



The Star



The Greatest Little Yacht Club In The Land

RBVC WATCH 2016-2017

Flag Officers

Commodore:	Tim Leveque
Vice Commodore:	Burt Drobnis
Rear Commodore:	Paul Winward
Fleet Captain:	Jim Black

Ex-Officio Officers

Staff Commodore:	Karl Hoppe
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Elected Directors

Karen Beckner, Maureen Billingsley, Mimi Clarke, Sheryl Hoy, Paula Raditke, Peter Thorne

Treasurer: Sandy Grieve

Treasurer-in-Training: Position Unfilled

UPCOMING EVENTS

December 2 - Commodore Reception and Holiday celebration at Shelter Bay

FROM THE HELM:



Commodore: Tim Leveque

Dear RBVC members,

A nice Fall evening at the lovely Spinnaker restaurant in Sausalito was a wonderful way to celebrate our annual Change of Watch.

The post event questionnaire replies were not available at the time this message was being prepared. However, the comradeship and the music made it a very special event.

This year we plan to combine the Commodores reception and the holiday celebration as one event on December 2 at the Shelter Bay Club House. The liquid refreshments will be provided compliments of our club. The Board will be serving turkey, ham and roast beef for sandwiches. Every member is invited and encouraged to bring an appetizer to share.

This annual function is a great time to bring your friends who would enjoy our company and who would make good prospective members.

The Greatest Little Yacht Club in the Land has monthly board meetings the second Wednesday at the Belvedere community center. Our next scheduled



Commodore's Message continued....

meeting will be held Wednesday October 11 at 7:00 pm. These meetings are open to all members in good standing. The meetings are a good opportunity to bring ideas and suggestions to your board members. A light meal and beverages are provided.

Our entertainment committee, headed by Mimi Clarke, is in the process of planning exciting events for 2018. These events will be announced at a future date.

See you soon.

Tim

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

10/03 - Barbara Norton

10/15 - Pat Filippo

10/22 - Neal Amidei

10/25 - Marilyn Black

10/27 - Mimi Clarke

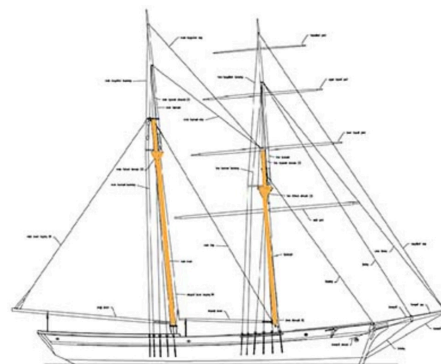
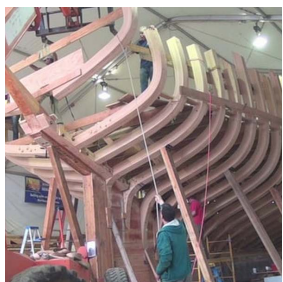


HAVE A WONDERFUL MONTH

TOUR OF THE MATTHEW TURNER

Call of the Sea has constructed a traditional wooden tall ship, **MATTHEW TURNER**, which will serve as an experiential learning platform for Bay Area youth. Call of the Sea has been successfully operating on-the-water programs since 1984.

The RBYC entertainment committee has organized a tour for Saturday,, October 21 in Sausalito where she is berthed.





CHANGE OF WATCH 2017 - 2018

ELECTED OFFICERS AND BOARD FOR THE WATCH 2017-2018

Commodore	Tim Leveque
Vice Commodore	Burt Drobnis
Rear Commodore	Paul Winward
Fleet Commodore	Jim Black
Staff Commodore	Karl Hoppe

Board of Directors:

Karen Beckner, Maureen Billingsley,
Mimi Clarke, Sheryl Hoy, Paula
Radtke, Peter Thorne

Treasurer: Sandy Grieve

Treasurer-in-training: Unfilled



Comments:

I THINK THE WHOLE EVENT WAS OVER PRICED. \$9.75 FOR A COCKTAIL IS TOO MUCH. I ALSO FEEL \$70.00 FOR WHAT WAS OFFERED WAS A BIT HIGH. ALSO "RUMORS PLAYED WAY TOO LOUD.

Too expensive with no wine at the table & steak was bone dry.

Great event. If we are getting some credit for liquor purchases, the bar on the deck should be opened sooner or there should be some way that our purchases at the dining room bar would count for us. I know that at our table, two of us combined for about \$100 of wine and vodka bought at the bar in the dining room.

Wonderful location, but the Spinnaker is way over priced and the no host bar was a pure rip off.

A great evening, Mimi did a wonderful job as MC – short and efficient – no long speeches – excellent award choices – wonderful addition of the song by Comm son. All in all it was a great evening.

Filet Mignon was perfectly cooked. Veggies were just OK. I have heard that 'eight bells' would be more appropriate. I like 'taps' but have no problem with 'bells'.

The emcee was excellent. The entrée was a little late but good. The outside bar and paying corkage fees has some issues to be resolved. Otherwise it was a great event and the flowers were lovely.

The Spinnaker seemed to be trying harder this time to improve the food. They actually had filet mignon this time. I missed not having a full moon rising over Angel Island during the evening, but there's always next year.

Nice evening.

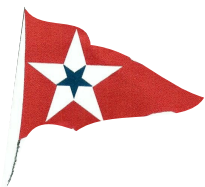
Spinnaker is a great location and helps set our COW apart from regular monthly meetings. It is, however, getting expensive, about a 50% subsidy from the Club, but if we charge more we will probably lose a few attendees.

