"** by Alfred, Lord Tennyson

Sunset and evening star,  
And one clear call for me!  
And may there be no moaning of the bar,  
When I put out to sea,

But such a tide as moving seems asleep,  
Too full for sound and foam,  
When that which drew from out the boundless  
deep  
Turns again home.

Twilight and evening bell,  
And after that the dark!  
And may there be no sadness of farewell,  
When I embark;

For tho' from out our bourne of Time and Place  
The flood may bear me far,  
I hope to see my Pilot face to face  
When I have cross'd the bar.

## **EYC BULLETIN BOARD**



Word from Melissa,  
Club Manager

**Lockers in the Annex building are available for rent. Contact the office for more information.**



Stryder knows the rules and is a good boy!

**As a reminder, as much as we love them, our pets are not allowed inside the club.**



Join the crowd for Friday Night Apps and Monday Night Dinners

**Don't forget to check the calendar to "bookend" your weekend at EYC!**

### **Want to host Friday Night App's or Monday Night Dinner?**

- ◆ EYC will reimburse you (\$80 for apps/\$100 for dinner)
- ◆ Sign up on bulletin board and advise club manager so members can have plenty of notice for your event
  - ◆ Plan on 20 to 30 people ( more notice = more people)
- ◆ Show up early and coordinate with bartender ("what's to eat," serving station, utensils, napkins, plates, etc.)
  - ◆ Meals typically are served at 6pm
- ◆ Clean up after (hint: recruit somebody who didn't help cook)

### **BOARD MEETING SCHEDULE**

**The next Board Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, February 8 at 6:30pm**

## RECENT EVENTS

### NEW YEAR'S MASQUERADE (DEC 31)

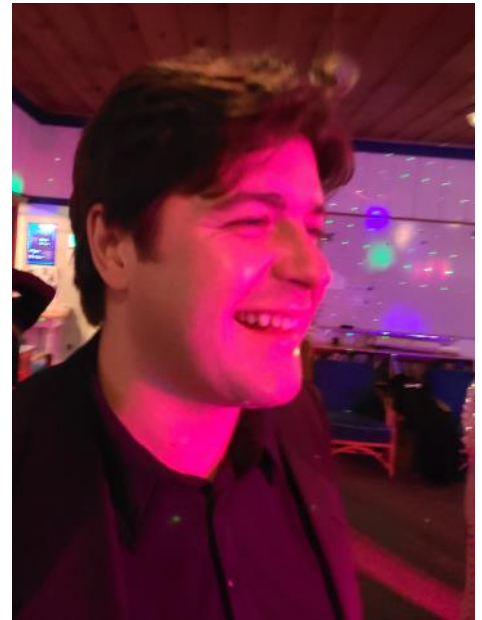
Mel and Toni hosted this year's New Years Eve celebration. The event sold out and members could not hide their smiles of fun and joy behind their exotic "domino masks." A Prime Rib dinner, popping bottles of champagne, and dancing rounded out the evening.

It was a fabulous start to 2024!



# RECENT EVENTS

## NEW YEAR'S MASQUERADE (CONT'D)





# RECENT EVENTS

## NEW YEAR'S MASQUERADE (CONT'D)



**BEHIND THE SCENES, BRIAN MADE SURE OUR PALATES WERE PLEASED.**



# RECENT EVENTS

## NEW YEAR'S MASQUERADE (CONT'D)



## RECENT EVENTS

### MONDAY NIGHT DINNER & BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION (JAN 15)

Monday Night Dinners at the Elkhorn Yacht Club are the perfect way to end the beginning of the work week. You have great meals, great libations, great friends, and a great price. There was an overflow crowd for MND @ EYC on January 15th. Members were treated to an AMAZING enchilada dinner and birthday cake dessert. Who's birthday? Our lovely bartender Anna's! It was a beautiful evening to express our love and appreciation for her.

Thank you Anna for all you do for the club!



