

Light Air

Monthly Newsletter of Lake Yosemite Sailing Association

November 2008

Congratulations!

Meet the newly elected 2009 Board of Directors: Debbie Dietz, Commodore; Mike Streatly, Past Commodore; Tim Packwood, Secretary; Dave Willson, Racing Captain; Chrissy Wainwright, Cruising & Social Captain; Dennis Wainwright, House Captain; Chris Betts, Port Captain; Scott Foster, Vice Commodore. Not pictured is Diane Sousa, Treasurer.



Lake Yosemite Sailing Association

PO Box 3994
Merced, CA 95344

Officers

COMMODORE

Mike Streatly
(209) 669-9681
mstreatly@sbcglobal.net

VICE COMMODORE

Debora Dietz-Neves
(209) 722-4026
luckydutchrub@sbcglobal.net

PAST COMMODORE

Jerry Johnson
(559) 776-9429
jerry374j@sbcglobal.net

SECRETARY

Rob Glasgow
(209) 723-8698
chickenman5@aol.com

TREASURER

Diane Sousa
(209) 723-1832
dsousa@smithandstappcpas.com

PORT CAPTAIN

Richard Carlson
(209) 384-2093

HOUSE CAPTAIN

Ian Cooke
(209) 769-3802
iancooke84@hotmail.com

CRUISING & SOCIAL CAPTAIN

Tom Cooke
(209) 385-7381
tcooke@co.merced.ca.us

RACING CAPTAIN

Ed Dietz
(209) 358-1918
teddietz@yahoo.com

Submissions

Submission deadline is the 18th of each month. Submit to Rob Glasgow via:

Mail 1980 Alan Lane
Merced, CA 95340

Email chickenman5@aol.com



From the Helm

Mike Streatly, Commodore

LYSA has elected a new board of directors. There are many members who volunteer for individual events and duties during the year, but our officers commit at least a year (sometimes three at a time) to our club and deserve a great big pat on the back.

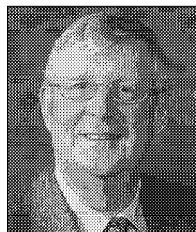
I only have a short time left as your commodore. I can honestly say that I am glad that I was given the opportunity to do it. Yes, there were a few trying times, but mostly everything was great, and we got a lot of things accomplished. Think about some of the things that our club did this year.

We started off the year with Port Captain Richard Carlson (with the help of many others) completely replacing the failing existing floating docks with new ones. What a great improvement.

House Captain Ian Cooke got the grounds off on the right note by spearheading the painting of the fence around the yard. It now looks good as when it was new. Past Commodore Jerry Johnson put on a great regatta and a very successful Open House Shrimp Feed. Cruising & Social Captain Tom Cooke organized many potluck dinners as well as great trips to Lake Don Pedro and the Delta. Throughout the year Racing Captain Ed Dietz kept our Thursday night races running smoothly. And we capped the year off by finally replacing the roof on the clubhouse. I believe we finished the year right on budget ... what a year!

I also hope that everyone gives as much support as possible to our new board, so that we can have another great year in 2009.

Have a great Thanksgiving. I hope to see you at the Christmas Party. 8



Waypoints

Tom Cooke, Cruising & Social Captain

October saw the installation of a new roof on our clubhouse. We also have a new front and back door. A big thank you goes out to Dennis Wainwright for the front door and to Jeff and Denise Palsgaard for the back door. October also saw the end of our drought with the activation of the new park water system. Our club also voted to remove the onus from our past commodore as the sole responsible board member for the regatta and open house fundraiser and made the whole board responsible for putting on those events.

Hopefully everyone enjoyed our Halloween party on the 25th. To all the racers congratulations on another great racing season. To all the newly elected board members, a big thanks for stepping up to get us through another year.

