



...a little dinghy

A Message from the Commodore

Ahoy all!

The Board has approved the Calendar of events for this year. The Calendar should be posted on the website by now. We've got big plans for 2024: Cruises, Pontoon Boat dinner cruises, Races and Raft Ups. February's meeting was canceled due to Valentine's Day conflicting with our Meeting date. However, we will make up for the lack of February's meeting by having a doubly good March meeting. March 13th at Trail Blazers. (See the Newsletter for more details). The lake is full and this year is already shaping up to be a great year for sailing!

See you all March 13th .

Douglas Coursey, Commodore

Membership

Please renew your membership for 2024 by April 1. Membership is \$75 to renew, and \$100 for new members.

Form can be accessed through this link, and is attached to email for Newsletter.

Forms will also be available during Club Meetings.

[GCYC Membership](#) (click on blue link)

Junior Sailing

We are excited to announce that we will be holding two youth classes this year and limiting the enrollment to 16 students in each class.

Dates: June 10-14

June 24-28

Send email to the education chair to enroll early Education@gcyc.net



**February
2024**

Volume 46, Issue 2

**Gold Country Yacht
Club**

PO Box 813

Grass Valley, CA 95945

On the Web

www.gcyc.net

Upcoming Events:

March 13

Next General Meeting

at Trail Blazers Pizza

15690 Johnson Pl.

Grass Valley

(In Alta Sierra)

6pm to Eat

7pm to Meet

Salute to the Epperson
Family



Regattas in our Area

Our Race Director Jeremy Gicker has provided the following dates for 2024's local Regattas

April 6	Trans-Folsom
April 20	Camellia Cup
April 27	Konocti Cup
May 25	Whiskeytown Regatta
June 12	High Sierra Regatta
June 20	High Sierra Regatta
November 2	Lake Washington Turkey Shoot

Port Captain Says...

The lake is full, the dinghy dock is afloat, and the clubhouse and grounds look good!-Hugh Talman

This month's meeting is dedicated to Doug Epperson, a long time member and Club supporter. David Cowell has put together a show that we think everyone will enjoy. Don't miss it!

*The Order of Ancient and Active Mariners
Wishes to salute
Doug Epperson*



At the Club meeting on the 13th of March we plan to celebrate one of our club's "Ancient and Active Mariners". Doug Epperson has been a member of GCYC for over thirty years during which he has acquired a history of selfless contributions of time, material and labor to the club. All members are invited to bring memories of their time and experiences with Doug such as photos, stories and tall tales. There will be a slide show in celebration of his story during which Doug will be asked to comment on the happenings. Anyone wishing to add to the show please send the information and materials to "bod@gcyc.net"

