



LEE RAIL

NEWSLETTER FOR THE ELKHORN YACHT CLUB

NOVEMBER 2023 EDITION

Chowder Cup Sailing



Chowder Cup racing updates.
Full story on page 6

Voting Results



Congratulations to the new Elkhorn
Yacht Club Officers.
More on page 4

WORD FROM THE COMMODORE - MELISSA ACKERMAN

Hello, Dear Members of the EYC,
 This is my final Commodore's report. I loved doing this job and wish our new BOD all the best for a year of adventure leading this unique and special community of ocean lovers (sailors and sunset watchers alike). My success was guaranteed by the phenomenal support from board members volunteering their time to garden, maintain the property, run the races, put on spectacular events, or any other myriad of duties that our EYC family stepped forward to complete. Although I will miss being in the mire in whatever capacity, I look forward to assisting our leadership team and board of directors, both new and returning.

Cheers! - Mel Ackerman



EYC Volunteers—by M Ackerman

In the heart of the harbor, where the waters gleam,
 There's a group of heroes, like a sailor's dream.
 With hearts as vast as oceans, and spirits so kind,
 The volunteers of Elkhorn Yacht Club, they shine.

They hoist the sails and chart the course,
 With dedication, they show no remorse.
 Through wind and waves, they steer with grace,
 Guiding us to safe harbor's embrace.

With hands that mend, and hearts that heal,
 They make every sailor's worries repeal.
 From rigging to keel, they're always there,
 These volunteers, beyond compare.

In rain and sunshine, they never falter,
 For their love of the sea, they never alter.
 Through storms they sail, with courage and might,
 The beacon in the darkness, our guiding light.

So let us raise a toast, a heartfelt cheer,
 For the Elkhorn Yacht Club volunteers we hold dear.
 In gratitude, we sail the sea of life,
 With you, our crew, through joy and strife.

For your service and love, we're forever bound,
 In the Elkhorn Yacht Club, a treasure we've found.
 With grateful hearts, we now proclaim,
 You're the wind beneath our sails, our unsung name.

WORD FROM THE COMMODORE - MELISSA ACKERMAN

(Speech to our volunteers read during the Volunteer Dinner)

Welcome members of the EYC,

I stand before you tonight, not just as your Commodore of the Elkhorn Yacht Club, but as a heartfelt representative of our gratitude. The heart of any great yacht club is its volunteers, the unsung heroes who dedicate their time and energy to ensure that our beloved EYC bustles and thrives. Tonight, we gather to express our deepest appreciation for all the incredible work that our volunteers do for this community.

The Elkhorn Yacht Club is a place of dreams, a place where the sea meets the sky, where sails unfurl and boats dance upon the water. But behind the scenes, there are many hands that keep this dream afloat. Our volunteers are the bedrock upon which our club stands, their efforts spanning across various domains.

In the garden, they nurture the very earth that our club is built upon. Their green thumbs and dedication create an inviting, beautiful landscape that welcomes us all. They are the stewards of this oasis, ensuring that our surroundings are as breathtaking as the open water.

On the racecourse, volunteers are, not to sound too corny, the wind beneath our sails, making the racing events possible from setting courses to manning the start and finish lines, and, of course, playing boat tetris carefully parking all the visiting participants. Their expertise and dedication make race season an unforgettable experience.

In social events, they transform our clubhouse into a vibrant, welcoming hub where friendships are forged and memories are made. They plan, decorate, and organize, ensuring that our gatherings are filled with laughter and camaraderie.

Keeping the boating aspects of the club running smoothly is a task that requires dedication and perseverance, and it's our volunteers who take care of the nuts and bolts of the Elkhorn Yacht Club. From managing the docks, organizing the club's fleet and setting up cruising adventures.

Let's also not forget the critical work volunteers do in maintaining and improving our club house and annex building. The countless hours spent renovating and upgrading our facilities, making our club an even more attractive and welcoming place to be.

