



February 2020

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[www.VYC.org](http://www.VYC.org)

P.I.C.Y.A. Club of the Year in 2015, 2014, 2013, 2012, 2010, 2009, 2008, 2007 & 2006!

## UPCOMING EVENTS



*Happy  
Valentine's  
Day*

### **Commodore's Brunch**

February 2  
10:00AM - Noon

### **VYC Superbowl Party**

February 2  
3:30PM - 7:30PM



### **Sweetheart Cruise to Benicia YC**

February 14-16

### **Wine Tasting Evening with 37 Winery**

February 19  
7:00PM - 9:00PM



### **Mardi Gras Gala**

February 22  
5:00PM - 10:00PM



### **Penelope's Tonga Slide Show and Potluck**

February 26  
6:00PM - 7:30PM



## COMMODORE REPORT Ken Leslie

If you haven't seen it, it's amazing! I'm talking about the A Row repairs that are 99% finished thanks to Jeff Ruzsler and his able crew of Bill Sweitzer, Bob Padon, Jim Kuykendall, Glen McKeig, and Matt Mack. Of course there have been several others

who lent hands to lift, tote, tie, move, and help. The dock itself is straight and solid as a rock—a thing of beauty. Let's all make sure we thank all who have helped with this huge project.

We also cannot overlook the volunteer efforts of so many of our members, like Jim Glenn who does so much in the galley with the help of Bob Reeves, Jose Pabón and others. And let's not forget all those who "lift a finger" to wash bar ware or clean tables. Many other members serve in the elected and appointed positions listed on the back page of this newsletter. We have so many wonderful members who "do what they can, when they can, if they can." I encourage everyone to not only thank our volunteers but become one.

The social/event calendar for the rest of the year is being finalized—maybe you can help with an event. There are going to be some really fun events, starting with a Mardi Gras party coming in February. Please keep an eye on the calendar and your email to get information. Come to the club and bring your friends to have a great time.

Full steam ahead!

(Comments or questions can be sent to: [commodore@vyc.org](mailto:commodore@vyc.org))

Sincerely, — Ken Leslie, Commodore



Photo courtesy Ken Leslie



## REAR COMMODORE REPORT Bill Zerby

Been cold lately so I started looking for a new winter coat and side tracked by a request on the internet. A group was asking jackets be donated and given to folks in need. Now I am thinking that is a great idea and the yacht club could help. So..... Yes we could collect jackets during February and then donate to a local agency. I'll bet every one of us has an old jacket/coat either too small or old hanging in a closet. Bring it down and lets collect for the month of February.

Last month I talked about a member becoming a "mudd hen," well; it happened again. A very senior member

updated their "mudd hen" status on "A" row while installing the new electrical. The member was not wearing a life jacket and was in the water about ten minutes, calls for help went unheard (folks sitting on the outside deck about 100 feet). Now the best part Bruce C and Gabrielle W were returning from a day sail, heard the "mudd hen" calling and alerted the folks sitting on the deck. A very wet member saved! Thanks to all for assisting. Wear those life jackets.

"A" row is nearing completion and I am most happy, the only thing to make me happier would be a new puppy. Dam I like dogs.

—Bill Zerby, "Semper Fi", Rear Commodore



## FEBRUARY

- 2** Commodore's Brunch 10:00am - 12:00pm  
VYC Superbowl Party 3:30pm - 7:30pm
- 6** U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary Division 5 Board Meetings  
7:00pm - 10:00pm
- 7** FRIDAY NIGHT DINNER 7:00pm - 8:30pm
- 11** Board of Directors Meeting 7:00pm - 9:00pm
- 13** Coast Guard Auxiliary Flotilla 51 - 6:00pm - 9:00pm
- 14** Valentine's Day  
SWEETHEART CRUISE TO BENICIA YC  
FRIDAY NIGHT DINNER 7:00pm - 8:30pm
- 15** SWEETHEART CRUISE TO BENICIA YC
- 16** SWEETHEART CRUISE TO BENICIA YC
- 18** Janet's Band practice.... 6:00pm - 7:00pm
- 19** Wednesday Wine Tasting: 37 Winery 7:00pm - 9:00pm
- 21** Pittsburg YC: Johnny Morgan  
FRIDAY NIGHT DINNER 7:00pm - 8:30pm
- 22** Mardi Gras Gala - 5:00pm - 10:00pm  
Pittsburg YC: Johnny Morgan
- 23** Pittsburg YC: Johnny Morgan
- 26** Penelope's Tonga Slide Show and Potluck  
(Dale and Tammie Jennings) 6:00pm - 7:30pm
- 27** General Membership Meeting 7:30pm - 8:30pm
- 28** FRIDAY NIGHT DINNER 7:00pm - 8:30pm
- 29** B. Sampayan Relection Kickoff 3:00pm - 6:00pm



