

December 2023 Edition

The Lee Rail

Newsletter of the Elkhorn Yacht Club

Letter From the Commadore

The month of November is a hectic one at Elkhorn Yacht Club. The new officers are identifying their responsibilities as are each of the committee chairs. On top of that it is time to submit budgets for the upcoming year. Our fiscal year is January through December and the budget needs to be completed by the December Board meeting.



Rita Jacques

This year there are the extra challenges of hiring a new Club Manager and Bookkeeper. Liz, who has been with us only 3 months, has had to resign as she is moving unexpectedly. I have enjoyed working with her and will be sorry to see her go.

I hope you will make it here for some of our great holiday happenings - the Wayward sailors dinner on Thanksgiving and Christmas, our tree trimming party and gift exchange, or just coming to spend a few hours enjoying our beautiful environment.

I want to wish each of you a happy and healthy holiday season.

New Officers



Your newly elected officers officially accepted their responsibilities at the annual Installation Dinner held in November (from top to bottom: Hillary Thomas, Rita Jacques, Dan Garrett).

More on page 9

VICE COMMODORE'S REPORT

Dear EYC Members -

Thank you! I am so pleased to be able to serve you as Vice Commodore this coming term, after serving since 2018 as a Director, as Secretary, and last year as Rear Commodore. Let us all also congratulate Rita Jacques as our newly elected Commodore! Her longstanding and informed dedication to the club means that you are in great hands. **And let's welcome two new Directors to the Board, Brad Wuerstle and Jim Brady. Thank you both for your willingness to serve the club.**



**Hillary
Thomas**

We have already jumped right into it with the hiring of our new club manager - please welcome Melissa when you see her this coming month. Rear Commodore Dan Garrett and Secretary Toni Scarborough dedicated countless hours in the process, and extra thanks to Toni for holding over the club manager duties as interim.

My focus this year will be to support the tightening up of operations, and to continue to support transparency in communication to the membership. Please feel free to reach out to me if you have ideas about how you can feel more agency and for the board to increase our touchpoints with the general membership. This club is, after all, all of ours to care for.

Lastly, I want to acknowledge that winter is my favorite time of year at the EYC. It's so cozy and I hope to see you around the club this holiday season, with the gift exchange party on December 9 and the boat parade coming on December 16th. My husband, Frank Sanchez, shared the poem below in the holiday spirit...

Thank you all for making the club our community and our home.

Best,
Hillary

Christmas On The Boat - by Sherry Scholer

T'was the night before Christmas and anchored afloat,
Not a creature was stirring, inside of the boat.
The anchor was set with quite enough scope,
So the yacht would stay put... well at least that's the hope!

T'was the night before Christmas, the boat gently rocking,
And hung on the mast were the holiday stockings.
No tree, wreath, or candles, but lots of good cheer,
It's joyful enough that we can be here!

We wondered if Santa would somehow appear,
He can swim surely, but do his reindeer?
Do sleighs have EPIRB, AIS, and good charts?
We hope he is carrying sufficient spare parts.

T'was the night before Christmas when we heard an
"ahoy!",
It brought to our hearts such a feeling of joy!
We could be mistaken, the red light we saw,
Was it nav lights, or Rudolf, we watched it with awe.

Whether sailboat or sleigh, dancing waves with such ease,
Moving so swiftly with quite a good breeze.
Then heard in the distance as it seemed to take flight,
Merry Cruising to all, and to all a good night!

EYC BOARD UPDATE - TONI SCARBOROUGH

NOVEMBER BOARD MEETING BRIEFS

Membership

Prospective Members:

Sean Fitzharris - Fran Fitzharris - Flag
Leah Hudkins - Steven Hudkins - Flag
Robert Cabrera - Bobbie Cabrera - Flag

New Business

Introduction of New Board of Directors 2023-2024:

Commodore: Rita Jacques

Vice Commodore: Hillary Thomas

Rear Commodore: Dan Garrett

Secretary: Toni Scarborough

Treasurer: Stacy Hughes

Director: Shane Dowling

Director: Sheri Bugalski

Director: Andrew Listl

Director: Jim Brady

Director: Brad Wuerstle

Director: Susan Osorio resigned as director. Vacancy filled with the appointment of Hans Thomas.

Rita reported on the new committee chairs and members.

Board orientation was presented by Stan Jacques.

Rita presented changing the board meeting to the 2nd Thursday of the month at 6:30pm It was Approved.

Reports

Rear Commodore Dan Garrett - We are in the process of hiring for the club manager position.