Finally I would like to take a moment to express our appreciation to the individuals who play a pivotal role in the success of our organization – our dedicated board of directors. Their commitment to volunteering their time and expertise is essential to our success. Their contributions not only ensure the smooth functioning of our operations but also allow us to fulfill our mission and serve our membership with excellence. We are fortunate to have such a great team steering the ship, and their dedication is the cornerstone of our achievements.

Thank you all volunteers, committee members, leaders, and board members, for your invaluable service, passion, and unwavering support. Your efforts are the backbone of our success, and we are truly grateful for your incredible contributions.

WORD FROM THE REAR COMMODORE—RITA JACQUES

I want to thank everyone who voted for me at our general election on October 20th. I look forward to making the club a true steward of our shoreline and continue to encourage our membership to enjoy sailing and our beautiful property.

I also want to update everyone on the progress of our seawall maintenance. The county has made us aware that even though we viewed our project as maintenance it meets a structural requirement for a permit. We are currently in the process of permit application and meanwhile we will pause any work on the wall until we have met the County requirements.



Rita Jacques

INSTALLATION DINNER PLANS

This year's Installation Dinner will be on Saturday, November 4. Celebrate the incoming officers and directors as The Elkhorn Yacht Club moves forward into 2024.

The Menu is:
 Shrimp Cocktail
 Bib Lettuce salad
 Filet mignon with brandied peppercorn sauce
 Mushroom spinach quiche (vegetarian)
 Grilled Potatoes
 Roasted carrots
 Dessert - Pineapple tartlets

Price \$35



Officers-elect Dan, Rita, and Hilary

WHAT'S GOING ON

EYC MAST REPAIRS COMPLETE

On September 30, 2023, six EYC boats, skippers, and crew assembled for the second race in our Fall racing series, Chowder Cup. With Mari-ko leading the series after the first race followed by Northern Light, Cutlass, Solace, and Un Bel Di and newcomer Aqua Naut joining for the first time it promised to be an exciting day. Some days, however, the only winner is the weather. With sustained winds topping 25 knots, gusting to 30 knots, and 7-8 foot swells, the Race Committee canceled the day's racing. Intrepid sailors and skippers took advantage of the people power and raised the newly repaired (thanks to JD, Brian A., Dan P., Keith C., and Bill S.) EYC flagpole to its rightful place of honor and the colors were hoisted! A rather spontaneous boat hop broke out as the grounded racers waited for the bar to open and good spirits prevailed all around! Check the EYC website for a listing of 2023-2024 racing events.

<https://www.elkhornyachtclub.org/racing>

- Submitted by Dan Garrett



Although too blustery for safe racing, a host of volunteers raised the flagpole despite the wind!



Dan & Brian uprighting the mast from the EYC roof.



The US flag was raised, then lowered to half-mast for Senator Feinstein.



Has Keith ever told you that story about following the contrails to Hawaii?



Larry had to tell the story about sailing in the hurricane about a hundred times.

SAILING/RACING

CHOWDER CUP SERIES #3 - A WHALE OF A TIME!

Six boats turned out for the third race in the Chowder Cup series on October 14, 2023! Light winds dictated a shortened course with a fleet start instead of the planned pursuit start. Whales were just about everywhere throughout the race course (MLA => ML3 => MLV6 => MLA) and crews captured great images and videos. The top four finishers were less than one minute apart after calculating in handicaps with 1st and 2nd place separated by a mere 5 seconds which all made for a very exciting race indeed.



SAILING/RACING

CHOWDER CUP SERIES #3 - A WHALE OF A TIME! (CONT'D)

New entrant Aqua Knot (Cody and Mandy F.) took second place, beating Cutlass by only 10 seconds! The series currently stands at: Northern Light, Mariko, Cutlass, Solace/Aqua Knot (tie), and Un Bel Di. The next race is November 4, 2023 when the fleet will accompany the newly restored Western Flyer out of the harbor on her way to festivities in Monterey. For a complete racing schedule, visit www.elkhornyachtclub.org/racing or contact Race Committee Co-chairs Lara Jacques or Dan Garrett.