Vallejo Chamber of Commerce Installation of Officers Dinner  
1/17/20  
photo courtesy snapshotsf.com

## MARCH

- 1** Port Captain's Brunch 10:00am - 12:00pm
- 5** U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary Division 5 Board Meetings  
7:00pm - 10:00pm - Office Open
- 6** FRIDAY NIGHT DINNER 7:00pm - 8:30pm
- 7** US Coast Guard Vessel Safety Check 10:00am - 2:00pm
- 10** Board of Directors Meeting 7:00pm - 9:00pm
- 12** Coast Guard Auxiliary Flotilla 51 - 6:00pm - 9:00pm
- 13** FRIDAY NIGHT DINNER 7:00pm - 8:30pm
- 17** Janet's Band practice.... 6:00pm - 7:00pm
- 18** Wine Tasting 7:00pm - 9:00pm
- 20** CRUISE OUT TO MARIN YC  
FRIDAY NIGHT DINNER 7:00pm - 8:30pm
- 21** CRUISE OUT TO MARIN YC  
Jiggs Dinner
- 22** CRUISE OUT TO MARIN YC
- 26** General Membership Meeting 7:30pm - 8:30pm
- 27** FRIDAY NIGHT DINNER 7:00pm - 8:30pm



VYC 2020 Annual Crabfeed

photo courtesy Jimmy Verrett

## PICYA REPORT



The most recent PICYA (Pacific Inter-Club Yacht Association) event was the 27th Annual Commodore's Ball and Installation of Officers held January 18, 2020 at the Encinal Yacht Club in Alameda.

The new Officers for 2020 are: Commodore Robert Willis, Ebony Boat Club; Vice Commodore Patti Mangan, South Beach Yacht Club;

Rear Commodore Jim Sweeney, Corinthian Yacht Club, Classic Yacht Association; Jr. Staff Commodore Bill Gargan, Sausalito Yacht Club.

Directors for 2020/2021: Craig Thorsen, Coyote Point Yacht Club; Patti Brennan, Berkeley Yacht Club, Stockton Yacht Club; Maggie Sabovich, Vallejo Yacht Club; Matt Byers, Loch Lomond Yacht Club; Larry Mayne, Sequoia Yacht Club; Wendell Snyder, Glen Cove Yacht Club; Alan Test, International Yachting Fellowship of Rotarians, San Francisco.

The next regularly scheduled PICYA Delegates' meeting is scheduled for Monday, February 3rd at the Coyote Point Yacht Club in Redwood City. No-host cocktails 5PM, dinner 7PM, delegates' meeting 8PM.

### RBOC (Recreational Boaters of California)

The RBOC Board of Directors met for their first Board meeting of the year on January 8 at the Dana Point Yacht Club. Some delegates participated remotely.

2019's RBOC North President Ray Durazo had asked VYC/PICYA delegate Maggie Sabovich to be on the RBOC Board for another three years and she accepted. This year's RBOC South President is Dan Hodge of the Dana Point Yacht Club, as RBOC Presidents alternate every other year, coming from North one year and South the next. The next North/South RBOC Board Meeting and Legislative Day will take place on March 23-24 in Sacramento.

RBOC was established in 1968 by the Southern California Yacht Association in conjunction with the

Pacific Inter-Club Yacht Association in Northern California, with a mission to keep California's waterways, marinas and harbors open and accessible for all of California's recreational boaters. The organization has been responsible for numerous legislative changes favorable to boaters with the assistance of the Desmond & Desmond Lobbying firm based in Sacramento. This advocacy organization is paid for by the donations of yachting and boating clubs and organizations in California, without whose financial assistance California boaters would have no one representing their interests.