Don't forget the Christmas party is coming up on the 9th of December at Fish and Game. For a mere \$10 per plate

you get prime rib, pasta, salad, and bread. Members with last names starting with A through L please bring appetizers. Members with last names starting with M through Z please bring a dessert. If you want to bring Christmas gifts for your children please bring them with you. Our gift exchange is limited to no more than \$20.00 per person. You must bring a gift to play. We are sending out RSVPs with this newsletter, please mail them as soon as possible so we have a good idea of who will be attending. I need volunteers to help with serving, set up, clean up, and decorations. Please contact me if you are interested in helping out. I hope everyone will make plans to come out and have a great time.

Our November board meeting is on Election Day (the 4th) so please vote before you come out. All new board members should attend because that is the day we go over our budget for next year. Our monthly potluck meeting is on the 11th. See you at the lake. 8

Ziggy and the Dragon

Scott Foster

Instantly the sky turned black... black as a Raven's eye. It mimicked the color of the sea, which had darkened hours before, surrounding me in a colorless void. The sea and the sky were one. Now I could not tell where the horizon lay. I couldn't even see the white foam I knew was blowing over the cresting waves around me. It was not a storm... it was a typhoon! Rain? Not rain, more like a torrential, cascading waterfall of salty concrete slamming against my vessel "the Dragon". She could take it though. We would soon find out if I could.

The seasoned sailor continued his story as he sat aboard the *RumRunner*. But, let me back up a bit. You see a few hours earlier an armada of sailboats from the Lake Yosemite Sailing Association had finished the second leg of a weekend excursion in the Delta. The boats were lulling comfortably in their berths at the Antioch marina. Their crews relaxing after a brisk day of wind, a good supper, and a margarita or two in their bellies. Time for me as well to crack that cork off a bottle of West Indies Rum I'd been saving, relax, and savor the end of a perfect day.

I noticed him at first as he sauntered down the dock in front of the boats. He seemed to have a curious eye on the new arrivals that had entered his harbor home earlier that day. Noticing the lantern hanging from the boom and perhaps catching a whiff of the vintage that had just been released, he turned and came down the finger of the slip I was in.

"Watched you come in today. Three of the same boats." He said in a thick European accent. "Actually two MacGregors and a Clipper Marine" I replied. "That's right, my boat lies between two Clipper Marines right over there" as he pointed across the marina. His calm manner and intriguing accent led me to ask him aboard. I offered him a snip of rum. "I used to drink the rum in my tea, but I'm okay for now" he said.

"My name is Scott, welcome aboard the *RumRunner*." "My name is Zygmunt Miedzianowski, but I am called Ziggy" he replied, and his stories began.

I was sailing from Australia to New Guinea. I had not been sailing for so long

and with not too much experience, so I was nervous. I was too nervous to know to wear a harness. I had to go forward and I thought I could be strong enough to hold on to the shrouds and when I got to the mast I could lock my elbow around tight. If a wave hit I could hold on to the mast. I did get to the mast and I locked my arm tight, but the wave was too strong and it washed me right into the sea. I knew I had to get back to the boat. Fast. I must not lose sight of the boat. But I was more afraid of the sharks. I was able to swim back to the boat. I knew I would only have one chance to get back onboard. The stern was the lowest point of the boat, but too big a risk to go for the small area. The sides were long, my chances would be better, if I could only reach high enough.

The girls who just a moment before were content below deck playing their game of Skip Bo were now intently listening to his astounding tale. Ziggy continued his story.

I swam next to the side of the boat and I reached high up. Many times I tried. I was able finally to get just one finger over the rail. I went up and down with the waves and the boat. Then I was able to get two, and then three fingers on the edge, finally my one hand. I reached up with my other arm and grabbed the shroud line. I was with the boat and the waves and trying to get a leg over the rail. And I tried over and over many times. I got a foot on the rail. My whole leg. I crawled over the gunnel and at last was back onboard.

