



LEE RAIL

NEWSLETTER FOR THE ELKHORN YACHT CLUB

JUNE 2023 EDITION

Around the Bay Sailing Adventure



The Monterey Bay Yacht Racing Association's "Around the Bay" race proved challenging.

Full story on page 7

EYC Prom Night



Members dressed to the nine's and danced the night away.

More on page 11

WORD FROM THE COMMODORE - MELISSA ACKERMAN

Hello, Dear Members of the EYC,

It has been a month of celebrations, new and old. The newest event was the adult prom, **Atmospheric Riviera**, and fun was had by all reminiscing past proms, dressing up, and dancing through the night to Soul Doubt - it was a hit! People are still talking about what a great time they had and the beautiful decorations, **thanks** to the hard work of Sue Prebble, Shar, Febe, Dell and Barbara (new member candidates), Davey and Lori. Summer is just around the corner, and, at times, we feel the warmth mixed in with what can only accurately be called "June Gloom." We rang in EYC's Opening Day of Yacht Season with flags flying and music playing while parading to the south harbor on Memorial Day weekend, and we marked **Memorial Day** with yummy French Dip sandwiches and lawn games like corn hole and ladder toss. **Thank you**, as always, Frank Lewis and Toni! **Little Boreas** is coming up, and, hopefully, some sunny days - come and enjoy the EYC. I'm posting a repeat poem because it's so appropriate to the season and contemplating what is really important in our lives.



See you at the Club! - Mel Ackerman

Mary Oliver's "The Summer Day"

Who made the world?
 Who made the swan, and the black bear?
 Who made the grasshopper?
 This grasshopper, I mean —
 the one who has flung herself out of the
 grass,
 the one who is eating sugar out of my hand,
 who is moving her jaws back and forth in-
 stead of up and down —
 who is gazing around with her enormous and
 complicated eyes.
 Now she lifts her pale forearms and thorough-
 ly washes her face.

Now she snaps her wings open, and floats away.
 I don't know exactly what a prayer is.
 I do know how to pay attention, how to fall down
 into the grass, how to kneel down in the grass,
 how to be idle and blessed, how to stroll through the
 fields,
 which is what I have been doing all day.
 Tell me, what else should I have done?
 Doesn't everything die at last, and too soon?
 Tell me, what is it you plan to do
 with your one wild and precious life?

MEMBERSHIP NEWS - KATIE DOWLING

MEET OUR NEWEST EYC MEMBER!

Patrick Gaffney

Patrick is originally from San Francisco, and currently resides in San Jose with his partner Pam Alvarado. They also have a place in Moss Landing that they share with a group of friends.

Patrick has spent the past 24 years in education administration.

Pam and Patrick have 5 adult children between them.

They are looking forward to participating in events at the EYC and are so appreciative of the warm welcome from all members of the club.

Look for Patrick and Pam at the club on the weekends and be sure to say hi!



AROUND THE CLUB



The month of May started with lots of guacamole. You need a big masher to handle this many avocados!



The month of May ended with the Memorial Day Boat Parade lead by Cpt. Brian. More on this in the next Lee Rail.



Find this hidden charm in the club and exchange it with Toni for an EYC drink ticket!

SAILING/RACING

EYC REPRESENTS AT 2023 OTTER CUP!

Under gray skies on Friday April 28th the mighty EYC racing fleet of five boats set out for Monterey to prepare for the 2023 Monterey Bay Yacht Racing Association (MBYRA) Otter Cup. Much fun and Camaraderie ensued that night! The next day Athena, Cutlass, Mariko, Solace, and Un Bel Di were part of a fleet of 15 boats in three divisions for the inaugural MBYRA series race of the season. After a lively start near the MY1 buoy, the fleet tacked up to Point Pinos buoy then ran up their spinnakers and headed to Moss Landing. The après race party included live music by the Kerry Sheepdogs and a wonderful tri-tip dinner by Jay and Michelle. Many racers wore their shirts with logo designed by Fleet Captain Diana Garrett. Many thanks to the social committee and volunteers Andrew, Elizabeth, both Hans, Peggy, Toni, and Jeanne for making the post-race event a roaring success! The next MBYRA race is Around the Bay on May 13, 2023 and the next MBYRA race ending in Moss Landing with a post-race party is Little Boreas on June 10, 2023.



Skippers, crew, and race committee relieve stress on the eve of the race.



The skipper's meeting at Monterey Peninsula Yacht Club prior to the race led by EYC Race Committee Co-



Solace catches a bit of sunshine on the water.



Commodore Melissa Ackerman presents Division C, 3rd place trophy to Vice Commodore Rita Jacques on behalf of Solace.

SAILING/RACING

EYC REPRESENTS AT 2023 OTTER CUP!



SAILING/RACING

THIS IS... NOT MY BOAT!