## RECENT EVENTS

### A VERY BUSY SATURDAY! (JAN 27)

Saturday, January 27 was an all hands on deck kind of day. More than a dozen Elkhorn Yacht Club members turned out at 9 AM for coffee and donuts and were subsequently dragooned into a general work party and garden beautification effort. Rain gutters were cleaned, roof vents repaired, bricks laid, weeds pulled, storage space sorted, flag tatters removed, windows washed, shrubbery trimmed, and more was accomplished during the 3-hour work party. Personal satisfaction (and pizza, lemonade, and carrot cake cupcakes) were the reward for a job well done. The afternoon was filled with an informative seminar regarding popular phone and tablet apps used for boating. The Saturday was finished off with one of the best and festive Robbie Burns Night in recent memories.



## RECENT EVENTS

### EYC YARD & WORK PARTY (JAN 27)

Sheri Bugalski, Garden Committee Chair, has scheduled additional garden party dates prior to Spring for weeding and some light brick work. Scheduled dates are February 10 and March 2.



Sheri and Tim pause to marvel at the great work being done.



Robbie and Del pressure wash the annex deck while Commodore Rita supervises



Frank gets the windows squeaky-clean.



Landon, Eddie, and Alice get the garden in shipshape!

# RECENT EVENTS

## EYC YARD & WORK PARTY (CONT'D)



Sheri getting all excited about pulling weeds.



Morgan, Del, and Robbie taking their "union break."

## EYC EDUCATION SEMINAR - "MY FAVORITE APPS" (JAN. 27)

Following the work lunch, a free-form educational event, sponsored by the EYC Race Committee, took place in the hearth room. "These Are a Few of My Favorite Apps" had members share their smart phone screens on the big TV to demonstrate tools that they use for boating. There were lots of questions, discussion, and pros and cons about several apps, especially weather and navigation related. Stayed tuned for Vessel Safety Check warm up and fire extinguisher inspection on Saturday, February 3 at 10 AM and Crew Overboard training on Saturday, February 17 at 11:30AM.



Lara describes what she likes about Navionics.



Here are a few of MY favorite apps.



Dan answers questions about iBoating igation app.

## RECENT EVENTS

### ROBBIE BURNS NIGHT (JAN 27)

The EYC ended the day by turning into a bit of Scotland for Robbie Burns Night. Brian spent all day in the galley prepping haggis and other traditional flavors of Scotland for the evening. Dan MC'd the night's events, leading the processions and spelling out the pomp and circumstances for members and guests.



# RECENT EVENTS

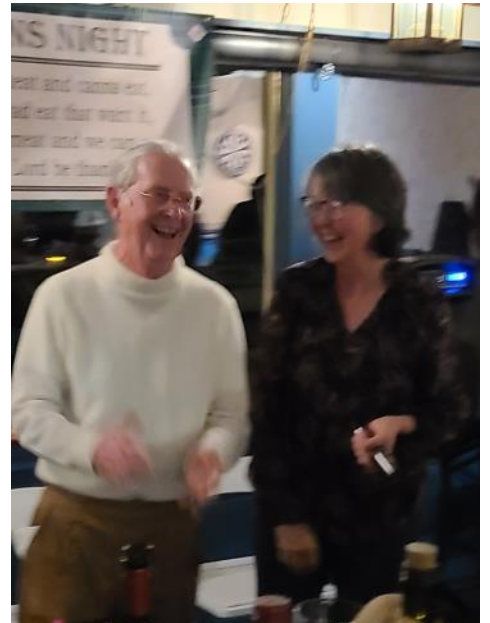
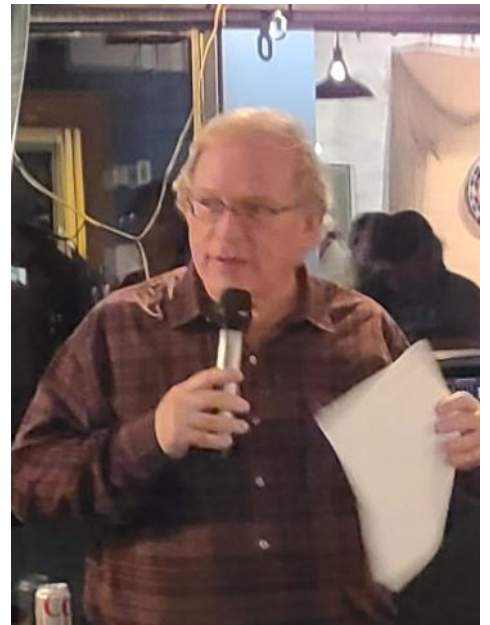
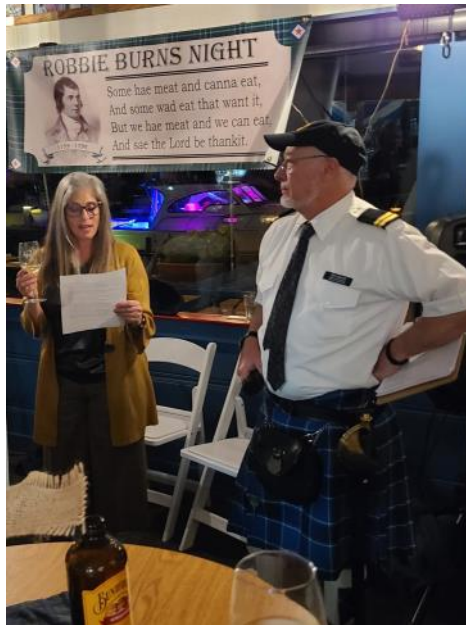
## ROBBIE BURNS NIGHT (CONT'D)