Ziggy sat there, quiet for a moment, pondering his experience. Perhaps reflecting the deeper meaning for his survival. "Why didn't you have someone with you, especially on an ocean crossing?" I asked. "Some people just don't do well." He said, "I have had crew that were smart, physically fit, and some experience, but they can't handle it mentally. When the weather goes bad."

Ziggy shared a while more with us then graciously excused himself and headed to his home on the water "the



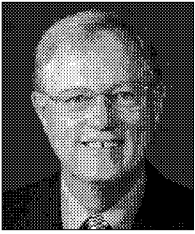
Dragon" for the night. The next morning, after breakfast, I took a walk to go take a look-see at the boat that had traveled the world over. His Catalina 25 was the most amazing display of craftsmanship and functionality in stainless steel and fiberglass that I have ever seen. I took some pictures and Ziggy gave me a detailed overview of all the custom work.

First let's talk backup plans A, B, C, D... double every shroud and stay, sometimes quadruple them and you get the picture. Four anchors on the bow. Four more on the stern. Hardened, bullet proof Plexiglas for a dodger set in 3/4" tubular stainless steel framing. The cockpit surrounded in a cage of tubular stainless like the roll cage in a dragster. Stainless steel hand rails, lifeline rods and lots of other gleaming hardware ornamented the glorious vessel. I'll have to elaborate on the rest of Ziggy's boat at another time. But for now you can take a look-see yourself on the LYSA website where you can find a link to Ziggy and the Dragon. 8

Fleet Beat

Catalina 22 Fleet 136 News
Amy Boehme, Fleet Captain

I'd like to invite all Catalina 22 families to join us at our next meeting on Thursday, November 13th, 6:00 PM, at the clubhouse. We will be celebrating the end of another sailing season and electing new officers for open positions. This is a potluck so bring a dish to share and your favorite beverage. 8



For the Record

Rob Glasgow, Secretary

Board Meeting Minutes

— October 7, 2008

Meeting called to order at 6:38 PM. Absent board members were Ian Cooke and Rob Glasgow. Acting Secretary was Debbi Dietz-Neves. Minutes from the last general meeting were read and approved.

Reports

Treasurer Diane reported bank balances. We have 100 paid members.

Port Captain Richard was asked about repair projects and said he is waiting for the new dock captain to do a walk-through with him to plan. Mike Strealy suggested that the main run is the next focus — new posts and boards. Treasurer Diane thinks we will have about \$7,000.00 for next year. Jerry recommends working on the fingers.

Racing Captain Ed reports that he is making special awards with Matt Loeffler. He will have 18 trophies for racing. It was suggested he talk to Chris about trophies, as he's a member and has given us good prices in the past.

Cruising & Social Captain Tom reports that the End-of-Season Party is October 25. Deb will be cooking the chicken and he is requesting help for set up and clean up, serving, photography, and decorating. Jerry will talk to Peggy (Parks Dept.) about where we can hold the party if we don't have water. He should have an answer for the membership at the General Meeting. Mike will talk to Brigitte Loeffler about setting up kids games again this year. Tom will finalize all plans next week at the General Meeting.

House Captain Ian was not present but Tom reported for her stating that the roof was started on 10/6 and we are hoping for a speedy completion. He reports that all dry storage spots have been filled. There will be additional two spots for dry storage this winter.

Junior Sailing report was given by Jay Sousa. He says the biggest challenge will be getting a reliable instructor in place for the next three years. He would really like to see us spend the next three years getting some of our own youth

trained to be instructors, and said there are several potential candidates.

Old Business

Boat Motor: Since Junior Sailing is committed to matching up to \$1500.00 towards a boat motor, the board is looking at spending up to \$3,000.00 on this. Jerry said that he had a line on a 1990 60hp Johnson that is being rebuilt by a reliable party and that we may be able to get it for \$1,200.00. Debbi brought up the suggestion from Scott Foster that the club form a committee to find and purchase the boat motor. The committee would develop a plan for type of motor the club needs, the measures they will take to investigate a used motor, shop around for the motor, and be pre-approved to purchase the motor should all parameters be met. Jerry agreed with this idea, suggesting the committee be made up of three or more people.