At Our Holm

Commodore
Douglas Coursey

Secretary
Sharon Barton

Treasurer
Nicki Talman

Director of Cruising
David Cowell

Membership/Publicity
Beth Buti

Port Captain
Hugh Talman

Director of Education
Don Hare

Race Director
Jeremy Gicker

Newsletter Editor
Sharon Barton
Beth Buti



GOLD COUNTRY YACHT CLUB
2024 Calendar of Events

<p>JANUARY</p> <p>10 GCYC Board of Directors Meeting 6:00 Eat, 7:00 Meet, Las Katarinas</p> <p>FEBRUARY</p> <p>7 GCYC Board of Directors Meeting 6:00 Eat, 7:00 Meet Las Katarinas</p> <p>MARCH</p> <p>13 GCYC Board of Directors Meeting Trailblazers Pizza, 5:00 Meet General Meeting, 6:00 Eat, 7:00 Meet Honor: Doug and Frieda Epperson</p> <p>APRIL</p> <p>10 GCYC Board of Directors Meeting Trailblazers Pizza, 5:00 Meet General Meeting, Trailblazers Pizza, 6:00 Eat, 7:00 Meet</p> <p>18-21 Return to Petaluma Cruise with D.Cowell</p> <p>21 Sun. Race at SFL 12 Noon led by J. Gicker</p> <p>27 Clubhouse Cleanup 10:00 to 12:00 Noon 12:00-1:00P Pontoon Boat Lunch Cruise</p> <p>MAY</p> <p>8 GCYC B O D Meeting/Regatta planning SFL Clubhouse, 5:00 General Meeting, SFL Clubhouse, 6:00 Eat, 7:00 Meet</p> <p>11 Sat. Race at SFL Noon with J. Gicker.</p> <p>16-19 Boat Show Redwood city</p> <p>17-19 Adult Sailing Class? TBD.</p> <p>19 Sunday SFL/NID No Motor Day GCYC gives free rides</p> <p>JUNE</p> <p>1 GCYC Go for the Gold Regatta</p> <p>12 General Meeting, SFL Clubhouse, 6:00 Eat, 7:00 Meet</p> <p>10-14 Youth Sailing Classes</p> <p>17-21 Catalina Cruise</p> <p>24-28 Youth Sailing Classes</p> <p>27-30 Half Moon Bay Cruise with D. Cowell</p>	<p>JULY</p> <p>4 Parade/Raft-up SFL</p> <p>10 General Meeting 5:30 – SFL Clubhouse, Members only, Pontoon boat Hawaiian Dinner Cruise, 6:00– 7:30 Sat. 20th Celtic music on Pontoon Boat</p> <p>AUGUST</p> <p>10 Australia Cruise with D, Cowell</p> <p>14 All Sail & (Raft Up?) Afternoon General Meeting – SFL Clubhouse, 6:00 Eat, 7:00 Meet</p> <p>25 Sunday Race and Bar B Q SFL</p> <p>SEPTEMBER</p> <p>11 Day of sailing and (raft-up?) afternoon General Meeting – SFL Clubhouse, 6:00 Eat, 7:00 Meet</p> <p>12-15 Thur – Sun Shasta Lake Cruise</p> <p>22 Sunday 6:30 Sunset Dinner Cruise pontoon boat</p> <p>OCTOBER</p> <p>9 GCYC Board of Directors Meeting Trailblazers Pizza, 5:00 General Meeting, Trailblazers Pizza, 6:00 Eat, 7:00 Meet (Board of Directors nominations)</p> <p>12or19 Work Party 10:00 AM, winterize the Clubhouse and Lake Shore Cleanup</p> <p>NOVEMBER</p> <p>13 GCYC Board of Directors Meeting Trailblazers Pizza, 5:00 Meet General Meeting, Trailblazers Pizza, 6:00 Eat, 7:00 Meet Board of Directors Member Voting</p> <p>DECEMBER</p> <p>7 Holiday Awards Banquet (Venue TBD)</p> <p>NOTE: NO BOD MEETINGS scheduled for June, July, August or September</p>
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Sea of Cortez Sailing / Wintering in Mexico

Traveling to Mexico can be done either by plane or car. Mexican planes are clean and well maintained. The past few years we have driven to Mexico where our Catalina C400 is in dry dock near Guymas (San Carlos). Traveling from Nogales to San Carlos is a little over 4 hours on a very nice highway. See the map.

Below is a picture of Cravn Wind at Puerto Escondido, Loreto. Once we splash the boat we provision at the local Walmart, fill the fuel and water tanks then head across the Sea of Cortez to Baja. It takes roughly 12 hours to cross. There are many places to sail around Baja with its many islands and anchorages.



Some of the areas that are favorites are:

Santa Rosalia which was settled by the French and was a mining town. Try the French Bakery.

Punta Chivato where the beach is covered with sea shells approximately 3ft deep by 50 yards wide

and miles long.

Mulege is a tropical paradise in the desert. Boaters anchor in Bahia Concepcion at the Playa Santispas anchorage. There are many campers and two restaurants with internet but no cell service. They both have cold beer and great food. Travel into Mulege which is 12 miles away is only done by hitch hiking. Many people stop and offer rides.

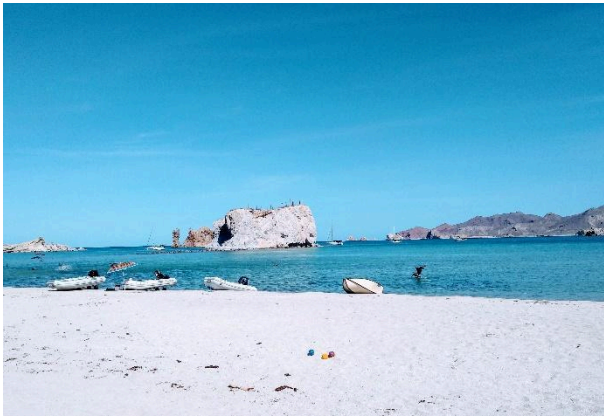
San Juanico is another great anchorage. Beautiful beaches and hiking. There are several large villas at I'm guessing over 10,000 sq ft each.