Issues RBOC has been working on in 2019 are: Definition of Boat Operator; Vessel Impoundment - BUI; Boater Rights Aboard Their Vessels; 12-Month Fishing License; California Boating and Fishing Week; Office of Sustainable Outdoor Recreation; State Parks Reorganization Plan; Boater Fund Dedicated to Boater Programs; Regional and Local Issues; Copper-Based Antifouling Paints; Boating and the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta; Regulatory Overreach [BCDC].

**Please join boaters in supporting RBOC by continuing to be a Friend of RBOC when the Vallejo Yacht Club asks you to contribute once a year. Without these donations, we could not continue to use the lobbying services of Desmond & Desmond, whom we currently employ to take care of all of our lobbying efforts against bills such as the pending requirement to use non-copper based bottom paint in certain coastal areas of California in the San Diego area. There is no current non-copper based paint that will protect boat hulls against the marine environment, and there is no proof that copper based paint causes problems with sea life, as proven by Federal studies. And yet local environmental groups continue to lobby against copper based paints in the San Diego area, which could spread northward and impact our own boat surfaces.**

**The Pacific Inter-Club Yacht Association and Recreational Boaters of California wish all our member yacht clubs, including the Vallejo Yacht Club, a Happy and Prosperous 2020!**

— Maggie Sabovich, PICYA Delegate



# Vallejo Yacht Club History

I included the VYC and its relationship with Jack London in my book published last month (*Peace Over Water*), specifically in chapter 27 with London's experiences on the San Pablo Bay. This book project also brought me back to the stack of VYC history shared with me by our past manager, from whence came the three articles I share below. More to come as I continue to organize and add to our rich archive of club history. Cheers!

— Deb Rocchild, Historian



San Francisco Call, Volume 109, Number 2, 2 December 1910 — JACK LONDON INITIALED IN VALLEJO YACHT CLUB AS LIFE MEMBER [ARTICLE]

## JACK LONDON INITIALED INTO THE VALLEJO YACHT CLUB AS LIFE MEMBER

[Special Dispatch to The Call]

VALLEJO, Dec. 1.—Jack London, author and adventurer, is the latest prominent person to add his name to the roster of the Vallejo yachting and rowing club. He was initiated at a big meeting held at the clubhouse last evening. In a letter requesting to become a member of the organization, London declared that he would use his pen and his influence to assist the club and that he desired to be enrolled as a life member.

London declared that he intended to make his home for all time in Glen Ellen, Sonoma county, and that he would be a frequent visitor to the club. He will deliver an address before it in the very near future.

The club is in a prosperous condition and is planning many improvements to the building.

San Francisco Call, Volume 109, Number 135, 14 April 1911  
WEEKS' CRUISE [ARTICLE]

## JACK LONDON OFF FOR THREE WEEKS' CRUISE

[Special Dispatch to The Call]

VALLEJO, April 13.—Jack London, author, and member of the Vallejo yachting and rowing club, departed today with his wife and a Japanese crew for a three weeks' cruise in San Pablo and Suisun bays in his yacht Roma. He informed friends that he intended to write a book while away.

Los Angeles Herald, Number 231, 29 July 1919

## A Man Who Saw and REMEMBERED

Jack London crowded more into his 42 years of life than any man ever did before. Born in the poor section of San Francisco, he was in turn a street newsboy, went to the public school, a member of a street gang, a constant reader of books from the public libraries. An oyster bed patrol to catch oyster pirates, a longshoreman, a salmon fisher. Able to sail any kind of a boat. A sailor before the mast, a seal hunter of the Bering sea. A gold seeker of the Klondike, a driver of wolf dogs over the snows of the frozen north.

Stricken with scurvy and was one of three who sailed in an open boat 1900 miles down the Yukon river in 19 days. A hobo, yet he went to high school and college. A novelist and a war correspondent. The owner of a 1000-acre estate in California. Built his own boat and sailed it through the South Seas and to Australia. His life reads like a romance, doesn't it? It was, and he REMEMBERED the things he saw and wrote of them entertainingly. Many men SEE things, but few remember what they see.