- Submitted by Dan Garrett (additional photos by Michelle Gentry)



Six boats made for an exciting race start!



Whales made race navigation challenging!



RaceQs tracked most of the racing fleet and made for an interesting replay.



After a close finish, the fleet heads back to harbor.

SAILING/RACING

LASER DINGHY CHECKOUT A SUCCESS

Fleet Captain Diana Garrett conducted a Laser dinghy checkout workshop on Sunday, October 8, 2023. Four EYC members and two future sailors learned how to rig, launch, and recover the two Lasers owned by EYC (thanks to a generous donation by Tom Rich). Conditions were perfect, the boats were ready, and all the pieces came together for a great day of learning and sailing. To schedule time for a Laser checkout, contact Diana at 831-566-7231 or diana.greene.garrett@gmail.com.

- submitted by Diana Garrett



Waivers, paperwork, and practice with essential knots kicked things off.



Hans and Del help move parts down to the dock.



Owen watches from dockside as Diana demonstrates rigging the vang.



Both Lasers navigate the channel with the EYC safety boat standing by.



Leo waves to the camera with Hans on the tiller.

SAILING/RACING

DIA DE LOS DINGHIES REGATTA BRINGS SPOOKY SAILING TO NORTH HARBOR!

Nine boats turned out for beautiful weather and fair winds on October 28, 2023 for EYC's annual Dia de los Dinghies regatta. Principal Race Officer (PRO) Lara acques ran a great event for boats ranging in size from Andrew Listl's Jester to larger Lido 14s flying their jib sails. Running varied courses from inside the North Harbor horseshoe down the channel and back and with staggered starts, the little-boats made a great sight.



Pumpkins hit the water as racers maneuver to recover them. Some clever skippers brought nets for the final race (no rule against that).



Lidos head down to the first mark with Stan Jacques at the tiller of Estrellita (sail #3568).

SAILING/RACING

DIA DE LOS DINGHIES REGATTA BRINGS SPOOKY SAILING TO NORTH HARBOR! (CONT'D)

Many participants wore costumes! Brian Ackerman and Hans Thomas provided safety boat coverage for racers and tossed pumpkins into the channel for participants to scoop up during the final race of the day. Many prizes were awarded and racers enjoyed burgers and camaraderie on the patio afterwards in the sunshine.

- submitted by Dan Garrett



Lasers sprint to the finish!



Flamingo Jacques presents the 1st Place trophy to Mad Hatter Garrett.



A salty batch of dinghy sailors awaits the next regatta, Totally Dinghy, on May 25, 2024! Visit www.elhornyachtclub.org/racing for the calendar of all racing events at EYC.

SAILING/RACING

UPCOMING EVENTS

Upcoming Sailing Events

- * 4 November 2023: Chowder Cup #4
- * 18 November 2023: Sailor's Dinner & Awards
- * 9 December 2023: Holiday Lighted Boat Parade
- * 27 January 2024: Education Seminar: "These are a few of my favorite apps"
- * 3 February 2024: Safety Check Warm-up/Fire Extinguisher inspect/charge check
- * 17 February 2024: CREW OVERBOARD Seminar
- * 2 March 2024: PHRF Warm-up Race
- * 23 March 2024: Canyon Series #1

RECENT EVENTS

EYC HALLOWEEN SWAMPY GRAVEYARD

EYC members braved the swampy graveyard for a ghoulish night of fun that featured the rhythm & blues dance band “BTown.” Thanks to all who participated and contributed to the decorations and pot luck.