Fleet Captain Diana Garrett - Dan reported for Diana, they are moving the lasers around to accommodate the kayaks. The dock has been designed, picking up materials on Monday. There will be a launching party when complete. Vinnie is back cleaning boat bottoms.

Garden Committee Sheri Bugalski - She needs volunteers. Would like to schedule a garden and work party every 8 to 10 weeks.

Lee Rail Dave Robinson - Looks forward to working with the new officers and moving forward.

Property Committee Frank Lewis - Frank reported about the seawall. Preparing our report to the building department. Gathering all the information from various people for the report.

Social Committee Lori Robinson - Toni reported that there was a meeting at a social meeting last week.

11/12. Beer tasting and craft fair. Wayward sailors Thanksgiving dinner on 11/24. Jay is cooking the turkeys, Keith is donating and cooking a ham, members bring a potluck dish. The 2024 event schedule is completed.
Race Committee Dan Garrett & Lara Jacques - Dia de los Dinghies was a success with 9 boats participating. Dan Garrett was the winner. Next Dinghy race in May. The last Chowder cup race is 11/18 followed by the sailors luncheon and awards. Diana Garrett and Lara Jacques applied for the women's winter invitational in San Diego in February. The PHRF committee met yesterday. We should get some financial support from them. If you have a rating on your boat you will be getting a renewal form in the mail soon. The 2024 race schedule is out.

Submitted by Toni Scarborough, EYC Secretary

BOARD MEETING SCHEDULE

The Elkhorn Yacht Club Board of Directors passed a motion to hold meetings at 6:30pm on the 2nd Thursday of each month.

The next Board Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, December 14 at 6:30pm

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

KUDOS TO THE COOKS!



Jay, Stuart, Beth, Pam, and Jeff (L to R) all stepped up to prepare and serve a 1st class meal for the annual Installation Dinner on November 4. Just another example of the amazing volunteer efforts of the Elkhorn Yacht Club. THANK YOU!

REMEMBERING GOOD PEOPLE



Two new plaques were presented by The Elkhorn Yacht Club on October 30th in memory of two members. Steve Spittler is honored for his efforts in the workshop and Jeff Jones is remembered for his contributions in the dining hall.

SAILING/RACING

CHOWDER CUP SERIES FINALE, RAIN AND RAINBOWS!

After a storm-drenched night, six crews showed up on Saturday, November 18 for the fifth and final race of the Chowder Cup series. Competitive spirit was high with a two-way series tie for first (Mariko and Northern Light) and a two-way series tie for second (Cutlass and Solace), followed by Aqua Knot and Un Bel Di. After the pre-race briefing, boats departed in a pouring rain for a 12:30 PM fleet start. Clouds parted and rainbows peeked out just before the race started. The fleet raced over a 7.6 nautical mile course from MLA (Moss Landing Mile Marker) to a virtual lat/long mark (MLV8) and back. See <https://www.elkhornyachtclub.org/courses-and-marks-for-club-races> for details. At the end of the day, race #5 results were Solace (1st), Aqua Knot (2nd), Northern Light (3rd), Mariko (4th), Cutlass (5th), and Un Bel Di (6th). This made for an exciting series final order of Solace, Northern Light, Mariko, Aqua Knot, Cutlass, and Un Bel Di. Congratulations to skippers and crew as our racing season draws to a close. Go to the racing calendar on the EYC website for the 2024 schedule.

- Submitted by Dan Garrett.



Rainbows to the north!



(left to right) Brian, Landon, and Lara pause for a selfie. Wait, why are all those other boats behind them? I guess that explains the smiles all around...



New EYC member Greg Nitsche made bacon waffles before the Skippers Meeting.



Brian, Lara, and Landon accept Chowder Cup 1st Place hats and plaque. Congratulations!



Crew and skipper of the Cutlass try to dry out with a hint of blue sky in the distance.

SAILING/RACING

ANNUAL SAILOR'S AWARDS

Following the last race of the season on Saturday, November 18, an awards ceremony was held to acknowledge accomplishments (dubious or otherwise) and racing results for 2023. Rear Commodore Dan Garrett recapped the year and added a personal touch with ribbons, tokens, humorous awards, and swag for participants who have supported the racing program, including dinghy races and racing in Monterey Bay Yacht Racing Association (MBYRA) races against other yacht clubs.