## SAFETY REPORT



Happy and safe new year to all shipmates at sea, snuggled down in some exotic far-flung marina, or nestled down in our own harbor. One thing all marinas have in common, including ours, is proof of insurance and current registration or documentation. Our own marina is no different. Proof of

insurance is usually no problem, as your insurance carrier will send proof of insurance when your policy renews. Sometimes, however, things fall through the cracks. Should this happen and the office notifies you,

a quick call to your carrier or agent will get proof to the office. Done deal, can't get any easier. Proof of registration or documentation is a bit different as there is yearly or bi-yearly renewal. When you renew, simply take a copy to the office or take your original to the office and a copy will be made there for your file. Easy. If getting a copy to the office is difficult, just take a photo on your smartphone and email it to the office. You don't even have to leave the comfort of your chair. Sweet. No excuses, get it done and don't forget to wear that PFD when out on the water. We want you back safe and sound for another year.

— Jeff Dickey, Safety Committee Chairperson

## THE SHIP'S STORE



Hello Shipmates,

Thank you to all members that participated in the VYC Holiday Faire. We had quite an eclectic group of vendors, and thanks to Jim Glenn we had a wonderful lunch. Thank you also to Toni Borges for manning our bake sale. It was a fun and festive day at our club. The Ships

Store did well also.

We have Valentine's Day coming up. Check out our red plaid

flannel pajamas with our burgee embroidered on them for yourself or your sweetheart!!

While we are having cold blustery weather, come check out our jackets, sweatshirts and beanies!! All have our Vallejo Yacht Club burgee embroidered on the front. Your name or boat name can be added.

Hope you all have a happy and prosperous 2020 with calm seas and fair winds.

Respectfully submitted by,

— Barbara Brown, Ship's Store Chairperson



## Tonga & Back with Penelope

Wed. Feb. 26th, 6:00 to 7:30 pm

Join Dale Jennings at the Club for a slideshow of his sail on Penelope across the Pacific to the Kingdom of Tonga and back. We will be having a Potluck dinner while we enjoy the journey, so please bring something to share.

Photo courtesy Jennings





# Mardi Gras Gala



**FEBRUARY 22, 2020**

**Approx. 5-10PM • \$30/pp**

Come on out and bring your friends!!!!!! Wear your Mardi Gras best, including a mask  
(costumes NOT REQUIRED but highly RECOMMENDED)

**NEW ORLEANS IN VALLEJO!** *Featuring:*

New Orleans Music And Dancing



Hurricanes and Daiquiris made by the bar and available for purchase  
Mardi Gras Mask Pageant, with judging and a winner for best mask  
Crowning of Vallejo Crew Mardi Gras King or Queen for the year

## **MENU**

Appetizer: Crawfish pie...and maybe a little lagniappe (a little something extra)

Soup: Gumbo (chicken and sausage) and rice

Salad: Green salad with cane syrup vinaigrette

Entree: New Orleans Trio, featuring:

Shrimp and cheese grits (YOU'RE GOING TO LOVE THIS)

Jambalaya (chicken, pork, sausage, rice)

Catfish Pontchartrain (fried catfish topped with crawfish étouffée)

Dessert: King cake (assorted flavors)

After dinner: Café au lait (Cajun coffee) and beignets



**COME ON OUT AND GET YOUR CAJUN ON!!!!**

**SIGN UP ON THE BOARD**





**JOIN US FOR WINE TASTING Tuesday, February 19th 7 PM**

**\$ 15.00 PER PERSON**

Al and Lisa Brayton, owners of

# THIRTY-SEVEN WINES



...will lead us through tastings of their wines. Hors d'oeuvres will be served to complement the tasting.  
This is a wonderful opportunity to meet a local wine producer and learn about their wines.  
You will be surprised to see how close to home they are located.

