

THE LEE RAIL



**Dec.
2024**

Hillary Thomas
EYC 2025 Commodore

Melissa's 1st sail!
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Thanksgiving Meal
Page 17

NEWSLETTER FOR THE ELKHORN YACHT CLUB

OFFICERS' REPORTS

From the Commodore's Desk



Hillary Thomas
Commodore

Happy Holidays to our General Membership!

Please join me in welcoming our newly elected 2025 Board of Directors. The Finance Committee has been busy working on our 2025 **annual budget**, which will be presented to the board for voting at our **December 14th board meeting**. We have moved Board Meetings back to the second Saturday of every month and we encourage you, the members, to join us if you are interested in being more involved in the day to day decision-making at the club. The Board of Directors will also be having a closed **Strategic Planning Meeting** on January 11th and we have formed an Ad Hoc committee to inform that process. Expect at least one more ad hoc committee announcement at the December meeting to

overhaul our processes and procedures.

Last month we had a killer Halloween Party thanks to Pam and Jeff Lorek, with many key volunteers including Ted and Rosemary Black. The Beer Tasting and Crafts fair was a huge success - thank you to all who contributed. We also had an amazing wayward sailor Thanksgiving event - thanks to our volunteers, who include your former Commodore Rita Jacques and your current Vice Commodore, Dan Garrett. **There are a number of holiday events coming up** very quickly for December including a tree trimming, a gift exchange, our annual lighted boat parade, and our Wayward Sailor Christmas dinner. All dates and times included in this Lee Rail. Social committee activities are so key to the success of our organization and we should all be grateful to Lori Robinson for Chairing this committee and for being willing to continue through the 2025 calendar year.

Lastly, we finalized the **online billing process**. Please help us make this a success by updating your contact information with the club; separate paper and email reminders have been sent out. If you continue to need a paper bill you may contact our club manager directly.

Thank you for making the EYC a fun, safe, and friendly community for all of us to enjoy and I hope to see you around the club this holiday season.

Best,
Hillary Thomas
Commodore, Elkhorn Yacht Club

P.S. If you see Kathy Arnold around please wish her fair winds and following seas as she is making a big life move headed towards the other pond (east coast)...and if you see our club manager Melissa Raney please congratulate her on her 1 year anniversary working with us!

OFFICERS' REPORTS

From the Vice Commodore's Desk



Dan Garrett
Vice Commodore

Each year, the Pacific Inter-Club Yachting Association (PICYA) awards the Edwin H Wilder Perpetual Trophy to the club whose newsletter best typifies outstanding and distinguished service to yachting. The award was established in 1982 in memory of Ed Wilder for his long service as Chairman of the PICYA Publications Committee and for his service as Publisher of the Yachting Yearbook.

Professional journalists and the Committee judge submissions based on:

- Newsletter content, writing, editing, design, photography, and print quality
- Budget available to produce the newsletter – creative use of resources
- Effective and timely communication of information regarding the club

At a recent awards ceremony, Elkhorn Yacht Club's humble Lee Rail was awarded 3rd Place from a field of over 100 yacht clubs in Northern California! Congratulations to Davey Robinson and all the content contributors for making out newsletter shine! Help the award-winning Lee Rail by adding YOUR articles, stories, profiles, pictures, and adventures. Contact LeeRail@elkhornyachtclub.org

Respectfully submitted,
Dan Garrett
Vice Commodore, EYC



CLUB NEWS

From the Manger's Desk



Melissa Raney
Club Manager

“Permission to come aboard” is a term not to be taken lightly. If you are going to board a boat, please make sure your presence is known and that the boat owner gives you permission to board. It’s common boating etiquette, courtesy, and respect for boat owners and visitors.

