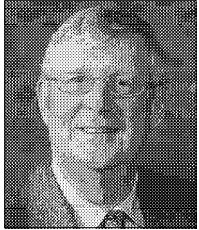


# Light Air

Monthly Newsletter of Lake Yosemite Sailing Association

April 2006



## From the Helm

*Tom Cooke, Commodore*

The water came rushing in the middle of March filling up our lake.

Lewis Overton took advantage of the wind and launched the first boat of the season on the 19th and had a great sail before tying up.

This month our marina should fill up and our sailing season will be upon us. The new slips will be finished by early April and ready for their new owners.

In addition to the 16 new slips we have 15 dry sailing spaces available for those who weren't able to get their boats on the water. The dry sailing spaces are available beginning April 1st. For those who take advantage of these spaces, please be sure to keep your sailboat ready to sail and in shipshape condition, because your boat will be the first thing people will notice about LYSA. Be sure to make us look good!

We will be working on upgrading the electrical system in the clubhouse this spring and should be finished by the end

of June. Also Craig Anderson will be painting the house as soon as weather permits. Please plan to help him out on this project if you can.

Once again I want to thank everyone who has taken the time to come out and work on the new docks. You have all done a fantastic job!

We are fortunate to have more law enforcement presence around the lake this year. The university police are less than 1 mile away and will be driving in and around the lake on a daily basis. This will help to keep our boats secure and will be of additional help to the Sheriffs who patrol on the weekends.

This season our club will see lots of traffic in and around LYSA every day. The kitchen gets lots of use and gets messed up pretty easily. Please be sure to take the time to clean up after using the facilities so that everyone can get the most enjoyment out of using our club.

Our next board meeting is April 4th and April 11th is our potluck and general meeting. See you at the lake. 8

## Just for Fun

A game warden stopped a man with two buckets of fish. He asked the man, "Do you have a license to catch those fish?"

The man replied, "No, sir - Don't need one. These are my pet fish."

"Pet fish?!" the warden asked.

"Yes, sir. Every night I take these here fish down to the lake and let them swim around for a while. I whistle and they jump back into their buckets, and I take them home."

"That's crazy! Fish can't do that!" said the warden.

The man looked at the game warden for a moment, and then said, "It's not crazy, I'll show you."

"Okay," said the warden, "Do it!"

The man quickly poured the fish into the lake and stood and waited. After several minutes, the game warden turned to the man and said "Well?"

"Well, what?" the man responded.

"Well, when are you going to call them back?" the game warden asked.

"Call who back?" the man asked.

"The FISH!" yelled the warden.

"What fish?" the man asked.



## Crow's Nest

*Brigitte Bowers-Loeffler, Past Commodore*

Just a quick update on the regatta. The Fosters have once again agreed to

cook the dinner and Joey Fultz will be in charge of lunch. I need a volunteer for Sunday's breakfast. Music will be provided by the Schriber's band. Thanks to Jim Streatly for volunteering his exper-

tise for the races.

I've had a few responses indicating interest in the regatta. Deadline for pre-registration is April 28th. Letters have been mailed to sponsors.

Don't forget to mark your calendars for a day of sailing with the Boys and Girls Club on June 17th.

See you at the lake. 8

## Lake Yosemite Sailing Association

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### Submissions

Submission deadline is the 18th of each month. Submit to Scott Foster via:

*Mail* 2457 Shoemaker Avenue  
Merced, CA 95348

*Email* scott\_foster@excite.com

# The Home Front

*Craig Anderson, House Captain*

Hey! Spring is here! The days are longer and the sun is warming up the earth. The water is up and the wind is blowing. The time is here to come out to the lake and enjoy our club.

There are a couple of projects underway at our clubhouse. A big one is painting the exterior. Please come out to help so our place is as nice as possible. A notice will be emailed shortly when we have a clear weather date. The electrical

service is soon to be updated and a new roof is anticipated, so a few hours of labor will be surely appreciated.

Please contact me to reserve the house for a function. The earlier the better. And don't forget that the clubhouse is for the enjoyment of all the members so clean up after yourself and leave me a note or call me to make any suggestion for improvement.