There was too much delay between seating, the program, and dinner. Salads should be on the table when we seat, and dinner service should be ready to be served immediately upon the completion of our program, not over 30 minutes later.

RECAP OF THE CHANGE OF WATCH

Total Responses:	12
Avg. for the Spinnaker Facilities and Location:	9.7
Avg. for the COW format:	8.9
Avg. for the Entree Choices	7.8
Avg. for the Rumors Music	8.9





AMELIA EARHART EXPEDITION 2017

Several months ago Rick Saber went on an Amelia Earhart Expedition to Nikumororo, a remote coral atoll in the Western Pacific Ocean. Nikumaroro has been the focus of considerable speculation and exploration as a location where pilot Amelia Earhart might have crashed in July 1937 during her ill-fated final flight, attempting to circumnavigate the globe. Here Rick shares a unique account of his trip.



Myths, theories and conspiracies surround the loss of America's sweetheart, early pioneering aviatrix Amelia. Facts substantiate her disappearance 2 July 1937 on the third to last leg of her round the world flight. Her epic 2,556 mile flight from New Guinea to Howland Island created a mystery that is still very much alive today, eighty years later. She and her navigator, Fred Noonan, planned well for this heroic attempt, yet failed to insure safeguards for their final flight. There was substantial confusion as to expected radio frequencies and transceiver capabilities both on her Lockheed Electra 10E and the rescue ships positioned to assist her in locating tiny Howland. Despite a massive search effort comprised of 3,000 people, ten ships and roughly 65 planes, she vanished into history.

I signed on to an expedition this June and July comprised of 52 participants, 4 border collies specially trained in locating human remains, as we sailed on a small charter ship with 50 crew out of Fiji for a voyage 900 miles north where we hovered for 2 weeks off the tiny uninhabited island of Nikumaroro. Here we launched an intensive search for more clues both in the jungle and off the reef. Due to water depths immediately off the island of 2,000-6,000', our floating base camp could not anchor, so was in constant slow movement. National Geographic's sponsored a camera crew, writer and financial support for the four search dogs and their handlers.

Hopes were to investigate located graves, gather DNA samples and try to match these with Amelia's known DNA. I was part of a four man scuba dive team assigned to comb the reef and locate one of her landing gear struts theoretically seen on the reef in a photo taken shortly after her loss. Nikumaroro is the presumed site where she made an emergency landing after failing to locate Howland. "TIGHAR" (The Int'l. Group for Historical Aircraft Recovery) has made numerous expeditions to Niku since 1987, however no smoking gun has emerged. A number of clues have been uncovered suggesting her presence on this island. Those, coupled with radio bearings from emergency calls from her plane over a few days that fateful July, heard by ships and land stations triangulate near or over Niku. This island could have been overflowed while en route to Howland, followed by doubling back and landing on the reef at low tide. The reef where we believe she may have landed is unusually flat and obstacle free; even I could land a large plane on it!

My belief, after both visiting Niku, reading many books on Amelia and listening to many TIGHAR lectures on her disappearance, convinces me 90% that this tiny dot of an island just barely south of the equator and about 175 degrees W longitude, was her final resting place. Her DNA, along with two artifacts discovered on this expedition are currently in a refrigerator at Washington DC's Nat'l Geographic Headquarters awaiting analysis. Nikumaroro was hot, humid and possessed a near impenetrable jungle of scaviola, tangled roots, dangling vines, impressive spiders and formidable looking coconut crabs. Our jungle crew was beaten down by mud, torrential rains and unforgiving coral while we explorers of the deep cruised off the reef which was infested with more sharks than I'd ever dived with....was good to return home. The mysteries and myths of America's idol lives on and continues to be a draw for explorers.

Capt. Rick Saber, Commodore RBYC 1995.

A PICTORIAL TOUR OF RICK SABER'S EXPEDITION



Boobies with babies, all over this desolate, uninhabited micro islet near the equator



Aboard our ship between dives, with my small Explorers Flag



Our constant companion on all dives, this large ocean gray/ always lurking mere feet away



Rick's shark tattoo to protect him from harm



My mission on expedition as 1 of 4 divers, trying to locate plane parts



With some of the crew on Reef Endeavor out of Fiji



Jungle crew digging in graves, identified by the collies, seeking Amelia's DNA



Keep fingers and toes clear of these strong clawed coconut crabs



My lagoon find, thought to be part of landing gear/ turned out to be a 1950's era truck jack, fully



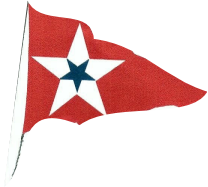
Hawksbill turtle I swam with several times



Strawberry hermit crabs.....everywhere!



Our four All-Star human remains tracking border collies and handlers



Sheryl Hoy read an interesting article in the SF Chronicle recently that gives a bit of history about the namesake of The Richardson Bay Yacht Club that we thought our members might find interesting.

A LITTLE HISTORY OF WILLIAM RICHARDSON AND THE OLDEST STREET IN SAN FRANCISCO



On August 22, 1822, an English [whaler](#), the Orion, put into Yerba Buena Cove in San Francisco for supplies; the captain was [William Anthony Richardson](#). The article is written by Gary Kamiya, author of *Cool Gray City of Love: 49 views of San Francisco*. The article is about the oldest street in San Francisco which Kamiya says was mapped in May 1835 by former British Seaman, William Richardson. The article tells more about our famed Richardson who is dubbed the city's ultimate self-made man. For the full article, click [HERE](#).