Elkhorn Yacht Club Staff

Club Manager: Melissa Raney - Hours: 1pm - 6pm Wed to Sat

Bookkeeper: Leslie Day - Hours: varies (check planner board on office door)

Bartenders: Anna Harris, Gunter Hartman, Richard Levine

Bar Hours open 4pm on Fri, 2pm on Sat & Sun, 4pm on Mon

Next Board Meeting is Nov. 14

@ 10am in the EYC Dining Hall

ON THE COVER: Hillary Thomas takes over as the Elkhorn Yacht Club Commodore for the 2025 year.

ELKHORN YACHT CLUB

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Commodore: Hillary Thomas
Vice Commodore: Dan Garrett
Rear Commodore: Hans Thomas
Treasurer: Stacy Hughes
Secretary: Toni Scarborough
Director: Jim Brady
Director: Brad Wuerstle
Director: Shane Dowling
Director: Sheri Bugalski
Director: Andrew Listl
Director: Susan Osorio

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Bar Manager: Toni Scarborough
Bylaws: Stan Jacques
Club Safety: Gary Skillet
Cruising Co-Chair: Keith Chastain
Cruising Co-Chair: Lori Robinson
Fleet Captain: Diana Garrett
Garden: Sheri Bugalski
HR: Dan Garrett
I.T.: Shane Dowling
Lee Rail Editor: David Robinson
Long Range Planning: Stan Jacques
Membership Co-Chair: Katie Dowling
Membership Co-Chair: Tiffany Pedulla
PICYA Rep.: Lara Jacques
PICYA Rep.: Dan Garrett
Port Captain: Brian Ackerman
Property: Frank Lewis
Property Maintenance: Dan Piro

Race Co-Chair: Dan Garrett
Race Co-Chair: Lara Jacques
Social Co-Chair: Lori Robinson
Social Co-Chair: Bobbie Cabrera
Webmaster: Del Cooper, Jr.
Workshop: Jim Brady
Work Party: TBA

The Lee Rail is a monthly publication of
 the Elkhorn Yacht Club
 2370 Highway 1
 Moss Landing, CA 95039
 (831) 724-3875
ElkhornYachtClub.org

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Submissions are encouraged and will be considered for publication as time and space permit.

Submission deadline is the 25th of each month.

Email submissions to:

LeeRail@ElkhornYachtClub.org

or send by U.S. Post to the address shown above.

EYC CALENDAR

ELKHORN YACHT CLUB

CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR DECEMBER

Dec 2: Tree Trimming & Monday Night Dinner
(tree ornaments will be provided)

Dec 7: Gift Exchange & Pot Luck
(Bring a dish and a \$20 gift to share)

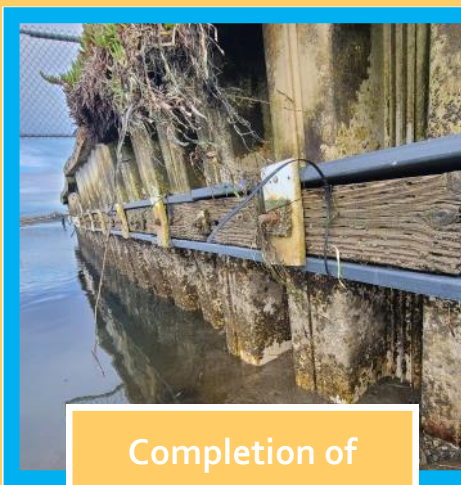
Dec 14: Lighted Boat Parade & Soup Pot Luck

Dec 25: Wayward Sailors' Christmas Dinner

Dec 31: New Year's Eve Gala



ELKHORN YACHT CLUB BOARD NEWS



Completion of
Seawall

in-

On Saturday, November 9, the work party completed the last section of the seawall project. The last channel, nut, bolt and screw was stalled in place.

So we are good to go for the next 26 years. Many of the younger members of the work parties will be available for the next upgrade.