Loreto is the oldest town in Baja and many snow birds live there during the winter. Great town with very good restaurants. Puerto Escondido is the port that most use. It caters to large Yachts of 200ft and smaller. Most sailing yachts have to use mooring balls. Many yacht owners use the international airport. Isla Coronados is one of our favorite islands. Beautiful beaches and sea life.

LaPaz is a big city but one of our favorites. There is a large boating community and all needed repair persons. The malicon (board walk) is 5 miles long with many shops and restaurants. The open air market has fresh veggies, meats, fish and food. There are all sorts of events during the year.

Los Muertos was a villa development that went bust in 2008. However it is a beautiful anchorage with two restaurants. We happened to be at the larger restaurant and joined other boaters for Thanksgiving dinner. The locals smoked turkeys and provided a buffet dinner with all you could eat and drink for \$20. It was fantastic.





San Juanico



Las Paz Malicon



Los Muertos



Marina San Carlos



Mulege petroglyphs



Marina Real (San Carlos)

Marina San Carlos





BUTTER & EGG DAYS



Petaluma Butter and Eggs Cruise (April 19-21)

This is a return visit to last year's fun cruise to Petaluma. It will be as great a time as had last year with superb weather and great accommodations. (See [2023 Cruise Show](#))

Trailer cruisers will launch at the Benicia marina on Thursday April 19th and proceed to the Vallejo Yacht Club for an overnight visit and rendezvous with non-trailer cruisers. The Carquines has a max ebb tied of a knot and a half at 4:00 PM so it'll be an easy trip to Vallejo YC.

Friday morning, the 20th, the consolidated group will leave at 6:00 AM on the first leg to the mouth of the Petaluma river. Maintaining 4 knots, with a ½ knot flood tide, we'll arrive at around 9:30 AM for going up the river. The river entrance will be at +3 ft with the High (4.5ft) at 11:41 PM so we will have a good flood to do the second leg to the Petaluma Basin. We should arrive at Petaluma at 12:30 and will schedule a Drawbridge opening for that time. Final docking at the municipal docks should be accomplished in the next hour just in time for the opening of the Petaluma Yacht Club Friday happy hour.

Saturday is the Petaluma Butter and Egg Days festival with the parade at noon downtown. The event dates back more than 100 years and last year drew an estimated crowd of 20,000 and 119 parade entries. The festivities include other traditional events such as the Cow Chip Toss (9:00 AM) and the popular Cutest Little Chick Contest (10:15 AM). There are food vendors galore and even a petting zoo. See the <https://petalumadowntown.com/butter-eggs-parade.html> website for more information.

Saturday night activities will be decided on the fly. Cruisers will then decide which day to leave for home. Low tide on Sunday is at 11:30 AM and High at 6:00 PM at the Drawbridge, Monday is an hour later so both days have excellent morning ebb tides going down river.

Cruise questions and details can be worked out at the club meeting on the 13th, emailed to cruising@gcyc.net or by phone to 530-263-4814.

Cruisers should communicate their intentions to go before the 16th as the Director will be en route to Benicia and Vallejo after then.

Past Meeting Minutes

2-7-24 Gold Country Yacht Club Board Meeting

Las Katarinas. 6:00 PM Eat 7:00 Meeting

Minutes BOD present, Don H., Jeremy G., Doug. C., Nicki T., Hugh, T., David C., Beth B.

During dinner, socialize and informal discussions.

Prior to the Board Reports....Commodore Doug handed out new Board Member Binders to Don Hare and Jeremy Gicker who did not attend last months meeting. He also handed out the Meeting Agenda, the Club's proposed Calendar and the list of local Regattas for 2024.

1. Vote on approving the Ver 3 , 2-1-24 version Club Calendar. Unanimous Yes Beth noted that the Catalina Cruise's dates may change in the future.

2. Reports from the officers and Directors. (Commodore Doug still filling in for V. Commodore. Melanie Coursey filled in as Secretary by taking the minutes).

- **Secretary : Sharon Barton:** Absent. However, Sharon e-mailed Commodore Re: taking over Facebook page for the Club. Past Commodore Dennis Barry spoke by phone to the Commodore and to Sharon. All three agreed to let Sharon be the Club's administrator to Facebook page. D. Barry and Jerry Lewis and Don Hare will remain as administrators for now according to D. Barry. The BOD was informed of this arrangement.(GCYC does not have actual control of ,nor ownership of the Facebook page.)