House Doors: Tom made a motion to approve Dennis Wainwright to purchase the hardware, spending a maximum of \$150.00 to complete this project. The motion was seconded and passed.

New Business

Commodore Mike presented a suggestion submitted by Chrissy Wainwright regarding the three year commitment on the commodore position. She would like to see the responsibility for planning the annual fundraisers become the responsibility of the outgoing board, not the past commodore. Ed Dietz brought in a sample of LYSA bylaws with proposed changes on it eliminating past commodore position and splitting cruising and social captain to two positions. Discussion followed. Don't split the cruising and social position. Keep the past commodore position, most clubs have a "rear commodore" position that provides continuity to each new board. Yes to the idea of having the current outgoing board handle the fundraisers. Modifications were offered to wording of the proposed changes. Motion was passed to present the proposed changes to the General Meeting next week.

Absentee Ballots: Commodore

Join us for the next Membership Meeting

Tuesday, November 11th

LYSA Clubhouse

6:30 PM Potluck Social

7:00 PM Meeting

*Bring a dish to share
and your favorite beverage.*

Mike will gather candidate names at the General Meeting for the absentee ballots.

Meeting adjourned at 7:45 PM.

General Meeting Minutes

— October 14, 2008

Meeting called to order at 7:00 PM by Commodore Mike. Minutes from the last board meeting were approved.

Old Business

Established a committee to buy a motor for club boat. Scott Foster, Jay Sousa, and Jerry Johnson have volunteered. They will decide what type of motor is needed and options to buy. They will present information at the next general meeting so pre-approval of expenditure can be made.

New Business

Discussed a change in the bylaws to modify the duties of the past commodore. There has been much discussion about spreading the responsibilities for the regatta and open house to lessen the load on that position. Ed presented new wording to change the responsibilities as follows: 1. Vice Commodore will be responsible for club merchandise. 2. Shift responsibility for fund raising from past commodore to entire board. All members will serve on those fund raising activities. M/S/P to adopt the changes.

Meeting adjourned at 8:15 PM.

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

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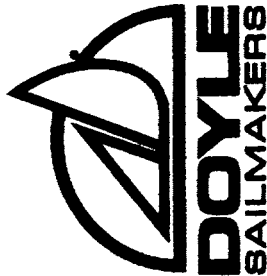
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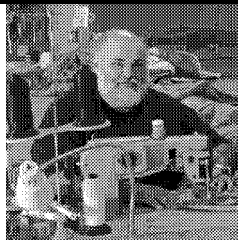
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Visit Our Website

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

lakeyosmitesailing.org

Upcoming Events

November 04
Board Meeting

November 11
Membership Meeting

December 02
Board Meeting

December 09
LYSA Christmas Party



Short Tacks

Debora Dietz-Neves, Vice Commodore

The 2008 sailing year brought us many new member families, including three families I'm profiling this month. The Greenwoods include Jim, Michelle and sons Davis and Dillon. They sail the "Fancy Free", a 21 foot Coronado. They are interested in racing, social events, and learning more about sailing.

Robert and Michelle Ellis have also joined, bringing their boat, "The Usual Suspect" to our waters, a 25 foot MacGregor. They look forward to cruising and racing with the club, as well as the social events.

Our most recent new members are

Tom and Betty Collins. They are also interested in cruising and racing with the club, enjoying the social events, and refreshing their sailing skills. The Collins sail the 21 foot "Serenity".

The club looks forward to sailing and socializing with all of our new member families this coming year. A great way to meet new members is to come to the general membership meetings, held the second Tuesday of every month. There, we introduce new members who are in attendance. This is also a great place to involve yourself in event planning and activities.

I look forward to seeing you at the meetings. Welcome aboard! 8