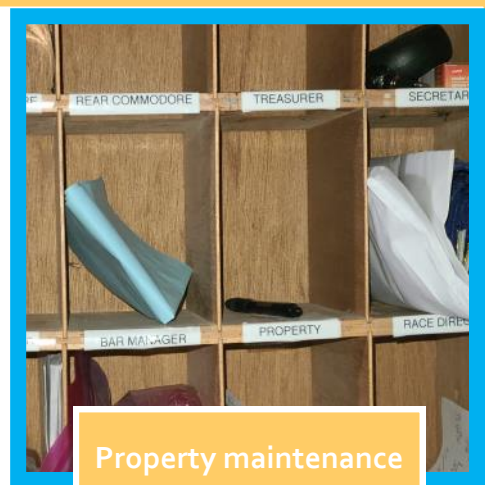
After COVID, concerns were raised regarding the extensive rotting of the existing whaler supporting the seawall. A group of members got together and made contact with the engineer of the original seawall construction. Plans were prepared and materials purchased. Work was started in September 2023.

The county stopped work on the wall in October 2023. Plans submitted for permit in January 2024 and finally approved in late April 2024. Work parties then continued and the work completed on the above date.

I want to thank all of those who participated and supported this effort. It was a Club effort with successful results. Thank you all.

(submitted by Frank Lewis)

The Elkhorn Yacht Club is a volunteer driven club and everyone's input is needed. This includes notifying the Property and Maintenance Committees of repairs and upkeep needs around the club.



Property maintenance
"in box"

Do the doggie poop bags need to be re-filled? Is there an outlet that is not working? Is there a light bulb that does not illuminate on one side? If you notice anything around the club that needs to be addressed, please leave a simple note of it in the "property" in box.

(submitted by Frank Lewis)

Membership privileges/benefits after recent Bylaws change

EYC Membership Classes & Associated Privileges as of 10/18/24								
Membership Classes	Initiation Fee	Dues	Hold Office	Voting Rights	Job for 24/7 Access	Office Space Rental	Locker Rental	Bar Chaining Privileges
Flag	100%	100%	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Flag Senior	N/A	50%	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Flag Cruising	N/A	50%	N/A	N/A	N/A	YES	YES	N/A
Contributor	10%	50%	No	No	OPTIONAL FOR A FEE	No	YES	No
Youth	10%	10%	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Associate	\$50.00	100%	No	No	No	No	No	No
Provisional Honorary	N/A	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Honorary	N/A	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

References: 1) Updated Bylaws by Board of Directors Action on October 8, 2022.
2) Bylaws Changes Approved by BOD September 12, 2024 and Approved by the General Membership October 18, 2024.
3) Rules and Policies - Board Approved 8/11/2018

(submitted by Stanley Jacques)

ELKHORN YACHT CLUB BOARD NEWS

NEW MEMBERS



Dana Suverkrop

Hello EYC members. My name is Dana Suverkrop. I am currently a resident of Salinas, living in the unincorporated community of Oak Hills since 1991. I came to this area back then when I was finishing my final assignment as an Army Nurse

Corp officer and had planned to

retire in 1994. My spouse, Cynthia and I were raising our two daughters, Jenny and Katie at the time. Over the years, our daughters married in 2005 and each, with their spouses, have two children and are currently all living out of state. Cynthia passed away in late 2022 and I now live alone and am retired. My closest family members are my sister, my brother-in-law and my mother, who just turned 100, all live in St. Helena, CA.

My career path led me to basically two jobs: U.S. Army Nurse Corp followed by Kaiser Permanente Medical Group, retiring in 2013. As far as having special skills, other than being an Adult Nurse Practitioner and having multiple leadership roles, I have been a cardiology nurse and have specialized skills in device (pacemaker and ICD) follow up and cardiac testing.

Since retirement, I have served as a Board Member of the Oak Hills Homeowners Association and still serve on one committee.

I currently maintain two small (15') trailerable sailboats that can be towed to various venues; Moss Landing is just four miles away! As a 13 year member of a group called the "Potter Yachters", we travel to a number of locations in Northern and Central California and the Sierras. We regularly come to the Elkhorn Yacht Club in the spring, summer and fall and will stay in the marina before and after our sails.

