



NEWSLETTER and MINUTES

January 13, 2026 (via ZOOM)

WWW.BLUEWATERFOUNDATION.ORG.

www.facebook.com/BlueWaterFoundation

MEETINGS ARE ALL ON ZOOM UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE!

ALL VOLUNTEER ALL THE TIME... NO ONE ON PAYROLL, EVERY DIME GOES TO THE PROGRAMS AND BOAT UPKEEP.

USE OUR WEBSITE EVENTS LINK ("Get Involved" button) TO SIGN UP FOR SAILS OR CONTACT THE SAIL ORGANIZER.



SCHOOL DISTRICT SAILS:

SF:

Some rain cancellations but the sails are going well with every Thursday now booked to the end of the school year. The sails are now once a week, all on Golden Bear from San Francisco, every Middle and High School...our oldest program, now over thirty years old.

COMMUNITY SAILS:

Community sails are continuing, and we have many new exciting programs:

1. PORT AUTHORITY SUMMER PROGRAM. These sails concluded with very happy participants, and they wish us to set up sails for next year. Now calendared.
2. MAKANI BOATING CLUB. Makani is a coed junior boating club for ages 11-13 affiliated with SF Sea Scouts. Golden Bear, two outings, 11-1300 and 1330 to 1530. **February 21.** And a second sail on **April 4.**
3. PARKINSON'S FOUNDATION SAIL. A new group we are working with which has scheduled a series of events, including a sail in conjunction with the Corinthian Yacht Club, sail occurring on **April 12**, both Golden Bear and Aleta sailing with some sailors who suffer from that disease.
4. TAM. HIGH SCHOLARS. In April we will sail with these gifted students from Tam High in Marin. On Golden Bear, stay tuned for exact date.

PROBATION DEPARTMENT SAILS:

1. Our newest program combines juvenile hall students with Camp Sweeney students, both male and female.
2. Stacy, who is also setting up a women's sailing crew, is setting up the sails for the girls with women only crews and she has scheduled additional "all lady" sails for **2/1, 2/6, 2/13, 2/21** with graduation with both the boys' and girls' program on **2/22.** On Golden Bear and Aleta.
3. Meanwhile, the boy's program is progressing with sails on **1/24 (night), 2/7, 2/14** and graduation on **2/22.** Mentor mentee method. **The graduation will be a major effort with potluck, kayak races, games, families and friends attending...and you?**
4. Our goal is to use Aleta more with these students and we need to certify more crew and captains. There are certification sails on Aleta being scheduled and we urge all volunteers to get up to speed on Aleta...about half the sails will use Aleta if we have sufficient certified people for it.
5. We wish to have the probation officers become certified crew and their training now is happening concurrent with the students. We should have done this before...the Pos and students learning together creates a crew bond that is remarkable.
6. Lee will be working with various other juvenile probation department heads over the next few months and it is likely we will add other counties to this program.



CERTIFICATION:

1. First Aid and CPR –Next class on **February 21, 10-12** at Berkeley Yacht Club. **FULLY BOOKED NOW.** We will be setting up a new one. Most of it is done online before the class. REQUIRED FOR CERTIFICATION AS CREW AND CAPTAINS. YOU MUST COMPLETE THE ON LINE PORTION BEFORE ATTENDING THE CLASS WHICH HAS THE "HANDS ON" PRACTICE. **FREE FOR VOLUNTEERS.**

2. Certification sail on Bear with live overboard to be scheduled soon, check our calendar.
3. Benjamin Walters live overboard drill is set for **February 28** and a full certification sail set for **March 8**.
4. ALETA had a certification sail on 1/18 and will be scheduling another soon.
5. RECALL THAT CALIFORNIA LAW NOW REQUIRES ALL PERSONS TAKING OTHERS SAILING TO HAVE THE **CALIFORNIA BOATER'S CARD** AND THAT IS REQUIRED FOR OUR 6.CERTIFICATION...IT'S ALL ONLINE, EASY TO GET, CHEAP, AND DOES REVIEW FOR YOU MUCH USEFUL INFORMATION. GET IT! REQUIRED FOR ALL FIRST AND SECOND CAPTAINS.
7. And note that if you come on a sail as a guest or crew, make sure the captain checks out your skills and you can move along the certification list. You do not necessarily have to do the certification sails to get certified...but they move things more quickly.
8. Recall that the certification process is a checklist of accomplishments signed off by a first or second captain and one progresses to certified crew, second captain and, at times, first captain. Every sail with students requires a first captain, a second captain, and three certified crew. *It is thus vital that all volunteers seek to move up the certification ladder.*
9. Our First Aid trainer is now offering not just CPR and First Aid but is newly certified as a wilderness first aid trainer and will be offering that far more extensive course (two days) in the next few months. *Think of signing on...*
10. We need more volunteers willing to jump overboard for the live drills...*Many have moved away...And Aaron has agreed to do so, using Lee's drysuit...that should allow us to double the MOB drills.*

BOSUN'S REPORT:

GOLDEN BEAR: New jib bag.