USCG BRIG MONTEREY



Garrett, Dan, 00812

Jacques, Lara, 8675309

Internationally known boat thieves and expired flare smugglers are finally brought to justice

A few days after the recent Otter Cup race from Monterey to Moss Landing on April 29, 2023, EYC Race Committee Co-chairs Lara Jacques and Dan Garrett sailed one of the competitor's Santana 22 back to her slip in Monterey. We prepared the boat at the guest dock, raised the sails, and used the electric outboard to help us out of the harbor. The weather was clear and cool, winds light but building, swells were low, and whales and porpoises were spotted along the route. On our final approach to the harbor we were busy getting ready to put the motor in the water and drop sails when sirens and lights went off behind us. A small USCG response boat hailed us and asked when we were last boarded. Hard to say as this was not our boat which we told them first thing. We were unaware of the Vessel Safety Check sticker from 2021 on the port side of the mast which would have waived boarding for two years. They pulled alongside our starboard quarter and transferred a young petty officer aboard. As we were still sailing and were not asked to drop sails or heave to, Dan stayed on the tiller and focused on a safe and predictable course, communicating tacks and jibes by hand signals with the response boat skipper while Lara answered questions and produced documents, driver's license, and requested items. Several items were passed back and forth between boats while the boarding checklist was filled out. They mainly focused on documentation, throwable flotation, flares, PFDs (we were wearing ours), sound-producing devices, whether we had an engine onboard (no), and our origin and destination. They did not go below decks. Fortunately we were on a small boat that we had sailed before and we were able to find items quickly. The entire process took about 20 minutes and we received a verbal advisory for having expired flares. Apparently USCG has been doing boarding procedure training around Monterey harbor recently. We texted the owner afterwards asking for bail money to get us out of the USCG brig. Lessons learned for operating another person's boat with the owner NOT aboard: always carry your boater education card, driver's license, or captain license on your person (mine was on my boat, duh) and find and inspect USCG minimum safety equipment and vessel documentation for currency and expiration before leaving the dock.



On the way to Monterey and just minutes before being boarded, Lara says, "Gosh, I'm so relaxed!" What could possibly go wrong?



Lights and sirens blaring, we were boarded on final approach to Monterey harbor.

SAILING/RACING

AROUND THE BAY RACE, NOT SO MUCH AROUND...

On May 13, 2023 after the 0800 online skippers meeting the mighty Elkhorn Yacht Club racing fleet set sail for the Monterey Bay Yacht Racing Association (MBYRA) Around the Bay race. Racers leave their home harbor and round all three mile markers (Moss Landing, Santa Cruz, and Monterey) in either clockwise or anticlockwise direction at skippers' discretion for a total of over 44 nm. Solace, Un Bel Di, and Cutlass soon encountered $\frac{1}{4}$ mile visibility in dense fog and light winds right down the bow as they headed for Santa Cruz. After over five hours to get to the first mark in Santa Cruz, watching the winds die, and realizing a potential return to base around midnight, Un Bel Di and Cutlass cut their losses and returned home. Solace rounded the Monterey mile marker and made it to within 6 miles of home when the wind deserted them and they were forced to motor in. All EYC boats were safe in slips by 2130. Of the seven boats registered for the race, four were DNF (did not finish). All skippers and crew are looking forward to better conditions for the 2024 Around the Bay race. Our next MBYRA race is Little Boreas, from Santa Cruz to Moss Landing on June 10, 2023. Join us as crew or for the after-race party!

Submitted by Dan Garrett



Solace and Un Bel Di maneuver at the starting line before vanishing in the fog.



A sunny smile on Skipper Sydney and Owen brightened the dreary day.



Greg Smith captured humpback whale tail-slapping behavior close aboard.



Around The Bay survivors Chris Castleman, Greg Smith, and Dan Robbins find

RECENT EVENTS

NORTH HARBOR GOES TOTALLY DINGHY!

The annual Totally Dinghy regatta took place on May 21, 2023 and saw nine boats in three divisions vie for trophies, prizes, and bragging rights. Lido 14s, Walker Bays, El Toros, and Jester dinghies mixed it up in and around the north harbor and channel on a variety of courses and all-fleet and staggered starts. Five races took place followed by burgers, awards, and small boat camaraderie on the patio. The next dinghy regatta will be Dia de los Dinghies on October 28, 2023. Contact the race committee for more information/

Submitted by Dan Garrett



We had some lively starts in the harbor! Photo credit: Michelle Gentry.



Joe Crum skippered his Jester dinghy Cheap Thrills to overall victory and was awarded the perpetual Totally Dinghy trophy by Race Committee Co-chair Dan Garrett.



It was a fabulous photo finish in Race #5 between Lidos Cool Changes and Bay Leaf (it was Bay Leaf by a nose).



EYC members Diana Garrett and Dan Robbins raced Cool Changes for 2 nd Place in the Lido division..Photo credit: Michelle Gentry.



Dan Garratt offered some motivation with his marshmallow launcher!



RECENT EVENTS

NORTH HARBOR GOES TOTALLY DINGHY! (CONT'D)



Walker Bays, El Toros, a Lido, and a Jester in the channel. Photo credit: Michelle Gentry.

Racers were cheered on by Sunny Berg and Lori and Dave Robinson. Photo credit: Michelle Gentry.