What excites me about joining the EYC? While I can't say I know everybody's name and background yet, (I'm learning!). My impressions so far is, it has been a very enjoyable experience meeting the club members and participating in the events. And of course, the sailing! It's been a pleasure to meet so many individuals, coming from a variety of backgrounds and experiences, who are so welcoming and supportive. Thank you for welcoming me to the EYC.

(submitted by Dana Suverkrop)

Rene and I are so excited about joining EYC! We are currently living up above Sonora in the lower Sierra mountains. We both came from the Santa Cruz area and are there often visiting family and friends.

Now, being part of EYC, we have a reason and place to come stay more often! We love to travel, often taking spur of the moment road trips. Once we even took an unplanned road trip to Yellowstone and drove 7 states in 7 days! We enjoy hiking around our local lakes and trails and being outdoors year round.

Rene loves meeting new people, learning new skills and cooking! I tend to be more of the homebody between the two of us and prefer baking, crocheting and binge watching the Hallmark channel! My daughter, Summer, is 24 now and living out of state. Some of you may have met her during the boat hop! We have one dog, Enzo, who is our very large fur baby and travels most places with us. We can't wait to meet everyone and are looking forward to spending more time on the boat!

(submitted by Milissa Dalbesio)



**Milissa Dalbesio
and Rene La Forge**



Sam Offenbach

No bio submitted

ELKHORN YACHT CLUB BOARD NEWS

NEW MEMBERS



Carter Frost

I'm from Santa Cruz, California, I originally worked in cybersecurity for many years working on private key infrastructure like national ID systems, Certificate management and private key storage systems

called HSMs (i.e. systems that establish and maintain trust.

I taught at Cabrillo College/PVUSD engineering camps well over the 7 years, as well as taught as a supplemental instructor at Cabrillo College in Computer Science & Computer Information Systems.

I got into robotics about 5 years ago initially through my local community college in California (Cabrillo College's) Robotics club. For a few years I worked remotely with the lab at University of New Mexico on various projects like NASA's Houston space center on a new class of rovers for the Moon & Project Chili House systems.

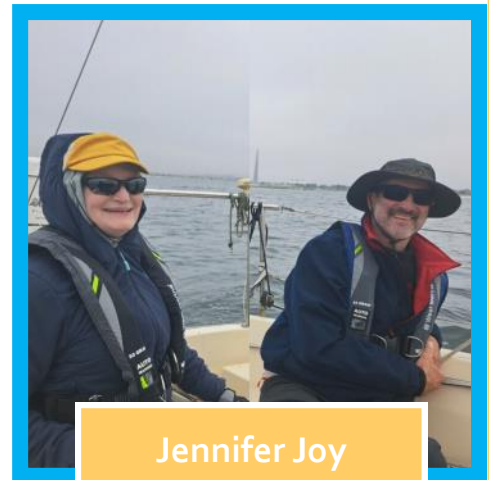
In May of 2024 I purchased a Gulfstar 37 which had a severe leakage issue with every hatch, port, chain-plate, holes in the deck and black water tank, along with broken valves on practically all the 20 thru hulls.

I hope to document my journey to bringing this vessel back into sailing condition on my website boat.carterfrost.com



Christie Collins

No bio submitted



Jennifer Joy
and Mark White

No bio submitted

SAILING NEWS

CHOWDER CUP #4 (Nov. 9)

Four boats came out for Chowder Cup #4 which featured a course set by Jim Brady. Several crew showed up looking for boats to sail on and were distributed across the fleet. The weather was beautiful skies and fair seas. Winds that were predicted to be light, and for most of the race exceeded expectations. While Mariko crossed the start line last, they soon made up for that error. Northern Light chased Aquanaut to try and push her out around the first mark, but at the last moment Aquanaut played an excellent maneuver that gave her rights and sent Northern Light scrambling to find wind and make its way around the mark significantly behind. As the fleet headed for the second mark at ML-2, the winds were still keeping up and we decided to execute the full race rather than a shortened course option. By the time Mariko rounded the last mark before the finish she was well ahead of everyone and crossed the line before Northern Light rounded the last mark behind Aquanaut. Solace crossed the line second, and due to some spinnaker-set issues, Northern Light managed to beat Aquanaut across the line. Corrected-times resulted in a clear win by Mariko, Solace Second, Aquanaut third, and Northern Light last. All in all, a fabulous day sailing and some good friendly competition. Congratulations to the skippers and crews.