ALETA: Some repair on the Main is needed...there was a tear during the last overboard drill...and a new drum cover for the roller furling.

BENJAMIN WALTERS: Rig inspection in the next few months, owner expense.

DEVINE WIND: She needs a new Blue Water flag which will be delivered to Captain Andy.

REMEMBER TO WASH DOWN THE BOATS AFTER EACH SAIL...*FIRST CAPTAINS, YOUR JOB IS TO KEEP CREW THERE TO DO THIS...WILL PROLONG THE LIFE OF ALL BOATS AND EQUIPMENT.*



RACING PROGRAM NEEDS VOLUNTEERS FOR ITS PLANNING COMMITTEE

Captain Andy is putting together a racing team, and we are at the planning stages. He would like two or three volunteers who like racing and would like to introduce some of the students we serve to join him on a committee to plan this. Captain David is already on the committee...you? May be with Juvenile Probation or some of the community groups or schools we serve...if interested, e mail andrewzim@yahoo.com.

Captain Louie suggests we have the probation boys participate in a sail put on by the Berkeley Yacht Club, from Berkeley to close to the Gate, using Benjamin. That would be in August, and we will discuss that over the next few months.

DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

We still have the Coast Grant we are seeking and a smaller grant from the Harbor Masters organization.

MONEY: 48,852 in the bank. Sounds good but note insurance costs us about 15,000 a year and maintenance on Bear and Aleta another 15,000.... Loreta, Rich and Marty are working on Federal and State filing.

If you can...donate...

AND DONATATIONS IN KIND ALWAYS WELCOME. We now have foul weather jackets and inflatable life vests that were donated. We will make those available to students and volunteers who otherwise cannot afford them. And remember, courses have been donated by **MODERN SAILING**. Have some gear you want to write off? Contact Lee at lstimmel@stimmel-law.com.

INTERNSHIPS AND SCHOLARSHIPS: A PROGRAM YOU CAN JOIN AND HELP EVEN IF YOU STAY ON LAND:

INTERNSHIPS:

Internships give these students both experience and the beginning of a resume' that can open worlds for them. Jobs are how kids in trouble get to an alternative lifestyle...and they know it. **Know a business that would like an intern? Get onto the committee. Contact Lee at lstimmel@stimmel-law.com.**



SCHOLARSHIPS:

Recall that **Sategna Foundation**, our long-time partner for scholarships, has granted ten thousand dollars for scholarships for appropriate students of Blue Water...if you know a likely candidate, contact Lee or Jim.

Sailing opens doors...scholarships help students walk through the doors.

MODERN SAILING DONATES TWO TRAINING SCHOLARSHIPS A YEAR AND OUR FIRST ONE WENT TO BRANDON, A NEW VOLUNTEER WHO HAS DEMONSTRATED REAL COMMITMENT TO THE KIDS. THANK YOU, MODERN SAILING.



DEMOGRAPHIC DATA is needed for our grant writing and Captain David has created the software to let first captains easily provide the information which shall be kept confidential. We are seeing how much of this type of documentation, and perhaps releases and waivers, can be done online. Stay tuned.

Remember our new policy for First Captains that they are to go over the safety features on each before each sail to refresh recollections of the crew since many crews go on more than one boat. First and Second captains must also have the California Boaters Card.

MEDIA COMMITTEE, which is to put Blue Water more prominently on various social media and create videos to make that work needs more volunteers to get this going. Contact Lee at lstimmel@stimmel-law.com if this appeals to you.



Captain Louie, who has been doing our website forever, would like to step down so we need some volunteers willing to handle that. Captain David is also doing this but would like some backup and is making a list of what systems we work with. Interested? Let him know.

LBen@benainous.com

WOMAN'S SAILING CREW:

Captain Stacy is organizing a woman's sailing crew not just to work with girls on probation but for other activities in which a woman's crew seems appropriate. Interested? Contact Stacy and join her effort. stacy@rackle.com. Her immediate goal is to get more women certified on Aleta.



ZOOM...if you are not already on the registered list, go to our Get Involved link on our website and register to receive the Zoom invitation. Contact Captain David if necessary and he will give you a link...

David Mischel dmischel@gmail.com

NEXT MEETING FEBRUARY 10, 600 PM BY ZOOM, ALWAYS OVER BY EIGHT OR BEFORE.



SO, YOU ARE UPSET WITH THE CURRENT POLITICS? UPSET WITH THE GROWING RANCOR AND VIOLENCE? UPSET WITH THE NEWSHEADLINES EVERY DAY?

Well, if you don't like the news, make some of your own. Change a life. Show a child what the sea can offer. Look at a face full of wonder seeing a sea lion, a dolphin, a sunset. Know that a memory can be of only a single minute of joy...and last a lifetime....and you have the ability to make that memory...

JOIN US!