Let's all have a positive attitude and make this summer the best ever. See you at the lake. 8

# The Beer Can Ten Commandments

*Submitted by Scott Foster, "This was posted by an unknown sailor in the clubhouse — enjoy!"*

1. **Thou shalt not take anything other than safety too seriously.** If you can only remember one commandment, this is the one. Relax, have fun, and keep it light. Late to the start? So what. Over early? Big deal. No instructions? Improvise. Too windy? Quit. Not enough wind? Break out the beer. The point is to have fun, but stay safe. Like the ad says, "Safe boating is no accident."

2. **Thou shalt honor the racing rules if you knowest them.** The US Sailing 2001-2005 Racing Rules, unless specifically stated elsewhere in the sailing instructions, is the current rules bible. Few sailors have actually studied it cover to cover. It's about as interesting as reading tax code or the phone book. For beer can racing, just remember some of the biggies (port tack boats shall avoid starboard ones; windward boats shall avoid leeward ones; and outside boats shall give room at the mark). Stay out of the way of bigger boats, pay your insurance premiums, and keep a low profile unless you're sure you know what you're doing. Like most things it boils down to common sense.

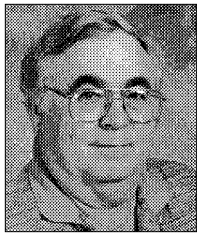
3. **Thou shalt not run out of beer.** Beer (aka, brewskies, chill pills,

thought cylinders) is the beverage that lends its name to "Beer Can Racing"; obviously you don't want to run out of the frothy nectar. Of course, you can drink whatever you want out there, but there's a reason these things aren't called milk bottle races, coca cola can races, hot chocolate races, or something else. Just why beer is so closely associated with this kind of racing escapes us at the moment, but it is a tradition we are more than happy to go along with.

4. **Thou shalt not covet thy competitor's boat, sails, equipment, crew, or PHRF rating.** No excuses or whining. If your lucky enough to have a sailboat, just go use it. You don't need the latest in zircon encrusted widgetry or unobtainium sailcloth to have a great time out on the water with your friends. Even if your boat's a heaving pig, make modest goals and work toward improving on them from week to week. Or don't — it's only beer can racing.

5. **Thou shalt not amp out.** No screaming, swearing, or overly aggressive tactics. Save that stuff for the office, if you must, or for the regatta. If you lose it

*continued on page 3*



# Waypoints

*Bruce Fultz, Cruising & Social Captain*

The month of March drew to a close with a corned-beef dinner in celebration of St. Patrick's Day. There was a fairly good representation of the club for an off-season event with 16 attendees to partake in a superb meal. The next major event will be the spring kick-off for opening day on Saturday, May 6. This will be the first large scale social event of the season with fun races and games for the kids, and the first chance to see the many faces that have been absent during the winter months. The club will provide the meat which will be prepared using the first barbecue fire of the season on the large grill, and attendees are requested to bring side dishes, hors d'oeuvres, and desserts to fill out the table. Please, please give us a call or an email to let us know if you plan to attend so that we can purchase the appropriate amount of meat (Bruce's Cell 631-5479, Home 384-8682,

Joey's Cell 631-4759, email bfultz9171@aol.com).

This will also be a chance to admire the new committee boat in action during the fun sail. "First Sail of the Season" honors have already been earned by Lewis Overton, whose Santana 20 "Wild Hare" was launched and sailed for the first time on Lake Yosemite on March 19 (currently berthed in Ken Rockholt's slip). Lewis wants to campaign his boat in some out-of-town regattas, and is looking for crew, so give him a call. Good luck Lewis!

Starting in June, weekend afternoon barbecue fires will be lit twice a month for family barbecues and relaxation (this doesn't mean that the big "Q" won't be used other times, it just means that it will be ready to go when you get there or come back in from a sail on these occasions). I'm planning for one Saturday and one Sunday each month of the season. Let me know what you think. 8

*continued from page 2*

## The Beer Can Ten Commandments

in a Thursday nighter, you're going to run out of crew — not to mention friends — in a big hurry. Downing a quick chill pill on the way to the starting line has been medically proven to have a calming influence on the nerves.