SAILING NEWS

CHOWDER CUP #4 (CONT'D)



SAILING NEWS

CHOWDER CUP #5 - THE FINAL (NOV. 16)

Saturday November 16 was the final race of the Chowder Cup Series, and of the EYC racing season. Winds were moderate and the King Tides made for a bumpy ride out the channel as the tide was going out and waves and swell were heading in. Four boats headed through the roiling exit to get to the starting line between MLA and the Green Can. Aquanaut made a quick Corinthian Spirit detour and helped a power boat stranded in the channel, towing them back to safety. Aquanaut notified the Race Committee who prepared to postpone the start, but



Mariko leads the way around the course, flying her gennaker.



Landon Wivell brought his childhood friends Sterling and Randy, visiting from Maryland, aboard Solace.

they completed their good deed and made it to the start line with time to spare. The race was 8.4 miles long, 3 laps around MLA and ML2 buoys. Mariko quickly took a commanding lead, pointing high on the upwind leg and flying her gennaker downwind. Beautiful clear skies and smiles all around! Aquanaut, Mariko, Northern Light and Solace enjoyed another gorgeous day on the bay. January and February will not have any races, but there will be educational and safety seminars. Keep an eye on the club calendar and website for details. We look forward to having more boats out next season! Be sure to visit the EYC website for more pictures and information regarding club races.

- submitted by Lara Jacques

SAILING NEWS

ANNUAL SAILOR'S AWARDS LUNCHEON PROVIDES LAUGHTER AND CHOWDER (NOV. 16)

Following the final race of the season (Chowder Cup #5, see other article) a warm and tasty lunch was served to the hungry racers. No fewer than three soups/chowders were hot and ready and a Mediterranean buffet of kebabs, salad, dolmas, and desserts was enjoyed by all. Once the racing fleet was fed, awards were presented for serious (and some dubious) achievements in the 2024 racing season. From 1st place on the left: Canyon Series (Spring/Summer): Aquanaut, Solace, Un Bel Di, Cutlass, Northern Light, Athena, and Mariko. Chowder Cup Series (Summer/Fall): Solace, Mariko, Aquanaut, Northern Light, Un Bel Di.



Skipper Lara and crew of Solace celebrate their 1st Place in the Chowder Cup series! PC: D. Garrett .

Racer of the Year (two-way tie): Jim Brady & Cody Forsythe

Crew of the Year (two-way tie): Mandy Malone & Bobby DuPont

Commodore's Award: Jay Rasmussen

Submitted by Dan Garrett



Cody and Jim shared a tie for Racer of the Year (most races as skipper of a boat). PC: D. Garrett



Proud dad Greg N. (right) receives handmade "tummy time" quilt for his newborn with the boats of the EYC racing fleet as part of the design. PC: S. Osorio

RECENT EVENTS **INSTALLATION DINNER (Nov. 2)**



RECENT EVENTS **INSTALLATION DINNER (CONT'D)**



RECENT EVENTS

BEER TASTING & CRAFT FAIR (NOV. 23)



RECENT EVENTS

THANKSGIVING (NOV. 28)

It was a full house for the EYC Thanksgiving Feast! More than 40 people stuffed the dining hall, and their tummies, for a joyful meal of appreciation.

Hosted by the Garretts, Diana and Dan got plenty of help in the gally from Lara, Bobby, Hans and others. Everyone was grateful our buffet was overflowing with options from all the side dishes brought in for the potluck,

Our favorite bartenders were given the day off, so Dan stepped in as “Thanksgiving bartender!”