Seating is limited, so sign up at the club soon or RSVP to [irishirene@gmail.com](mailto:irishirene@gmail.com)



*Jacuzzi wine tasting event, 1/22/20*

*photo courtesy Deb Rocchild*





*February  
Birthdays*



Jennifer Charvez	2/1
Ian Griffin	2/2
Lew Comerford	2/11
Carol Alban	2/12
William Harnois	2/13
Barbara Brown	2/14
Jim Glenn	2/14
Gerry Edgley	2/17
Michael McGowan	2/18
Samantha Fordyce	2/19
Elvin Valverde	2/19
Ken de Vries	2/22
Stephen Williams	2/25
Barbara Demmon	2/26



**VYC  
SUPERBOWL  
PARTY  
FEB 2ND  
3:30 - 7:30**

## FRIDAY NIGHT DINNER MENUS FOR FEBRUARY

### February 7

Niman Ranch Carnitas with Limes and Radishes  
Black Beans  
Green Rice  
Lime Cilantro Coleslaw  
Warm Tortillas, Pico de Gallo, Sour Cream and Cheese  
Homemade Flan

### February 14

#### Valentine's Day Long Tables! A Special Dinner \$19.00

Pan Seared Bistro Fillets with Black Olive Salsa Verde  
Creamy Potato Gratin  
Asparagus and Prosciutto with Mustard Sauce  
Big Beautiful Salad  
Bread and Butter  
Flourless Chocolate Cake with Raspberries and Soft Cream

### February 21

Pan Seared Organic Chicken Breasts with  
Parmesan Bread Crumbs and Capers  
Rice Pilaf  
Broccoli with Feta Cheese, Pinenuts and Warm Anchovy Vinaigrette  
Big Beautiful Salad  
Bread and Butter  
Meyer Lemon Tarts with Soft Cream

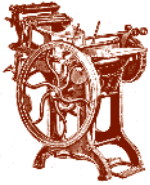
### February 28

Niman Ranch Pork Scallopine with Lemon, Capers and Arugula  
Mashed Potatoes  
Sicilian Salad with Fennel, Oranges, Radishes and Mint  
Bread and Butter  
Lemon Pound Cake with Raspberry Sauce and Soft Cream

**Please RSVP to Chef Amy Troutner**  
**amytroutner@comcast.net by Thursday, one day prior to**  
**the dinner, at 5:00 PM or (707) 299-9019 (text or call)**

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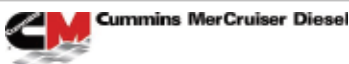
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[binnacleeditor@vyc.org](mailto:binnacleeditor@vyc.org)**

If you attend any of the  
Vallejo Yacht Club events  
and take pictures, please  
send the pictures (jpegs)  
to the  
Binnacle Editor



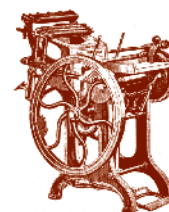
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## 2019 - 2020 Elected & Appointed Officers

Commodore ..... Ken Leslie  
Vice Commodore ..... Teri Nichols  
Rear Commodore ..... Bill Zerby  
Staff Commodore ..... Cameron Kriens  
Treasurer ..... Chris Mendonca  
Secretary ..... Maggie Sabovich & GayleAnn Franck  
Port Captains ..... Jeff Ruzler & John Van Vesslem  
Fleet Captain-Sail .. Mark Littlefield, Dave Nadolne, Hugo Knief  
Fleet Captain Power ..... TBD  
Fleet Chaplain ..... Bob Reeves  
Fleet Surgeon ..... Mike Frazee, MD  
Bar Manager ..... David Sweet, Mason Nichols  
Club Manager ..... Deborah Ceryes

### Board of Directors

Chairman ..... Bob Lockhart  
Director ..... Jeff Dickey  
Director ..... Mark Bauder  
Director ..... Jack Remington  
Director ..... Tom Ochs  
Director ..... Kerry Scott

## Committee Chairpersons

Social Committee .. Jimmy & Tracy Verrett; Amy Hendriksen  
Safety ..... Jeff Dickey  
Learn To Sail ..... Dale Anderson  
Membership Chair ..... Irene O'Brien  
Membership Co-Chair ..... Mark Ashworth  
Grounds ..... Carol Ruzler  
Historian ..... Deb Rocchild  
Ship's Store ..... Barbara Brown  
House Chair ..... Matthew Mack  
Binnacle ..... Deb Rocchild  
Development ..... TBD  
Website Chair ..... TBA  
Network Chair ..... Kim Crawford  
Galley Chair ..... Jim Glenn  
Community Liaison Officer ..... TBD

### Delegates

PICYA ..... Maggie Sabovich  
YRA ..... Teri Nichols



## VALLEJO YACHT CLUB

485 Mare Island Way  
Vallejo, CA 94590

First Class