# RECENT EVENTS

## ROBBIE BURNS NIGHT (CONT'D)



**FESTIVITIES ENDED WITH MEMBERS INTERPRETATION OF POEMS AND SONGS.**



# EYC SIGHTINGS & SPOTTINGS

## BUSY DAYS & NIGHTS



The 49er Faithful gathered at EYC to cheer on the team through the playoffs. Next up: Super Bowl on Feb. 11.



Come enjoy live bluegrass music the last Friday of the month at 6pm.



Bobbi & Robbie setting up for Friday Night Appetizers in the bar.

## FROM CHEERS TO TOE-TAPPING BEATS, THERE'S ALWAYS FRIENDLY FACES AND GOOD TIMES HAPPENING AT THE ELKHORN YACHT CLUB.



Just another spectacular January sunset from the Elkhorn Yacht Club yard.



Frank & Lilly are just two of the many happy faces at EYC.



Always a treat to see Moose around the club.

**AROUND THE CLUB**

**COMING EVENTS**



**LOVE & FOOTBALL AT ELKHORN YACHT CLUB**

**EYC CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR FEBRUARY**

**FEB 3: EYC EDUCATION SEMINAR  
(VESSEL SAFETY CHECK)**

**FEB 8: EYC BOARD MEETING  
(6:30PM IN EYC DINING HALL)**

**FEB 11: 49ER SUPER BOWL POT LUCK  
(HOSTED BY ROBBIE & BOBBI)**

**FEB 12: VALENTINE'S DINNER  
(MONDAY NIGHT DINNER HOSTED BY FRANK & LILLY)**

**FEB 17: EYC EDUCATION SEMINAR  
("CREW OVERBOARD!")**

**FEB 23: FRIDAY NIGHT BLUEGRASS MUSIC**



The gal that larkles me gets my heart.