EYC Canyon Series (Five races, March – July)

- 1st Cutlass, Skipper Diana Garrett
- 2nd Un Bel Di, Skipper Sydney Drake
- 3rd Solace, Skipper Lara Jacques
- 4th Mariko, Skipper Keith Chastain
- 5th Athena, Skipper Juul Vanderspek

EYC Chowder Cup Series (Five races, August – November)

- 1st Solace, Skipper Lara Jacques
- 2nd Northern Light, Skipper Jim Brady
- 3rd Mariko, Skipper Keith Chastain
- 4th Aqua Knot, Skipper Cody Forsythe
- 5th Cutlass, Skipper Diana Garrett
- 6th Un Bel Di, Skippers Sydney Drake/Owen True



Diana Garrett, Racer of the Year



Sydney Drake is awarded the Small But Mighty award for her Cal 25, Un Bel Di, being the constant backbone of the EYC racing fleet!

SAILING/RACING

ANNUAL SAILOR'S AWARDS (CONT'D.)

Racer of the Year: Greatest number of races as skipper in MBYRA, dinghy, and EYC races.
Diana Garrett

Crew of the Year: Greatest number of races as crew in MBYRA, dinghy, and EYC races.
Sunny Berg/Dan Robbins

Commodore's Award: EYC member who has demonstrated service to the club beyond normal obligations or expectations of a club member.
Lara Jacques/Dan Garrett

Totally Dinghy Regatta (May): Overall winner
Joseph Crum

Dia de los Dinghies (October): Overall winner
Dan Garrett



New member Greg Nitsche accepts the Shiny FNG* medal for being an enthusiastic crewmember and expert waffle maker.
*Ask Dan G. to explain.



Staff Commodore Toni Scarborough is awarded the Golden Wheel with Gold Button for heroism in navigating Mariko throughout the season.



Mandy Malone gets the Wonder Woman Helmsperson for driving Aqua Knot in the Chowder Cup series completing a 1/2 marathon the previous week (!).

BONUS SAILING PHOTOS * SUBMITTED BY MICHELLE GENTRY



SAILING/RACING

BONUS SAILING PHOTOS (CONT'D) * SUBMITTED BY MICHELLE GENTRY

Michelle Gentry captured a few of our sailors on the water throughout the year. Thank you, Michelle for your contributions.



RECENT EVENTS

INSTALLATION DINNER HELD NOV. 4

Commodore: Rita Jacques

Vice Commodore: Hillary Thomas

Rear Commodore: Dan Garrett

Secretary: Toni Scarborough

Treasurer: Stacy Hughes

Directors: Shane Dowling, Brad Wuerstle

Jim Brady, Andrew Listl

Sheri Bugalski, Hans Thomas

Master of Ceremonies: Stan Jacques

Commodore's Award: Lara Jacques & Dan Garrett

Crewmember of the Year: Dan Robbins & Sunny Berg



RECENT EVENTS

SIP & DRIFT CRAFTING

Sylvia Wanderaas and Rose Black recently hosted a holiday sip & drift craft party. Participants constructed Christmas themed décor from drift wood and other ocean based items. Wine and charcutier assisted with the creative thinking. Stay tuned for the next “Sip & Drift” craft day.



RECENT EVENTS

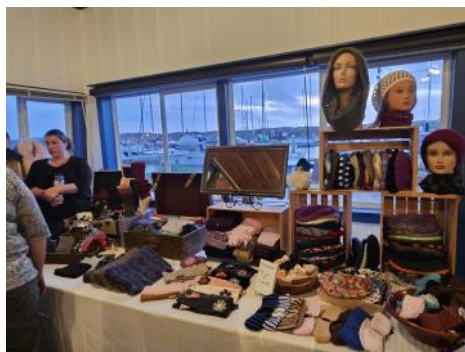
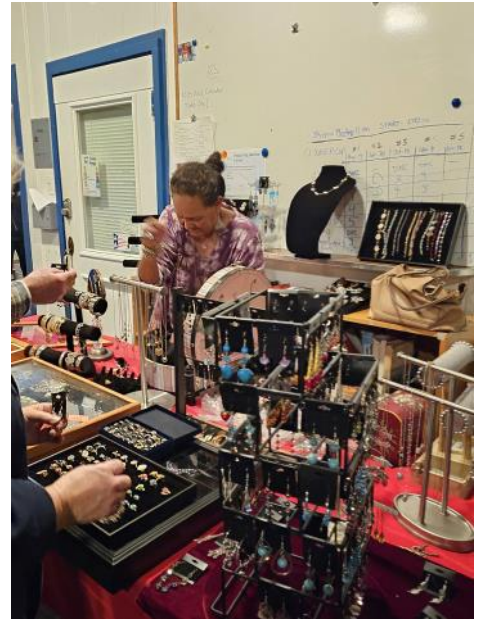
SIP & DRIFT CRAFTING (CONT'D.)