Finally, a huge thanks to Bill and Andrew for taking on the dishwasher and cleanup crew!



RECENT EVENTS THANKSGIVING (CONT'D)



EYC'ERS OUT & ABOUT **MELISSA'S FIRST SAIL!**

By the time you all receive this Lee Rail addition I will have completed one year here at EYC as your club manager! It has truly been amazing getting to know you all. I couldn't have asked for a better environment to work in. I look forward to continuing to serve you all. I also got to go out on my very first sail! Lara Jaques and Bobby Dupont made it a wonderful experience that I can't wait to have again. With their expertise teaching I even got to drive the boat and with their tips I didn't even get sea sick! The highlight was getting to see some whales up close and personal! Thank you again EYC for making me feel at home.

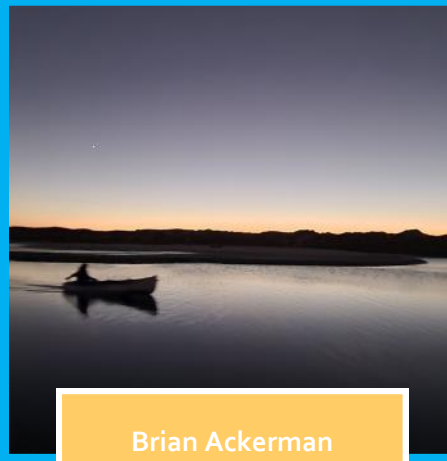
Submitted by Melissa Raney



ELKHORN YACHT CLUB BULLETIN BOARD **SIGHTS FROM AROUND OUR CLUB**



The Ortiz Family
cooks on Monday night



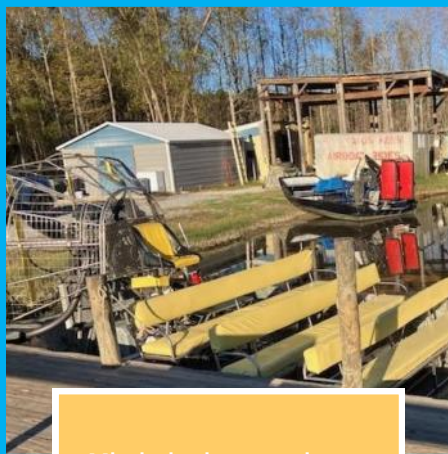
Brian Ackerman
commutes home



Bluegrass Friday

EYC'ERS OUT & ABOUT **ON THE ROAD WITH JOHN "JD" DUNN**

Our dear friend, John "JD" Dunn, returned to the Elkhorn Yacht Club after nearly a year of travel around the country. His visit was short and the hugs and smiles were genuine. After nearly a month of "getting things in order," JD hit the road once again. He has worked his way across the southern states and most recently has checked in from Mississippi. There's great swamp boating there, but you do need to be on the lookout for alligators! JD's itinerary will take him to Florida, then back through the mid-west states. He should make his appearance back in Moss Landing next autumn! Safe travels, friend.



Mississippi swamp boats



JD giving out hugs
at EYC



Mississippi gators

AROUND THE CLUB**ELKHORN YACHT CLUB BIRTHDAYS FOR DECEMBER**

12/1 Amanda Malone

12/3 Steve Murphey

12/5 Barbara Zimmerman

12/6 Sheryl Bugalski

12/6 Pam Frazier

12/7 Roy Thomas

12/7 Luis Solano

12/7 Jeff Lorek

12/9 Sylvia Wanderaas

12/11 Hillary Thomas

12/11 Amanda Geurts

12/14 Steven Hudkins

12/14 Frank Tarantino

12/15 William Hunt

12/16 Laura Ray

12/18 Gary Skillett

12/18 Pam Lorek

12/19 JoAnn McGowan

12/20 Jennifer Joy

12/20 Wayne Kelly

12/21 Matt Furukawa

12/22 Frank Lewis

12/24 Mark Waxman

12/25 John Dorrance

12/28 John Dunn