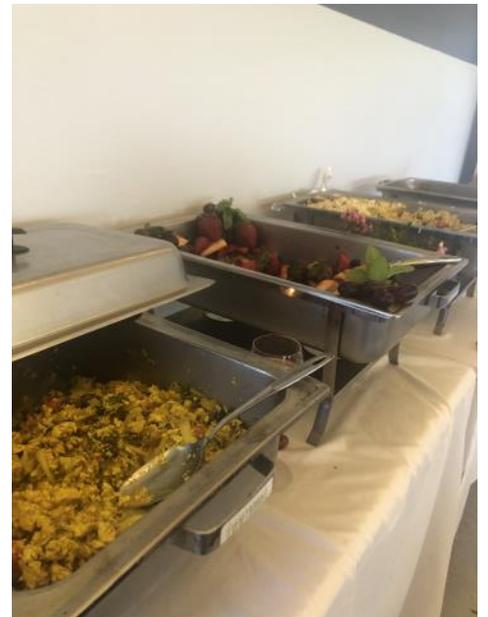
RECENT EVENTS

MOTHER'S DAY BRUNCH



*"A mother is she who can take the place of all others
but whose place no one else can take." - Cardinal Meymillod*

This year's Mother's Day Brunch was hosted by Hillary Thomas and Sheri Bugalki.
Thank you for providing us the opportunity to celebrate and honor our moms!



RECENT EVENTS

PROM NIGHT!

After a winter of Atmospheric Rivers, it was time to change the atmosphere to one more like the Riviera. We brushed off our finest outfits, spiked the punch, and danced the night away! Thanks to Sue Prebble for spear-heading the event and creating a memorable time.

Atmospheric Riviera



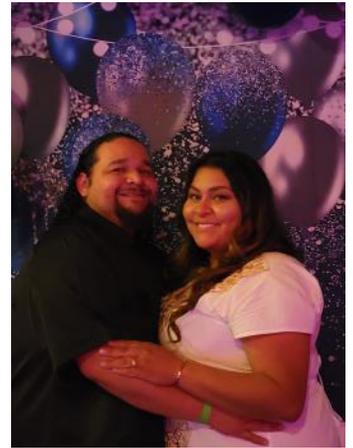
RECENT EVENTS

PROM NIGHT! (CONT'D)



RECENT EVENTS

PROM NIGHT! (CONT'D)



AROUND THE CLUB

COMING EVENTS

June 3: Sip & Drift Crafts

Create crafty driftwood art with a cocktail

June 10: Little Boreas

Sailing race

June 10: EYC Board Meeting

Monthly EYC board meeting

June 17: Canyon Race #4

Sailing race series

June 18: Father's Day BBQ

Celebrate your dad!

July 2: Firecracker Regatta

Sailing race

July 4: Independence Day

4th of July celebration

July 16: Canyon Race #5

Sailing race series

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	Hannah Genauer
				Bartender	Richard Levine

EYC World Famous Boat Hop

Sept. 16, 2023

What is a boat hop? One of the funnest events of the year! If you are new, you will be a guest and "Hop" from one boat to another. First you hop over to an appetizer boat. Then you hop over to a salad boat. The main course will be up at the club, so you guessed it, you will hop up there too. Then it's time for dessert, so hop on down to a dessert boat! You'll get to visit other member's boats, chat with friends you know and meet new ones, and generally have a great time.

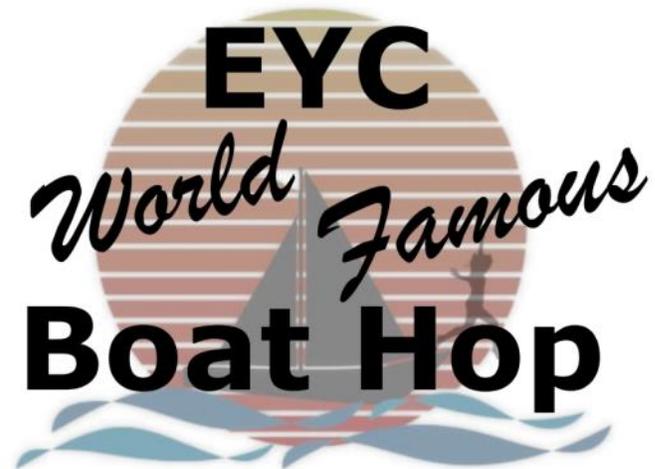
If you are a veteran boat hopper, why not sign up to be a boat host? You'll get to show off your boat and meet lots of new people!

Look for signups at the club, or contact Shane or Toni for more information or to sign up,

We are looking forward to seeing everyone

Cheers

Toni and Shane



Sat Sept 16th

STEVE SPITLER

CELEBRATION OF LIFE



- ◆ *June 25th*
- ◆ *Noon - 4pm*
- ◆ *Casual/aloha attire*
- ◆ *Share your favorite and fun memories
with club members*



LEE RAIL
JUNE 2023

ELKHORN YACHT CLUB
2370 Highway One
Moss Landing, CA 95039