RECENT EVENTS

BEERFEST & CRAFT FAIR

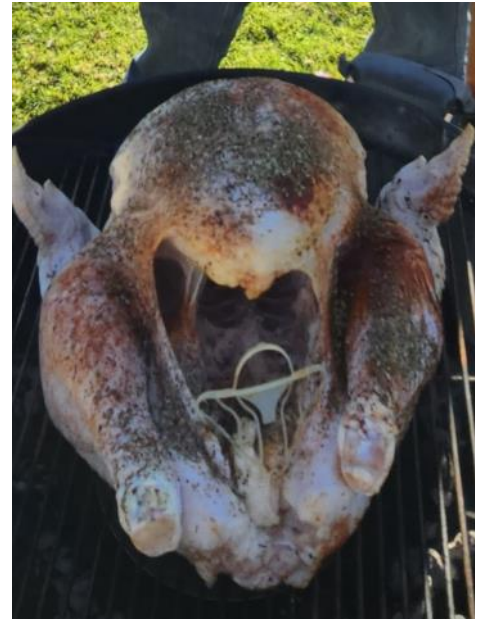
The annual BeerFest & Craft Fair was held Nov. 18. There's no better way to kick off the holiday cheer than a sipping on suds & starting on your holiday shopping!



RECENT EVENTS

THANKSGIVING AT ELKHORN YACHT CLUB

More than 40 people came to the Elkhorn Yacht Club to celebrate Thanksgiving this year. Again, THANK YOU Jay & Michelle for stepping up to the grill! EYC is thankful for you and ALL our volunteers.



THE BULLETIN BOARD

EYC SIGHTINGS & SPOTTINGS



Candy Count Winner
Davey guessed 582.
Actual candy count: 589.



Lara presents Davey with the prize; a
Sonicare toothbrush set.
Thank you to everyone who played!

Candy Count mystery was finally revealed and the winner announced!

Here are some fun statistics:

- ◆ Lowest guess: 6 - Shane
- ◆ Highest guess: 2,900 - Anna
- ◆ Same guess toothbrush sharers (wouldn't that be interesting?):

285 Lori and Amanda

420 Lupe, Andrew and Frank (we wonder what they were thinking about...)

450 Rita and Dee

550 Diana and Richard

EYC SIGHTINGS & SPOTTINGS



Are You Ready For Some Dinner?
Karen and Jorg prepare a Monday Night Dinner. Lots of great food and fun is always had. Keep an eye out for the next MND @ EYC!



Happy Birthday, Diana!
The 3-D's (Deanne, Diana, & Dan) celebrate Diana by cooking a Monday Night Dinner and sharing birthday cake with club members.



Bill's Bundled up.
We're all warm with smiles even though winter's crisp cool air is upon us. If it gets too cold for you, stop by the EYC bar for a hot beverage.

AROUND THE CLUB**COMING EVENTS**

*Holidays at the
Flkhorn Yacht Club*

EYC HOLIDAY EVENTS CALENDAR

. DEC. 4: TREE TRIMMING PARTY

(ENJOY MONDAY NIGHT DINNER BY THE TREE)

. DEC. 9: EYC GIFT EXCHANGE/POTLUCK

(PLEASE BRING A \$20 MINIMUM GIFT & A MEAL TO SHARE)

. DEC. 16: LIGHTED BOAT PARADE

(FOLLOWED BY SOUP POTLUCK DINNER)

. DEC. 25: WAYWARD SAILORS' DINNER

(EYC CHRISTMAS TURKEY/POTLUCK FOR SIDES & DESSERTS)

. DEC. 31: NEW YEAR'S EVE FORMAL GALA

(DINE AND DANCE YOUR WAY INTO 2024)

ELKHORN YACH CLUB OFFICERS

BOARD, COMMITTEE, & STAFF MEMBERS

BOARD OF DIRECTORS, COMMITTEE CHAIRS & STAFF

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



Sadly, EYC Bookkeeper, Liz Hernandez, will be leaving us. It was a short tenure, but her efforts will be missed and we wish her well.



Meet Melissa Raney!

Melissa has accepted the position of Club Manager. Please give Melissa a warm EYC welcome!

This is a monthly publication of the **Elkhorn Yacht Club**
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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.



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DECEMBER 2023