RECENT EVENTS

EYC SAILRITE WORKSHOP

Sunday October 22 found an industrious and creative scene in EYC’s dining room, temporarily transformed into a sewing workshop. Dan Garrett gave a thorough introduction to using an industrial Sailrite machine, including set up, maintenance and troubleshooting. There were 4 machines for attendees to try out and practice on by completing a “make your own mini-sail” project. Next order of business is to have someone give a mini wooden boat building class in our club’s shop and we can put those sails on those boats and have some mini-dinghy races... anybody game?

- Submitted by Lara Jacques



Jay with machine and sail



Instructor Dan and guest Toni with completed sail project



Andrew, Toni and Jay cutting out their sail pieces



Andrew creating his final hems on his sail.



Jim Brady consulting with Dan on his project.



Instructor Dan Garrett sporting his Sailrite Logo Temporary tattoo while Jay, Michelle and Andrew work in the background.

RECENT EVENTS

THE WESTERN FLYER IS IN MOSS LANDING!!!!

Sherry Flumerfelt, executive director of the Western Flyer Foundation, gave EYC attendees historical background on the boat that carried Doc Ricketts and John Steinbeck to explore the Sea of Cortez in 1940. She continued with stories of its whereabouts since then, and how it is now in Moss Landing. It will eventually be based in Monterey, but we can expect to see it in our neighborhood for the next year or so while they prepare space for it on the Monterey Wharf. Don't miss out on your chance to see it up close at the boat yard in South Harbor! Thanks to EYC Race Committee for organizing this informative event on October 14th.

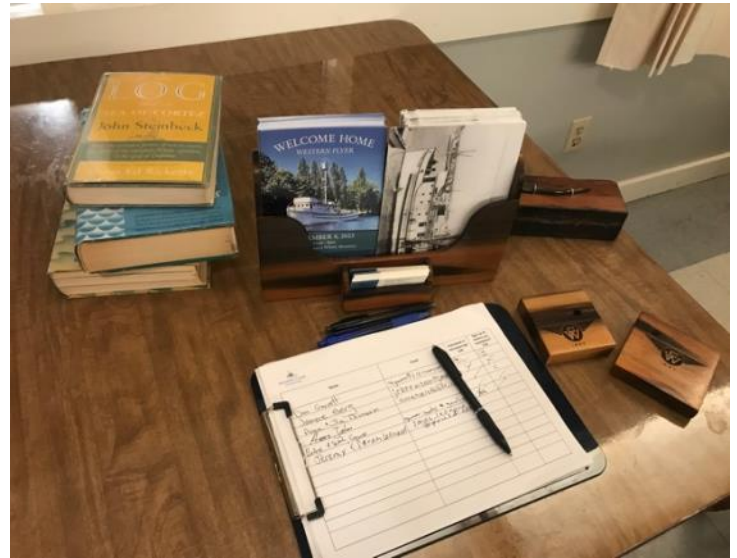
- submitted by Lara Jacques



There she is, parked at the boatyard dock in South Harbor Moss Landing!



Members crowded the EYC dining hall for the Western Flyer presentation.



Sherry brought first edition books as well as pieces of wood from the original boat.

AROUND THE CLUB

EYC'ERS DOING STUFF



A Birthday Event

Michelle celebrated her special day at EYC.



A Retirement

Brian called it quits and is embarking on his next journey.



More Birthday Enchantment

Rita shared her birthday baklava with EYC members

EYC'ERS DOING STUFF



Dinghy Time

Andrew is spotted taking some test laps in his newly acquired dinghy as he prepares for some serious racing.



Burgee Exchange

Elkhorn Yacht Club members John and Geri visited the Essex Corinthian Yacht Club in Essex, CT and exchanged burgees.



Thug sighting

Be on the lookout for harbor thugs. This one was caught red "flipped" before being able to fire up the outboard of "Mom's Car" and go on a joy-ride up the slough.