- **Membership/Publicity Dir. And Newsletter co-editor : Beth Buti.** Reminder to put ad in Union Newspaper in the Club News section that will appear the week of March 4 th . Include a separate page of local Regattas along with Club's Feb. newsletter ?. Jeremy Gicker's list of local Regattas handed out and e-mailed to the BOD by the Commodore. Membership form and the amount of info. collected and needing to be tabulated was discussed. Commodore made it clear, The Club only needs to have Names, address, e-mail address, and phone number as an absolute minimum for each Membership's information.(and the signed waiver of responsibility) IF Beth wants to collect more data and tabulate extra information, that is up to her discretion.

- **Treasurer: Nicki Talman.** Bank balance same as last month Progress on obtaining a debit/credit Card for the Club. Goal was to put the Go Daddy auto renewal on a Club controlled card. Currently David Cowell had to put the Domain name on his credit Card. Credit card application is in progress. HOWEVER..David C. is confident that he can move the control of the Domain Name (GCYC.NET) to the Ommsoft from GO DADDY. David's and Nicki's goal is to have Ommsoft control our Domain Name and host our website. The goal being that Nicki will be able to write one check to Ommsoft to pay for the Domain Name and hosting, thus cutting GO DADDY out of the transaction. NEXT. Burgee boat stickers need to be printed. Beth offered to e-mail Dennis Barry to ask where the stickers were made previously. NEXT Nicki received confirmation from CA. Sec. of State that we are current with our non-profit status with California. Nicki will forward the email from Sec. of State with the State Seal and our non-profit number to all of the BOD Members. BOD members were asked by the Commodore to print the CA State certification and enter it into their new binders. ADDITIONALLY, Nicki filed the Clubs CA Franchise Tax Boards form 199N and the IRS form 990N. ALSO Nicki received the notice of rate increase from our insurance Co. \$458 increase. Our insurance policy, which renews in March, will be \$6,799 for 2024. FINALLY, The Club's Bank, is requiring that our checking accounts info and signatures be up dated. Doug will meet with Nicki and Teresa Gaman to accomplish this. Nicki to coordinate. Nicki has received CA Boat stickers. She will give them to Hugh/Don for putting on the correct boats. Port Captain: Hugh Talman. Lake looks full. All Club facilities looked good, prior to our storm this week...he will check again tomorrow for damage. Hugh received some unused trophies from Don to put into the Clubs boat house. Notice from Seth Schmerzler e-mailed to BOD re picking up a FJ stored for the last 10 years at his house. Arrangements to pick up the

boat in progress.

- **Dir. Of Education:** Don Hare. Dates set for Jr Sailing. Dates for adult sailing still to be set. Paper

work for donated sunfish given to Don to get ownership in Club's name.

- **Dir. Of Cruise:** David Cowell. Progress with Special March meeting to honor Doug

Epperson in the works. Attempting to make contact with past Members to attend. Started to look into the Petaluma cruise in April. Celtic band has been contacted about playing July 20 th . Discussion about playing music on the pontoon boat versus at the Pavilion. David is convinced That the band should play on the pontoon boat. Board agreed to pay the band's NID's entrance fee and feed the band. No Motion made due to low costs involved.

- **Race Dir.: Jeremy Gicker.** Has a list of local yacht club's regattas he wants posted

somehow for all members to reference. The Commodore e-mailed the list to all of the BOD Members and handed out a paper copy to the BOD as well. Webmaster to post local Regatta's info. on our website. The issue of whether or not to continue our Club's membership with U. S. Sailing (Formally called The United States Sailing Association). The Club used to get significant discounts through them. That no longer happens. No BOD Member could see the advantage of remaining a U.S. Sailing Member. Motion was passed unanimously to not pay the \$250 U.S. Sailing Membership fee.

- **Volunteer Web Master David Cowell.** David said there are still some broken links in

our web pages, but overall the website is working satisfactorily. He is working with our Web Host Ommsoft to also maintain our Domain Name as well. Request by Commodore to update the Scuttlebutt box Re: the March 13 th Meeting, to be more complete and have a link button to another part of our website which will have the complete information about the March Meeting.

Meeting Adjourned....Time____8:03 PM