6. **Thou shalt not protest thy neighbor.** This is extremely tacky at this level of competition and should be avoided at all costs. Perhaps it's justifiable if one's boat is damaged and the blame needs to be established, but on the whole, tossing a red flag is the height of bad taste in something as relatively inconsequential as a beer canner. Besides proving that you're unclear of the concept of beer can racing, it screws up everybody's evening, including yours. Don't do it — it's bad karma!

7. **Thou shalt not mess up thy boat.** Everybody knows some hardcore weekend warrior who ripped his sails

up in a Thursday night race and had to sit out the championship race on Saturday. The point is that it's not worth risking your boat and gear in such casual competition. Like the song says, you got to know when to hold 'em, and when to fold 'em. Avoid other boats at all costs, not to mention buoys and other hard objects. If you have the luxury of two sets of sails, use the old ones.

8. **Thou shalt always go to the yacht club afterwards.** Part of the gestalt of beer can races is bellying up to the yacht club bar after the race. Etiquette demands that you congratulate the winners, as well as buy a round of drinks for your crew. Besides, the bar is a logical place to see old friends and make new ones. However, when meeting new sailors, avoid the gung-ho, overly serious types who rehash the evening in such gory detail that the post mortem (yawn) takes longer than the race. As much as we enjoy a quick romp around the cans, there is more to life.

*continued on page 6*

# LYSA 2006 Social & Cruising

**April 19-23**

Sailboat Expo at Jack London Square in Alameda (bring your boat, stay overnight, and sail the bay)

**May 06**

LYSA Spring Kick Off

**May 19-21**

LYSA Annual Regatta

**June 10**

Delta Ditch Run (Richmond to Stockton)

**June 24-25**

South Tower Race (Stockton to Golden Gate — Round Trip)

**July 7-9**

High Sierra Regatta Week One (Huntington Lake)

**July 14-16**

High Sierra Regatta Week Two (Huntington Lake)

**August 2-6**

Bay and Delta Cruise

**August 19**

LYSA Open House

**September 22-24**

Delta Cruise

**October 12-15**

Monterey Bay Cruise

**October 29**

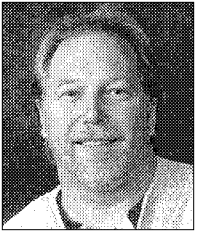
LYSA End of Season & Halloween Party

**December 12**

LYSA Christmas Party

**December 31**

LYSA New Year's Party



# For the Record

**Scott Foster,**  
*Secretary*

## Board Minutes, 03/07/06

Meeting Called to order at 6:45 PM. Officers present were Tom Cooke, Jerry Johnson, Tim Harden, Bruce Fultz, Craig Anderson, Scott Foster, and Amy Boehme. Minutes read and accepted from the February membership meeting.

### Reports:

Vice Commodore – Plans to help with raising funds for the junior sailing program to be presented by Jay Sousa. Doyle sails has offered to do a trim seminar for us like that offered by Pineapple sails for the Don Pedro Sailing club.

Past Commodore – Currently sending out reminders for the regatta and soliciting sponsors. Getting T-shirts printed. Jerry is sending out fliers. The date for the Boys and Girls club sail is set for June 17.

Dock Captain – Decking for the new docks will be completed this weekend.

House Captain – House painting is still planned for the near future. Will present plan for rewiring the house later during the meeting.

Secretary – SHARES cards earned \$116 for the month of January. Total to date is about \$350. Will put an ad for the regatta in Latitude 38 for May 19-21.

Treasurer – Account balances were reported. Currently reviewing our insurance coverages and future needs.

### Old Business:

Jay Sousa presented a plan for a future Junior Sailing program. Implementation is expected to be in 2007. After presenting details of the plan a motion was made to have Jay chair a committee for "Sail Camp 2007" (M/S/P).

Craig presented the proposal to rewire the house. The cost of materials would be paid by the club, later to be absorbed toward the rent after Tom gets the okay through Mr. Blum. A motion to accept the bid of \$2,800 for the job (M/S/P).

Dan McVey's Mid Summer Regatta budget – Tabled.

Motion to NOT charge any addi-

tional dues to members who do not donate time to the club was made. This was a suggestion previously put to the board. After discussion (M/S/P).

The discussion regarding racing with or without spinnakers was tabled.