**AROUND THE CLUB**

**COMING EVENTS**



# EYC SUPER BOWL POTLUCK

## SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2024

**PRE-GAME PARTY (BAR OPENS) @ 2:00**

**KICK OFF @ 3:30**



**Bring your favorite potluck dish to share with fellow football fans**

**\* The EYC galley is NOT available for food prep this day!**

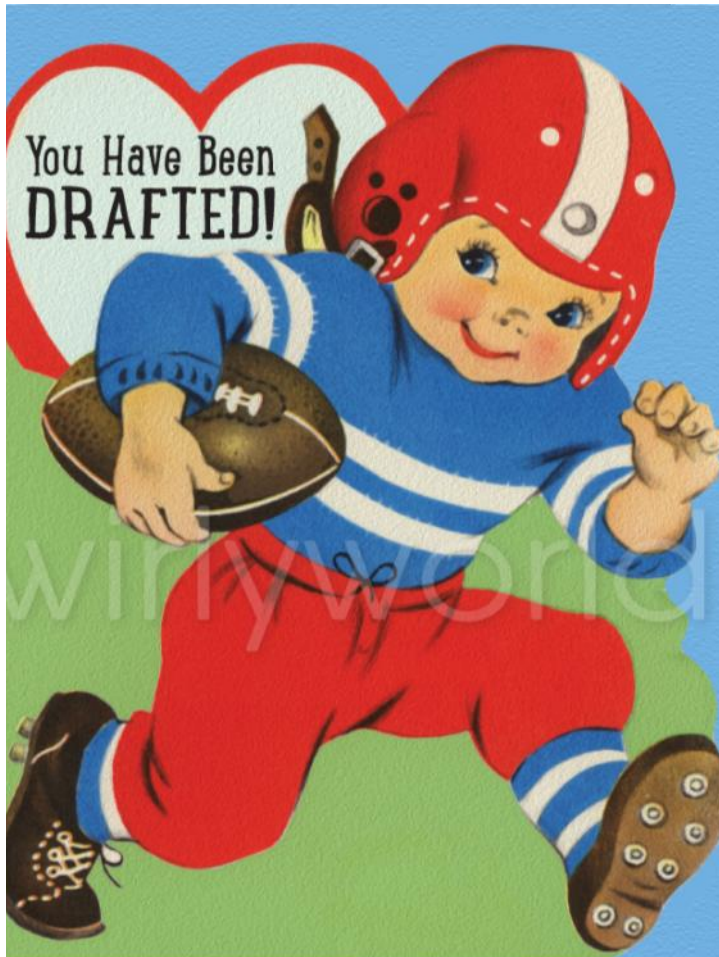


# ELKHORN YACH CLUB OFFICERS

## BOARD, COMMITTEE, & STAFF MEMBERS

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS, COMMITTEE CHAIRS & STAFF

Board of Directors		Committee Chairs		Committee Chairs	
<b>Commodore</b>	Rita Jacques	<b>Port Captain</b>	Brian Ackerman	<b>Property Maintenance</b>	Dan Piro
<b>Vice Commodore</b>	Hillary Thomas	<b>Fleet Captain</b>	Diana Garrett	<b>Club Safety</b>	Gary Skillet
<b>Rear Commodore</b>	Dan Garrett	<b>Bar Manager</b>	Toni Scarborough	<b>Race Co-Director</b>	Dan Garrett
<b>Treasurer</b>	Stacy Hughes	<b>Bylaws</b>	Stan Jacques	<b>Race Co-Director</b>	Lara Jacques
<b>Secretary</b>	Toni Scarborough	<b>Cruising Director</b>	Keith Chastain	<b>Social</b>	Lori Robinson
<b>Director</b>	Shane Dowling	<b>Workshop</b>	Jim Brady	<b>Work Party</b>	TBA
<b>Director</b>	Andrew Listl	<b>Garden</b>	Sheri Bugalski	<b>Webmaster</b>	Di Tarhalla
<b>Director</b>	Sheri Bugalski	<b>HR</b>	Dan Garrett		
<b>Director</b>	Hans Thomas	<b>IT</b>	Shane Dowling		
<b>Director</b>	Jim Brady	<b>Lee Rail Editor</b>	David Robinson		
<b>Director</b>	Brad Wuerstle	<b>Long Range Planning</b>	Stan Jacques		
		<b>Membership</b>	Katie Dowling		
		<b>PICYA Representative</b>	Lara Jacques		
		<b>PICYA Representative</b>	Dan Garrett		
		<b>Property</b>	Frank Lewis		
<b>STAFF</b>					
		<b>Bartender</b>	Anna Harris		
		<b>Bartender</b>	Richard Levine		
		<b>Bartender</b>	Guenter Hartman		
		<b>Bartender</b>	Sarah Gray		



This is a monthly publication of the  
**Elkhorn Yacht Club**  
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[ElkhornYachtClub.org](http://ElkhornYachtClub.org)

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Submissions are encouraged and will be considered for publication as time and space permit.

**Submission deadline is the 25th of each month.**

Email submissions to:  
[LeeRail@ElkhornYachtClub.org](mailto:LeeRail@ElkhornYachtClub.org)

or send by U.S. Post to the address shown above.



LEE RAIL  
FEBRUARY 2024

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