AROUND THE CLUB

COMING EVENTS

Monday Night Football: Nov. 6, 13, 20, 27

Chowder Cup #4: Nov. 4

EYC Board & Officers Installation Dinner: Nov. 4

Veterans Day: Nov. 11

Holiday EYC Sip & Drift: Nov. 11

Chowder Cup #5: Nov. 18

Sailor's Dinner and Awards: Nov. 18

BeerFest & Craft Fair: Nov. 18

EYC Sailor's Thanksgiving Dinner: Nov. 23

Holiday Lighted Boat Parade: Dec. 9

AROUND THE CLUB

COMING EVENTS

Holiday EYC Sip and Drift



It's time for some Merry Making!

Please join us for an afternoon of driftwood craft creating at EYC on Saturday Nov 11th - 12 to 5 pm.

You'll be able to join in guided projects to create a driftwood tree and ornaments led by Rose Mary Black.

We'll also have supplies and inspiration available for other "freestyle" driftwood crafts.



If you prefer, bring your OWN project to work on with the camaraderie of others!

Supplies and snacks will be on hand. Champagne, wine or cocktails for the merry aspect of our event will be available for purchase at the EYC bar.

Cost – \$20 to include supplies and snacks.

Please RSVP by 11/8 so we will have enough supplies and snacks 😊

Event hosts: Rose Mary Black and Sylvia Wanderaas

AROUND THE CLUB

COMING EVENTS



The 2024 edition of the ever-popular Moss Landing calendar is now in production. These sell out very quickly.

Please contact Michele Gentry to secure your order
NOW!

Text: 669-777-8852/email: bubblesgentry@gmail.com

ELKHORN YACH CLUB OFFICERS

BOARD, COMMITTEE, & STAFF MEMBERS

BOARD OF DIRECTORS, COMMITTEE CHAIRS & STAFF

| Board of Directors | | Committee Chairs | | Committee Chairs | |
|-----------------------|------------------|-----------------------------|----------------|-----------------------------|------------------|
| Commodore | Melissa Ackerman | Port Captain | Brian Ackerman | Property | Frank Lewis |
| Vice Commodore | Rita Jacques | Fleet Captain | Diana Garrett | Property Maintenance | Dan Piro |
| Rear Commodore | Hillary Thomas | Bar Manager | Shane Dowling | Club Safety | Gary Skillet |
| Treasurer | Stacy Hughes | Bylaws | Stan Jacques | Race Co-Director | Lara Jacques |
| Secretary | Toni Scarborough | Casual Cruisers | Scott Richert | Race Co-Director | Dan Garrett |
| Director | Hans Thomas | Cruising Director | Keith Chastain | Social | Toni Scarborough |
| Director | Dan Garrett | Garden | Barbara Lehman | Work Party | TBA |
| Director | Shane Dowling | HR | Rita Jacques | Workshop | Jim Brady |
| Director | Susan Osorio | IT | Shane Dowling | Webmaster | Sydney Drake |
| Director | Sheri Bugalski | Lee Rail Editor | David Robinson | STAFF | |
| Director | Andrew Listl | Long Range Planning | Stan Jacques | Club Manager | Sunny Padilla |
| | | Membership | Katie Dowling | Bookkeeper | Sandi Mantey |
| | | PICYA Representative | Lara Jacques | Bartender | Anna Harris |
| | | PICYA Representative | Dan Garrett | Bartender | Richard Levine |
| | | | | Bartender | |

CLUB OFFICE HOURS

♦ Sunny
Club Manager
Wed - Sat
1pm - 6pm

♦ Sandi
Book Keeper
Tue - Wed
6am - 11am

CLUB MANAGER NOTES

- ♦ Locker space in the Annex Building is available.
- ♦ Please contact Sunny Padilla in the club office to inquire about office/locker space.
- ♦ For emergency maintenance issues, please call Dan Piro: 831-440-6668

This is a monthly publication of the **Elkhorn Yacht Club**
2370 Highway 1
Moss Landing, CA 95039
(831) 724-3875

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

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



AILRITE WORKSHOP

ELKHORN YACHT CLUB
2370 Highway One
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LEE RAIL
NOVEMBER 2023