A suggestion regarding charging a nominal fee when main dishes are provided by the club was made. This was mainly to provide more accurate head counts and dissuade non-members from benefiting from members dues. After discussion a decision to not charge a fee was made.

Meeting adjourned at 7:55 PM.

## Membership Minutes, 03/14/06

Meeting called to order 7:02 PM. Minutes of March 7, board meeting were read and accepted.

### Old Business:

The Commodore reported that Billy Goldfoos spoke with Mr. Blum about rewiring the house using the plan that Craig Anderson got from Mike Allen. So far it is a go, but Tom will talk to Mr. Blum again to confirm this and to also ask about repairing the roof.

Brigitte Loeffler reports that several people have now volunteered to help with the regatta and at this point she is set for helpers. She also reviewed the "Rules of Conduct" policy that will be voted on at the next membership meeting.

Jim Streatly indicated he would be doing some repairs to the committee boat and putting on new decals and numbers.

### New Business:

Jay Sousa presented an overview of the Junior Sailing program to be implemented next year. Jay has been working

for a non-profit sail club at the Marin Yacht Club in San Rafael and is planning to use this experience to coordinate a similar program for youth sailing at LYSA. The idea is to start small, learn from the first year, and to expand from there. Others have volunteered to work with funding, finding sponsors, personnel, and equipment. Jay indicated Stockton's Youth Sailing organization is folding and they may have sailboats that could be donated or purchased to help the LYSA project. For more information call Jay Sousa.

Ken Rockholt suggested we contact the County to remove the bathrooms between the clubhouse and docks. This may be an area to use for boat storage for the youth sailing project.

Social Captain indicated there are tentative plans to have a family night in April or June where family style activities would be held at the club. He also said that the barbecue pits would be fired up for all to use on certain days. Check for postings at the clubhouse or contact Bruce Fultz for information.

### Good of the Order:

Kudos is extended to Tim Harden and Mike Streatly for coordinating the work and putting in many hours building the new docks. Tim extended the thanks to all those that helped make it possible this year. THANK YOU!

The Department of Boating and Waterways website has a short, online safety course that after you take can be used to lower your boating insurance rates.

Meeting adjourned 7:31 PM.

*(This is a summary of the minutes. For the complete minutes see Minutes Book) 8*



# Dollars & Cents

**Amy Boehme,** *Treasurer*

Annual membership dues are now past due. Please hurry and send in your dues (\$75.00) so you do not miss the next newsletter. If you are not planning to renew this year, please notify me by returning your invoice, or emailing me, or calling me, or telling me so —

and return your key as well.

If you are planning to race your dues must be paid current before the first race. Slip fees are also due before or post-marked March 31, 2006. If your fees are not in on time you will loose your slip. If you are not able to locate your invoice, please call me at (209) 726-9137 and leave a message. 8

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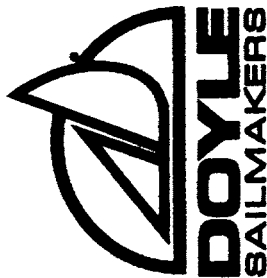
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## Visit Our Website

*For detailed information regarding our association and last minute updates we invite you to visit our Website.*

[lakeyosemitesailing.org](http://lakeyosemitesailing.org)

## Upcoming Events

**April 04**

Board Meeting

**April 11**

General Membership Meeting and Potluck — 6:30 PM

**April 19-23**

Sailboat Show at Jack London Square in Alameda

**May 02**

Board Meeting

**May 06**

Spring Kick-Off of Lake Yosemite Sailing Season

**May 09**

General Membership Meeting and Potluck — 6:30 PM

*continued from page 3*

## The Beer Can Ten Commandments

9. **Thou shalt bring thy spouse, kids, friends, and whoever else wants to go.** Twilight races are great forums for introducing new folks to sailing, such as your neighbors, out-of-town visitors, co-workers or maybe even the family dog. Always bring your significant other along too — coed crews are happy crews. And don't just make the new-comers watch — give them a job on the boat. Get everyone involved.

10. **Thou shalt not worry; thou shalt be happy.** Leave the cell phone in the car, bring the ghetto blaster. Lighten up, it's not the Big Boat Series. Have fun, and we'll see you out there! 8