



NEWSLETTER and MINUTES FEBRUARY 13, 2024 (via ZOOM)

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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. WE ARE ALWAYS LOOKING FOR NEW VOLUNTEERS TO MAKE THIS WORK!



SAN FRANCISCO SCHOOL DISTRICT SAILS:

We sail with every middle and high school in the SF District system...Next sails on newly repaired Golden Bear... **2/22;2/29;3/14;3/21** and for the rest of the year...**dates on our website**. Different school each time but each a public school in the SF District. Police are likely to be assigned to the sails again in Spring.

COMMUNITY SAILS:

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

1. **Hanna Center**, a residential program for traumatized children, asked us to set up a regularly scheduled series of sails and those will be calendared in a few months.

2. *Epilepsy Foundation* has changed some of their management so delayed their next sail...but we expect new dates to be scheduled on Benjamin Walters. Remember, Type 1 life are to be on each participant since they may be unconscious in the water.
3. *Blind Sailors*. Recall we are working with blind sailors now and they have participated in many of our sails acting as co-mentors of students. They are interested in a racing team being put together by Captain Andy and in participating in our regular programs, such as the probation sails. Ben has been on almost every probation sail. We are beginning to also work with Lighthouse for the Blind. Expect regular sails to be set up in Spring. Likely Friday night races as well on Captain Andrew's racer.
4. *Project Rebound*, formerly incarcerated adults connected with SF State are being assigned to work with Blue Water and these sails will be a bonding experience for them as they integrate into a college setting. Three interns from the program are now assigned to the probation sails and will be mentors to the students. We are also being checked out by Project Rebound in the East Bay, so this may become a larger program.
5. *PACT sails*. We began a new program with PACT and we have two double sails with Aleta and Benjamin Walters on **May 4** and again on **May 11**.
6. *Greenagers* will be coming back for more sails, the first on **March 9**. On Bear.
7. *Silver Springs* high school students come all the way from Grass Valley and have scheduled a sail for **May 14**.
8. *APACC (Asian Pacific Islanders American students)* have scheduled sails for **3/23** and **5/18**, Benjamin Walters.
9. *International Rescue Project*. Their sail on September 29 went very well...and they want their next sail on Bear on **April 20**.
10. *Marin City*. Les is reaching out to them to set up more sails.
11. *SF La Casa* enjoyed their sail so much they want to commence a regular schedule and are planning two sails in **April and May**, precise dates to be set in the next week...check the events page for the dates. There will likely be sails every month for this great group.



PROBATION DEPARTMENT SAILS:

ALAMEDA COUNTY JUVENILE PROBATION:

Our next series of classes with Alameda County Probation is well underway and this year we are using both Aleta and Benjamin, often tandem, to allow more space to teach on each boat. With the Project Rebound volunteers included, the students get a great deal of support on each sail...and state they love it. We need more crew and captains given the doubling of the boats going out. The Classes remaining are **3/1 (Aleta); 3/15;3/29;4/12 (night sail);4/26 graduation**. Captain Scott is now designing an advanced class for Sweeney graduates that will be considered by the Board over the next few months. Josue', our Sweeney scholarship graduate with a BS in nursing now, came to the first sail to discuss possibilities with the Sweeney students and his presentation was riveting to both the students and the volunteers attending.

EI DORADO PROBATION: Captain Lee will be checking on their current status.

MARIN PROBATION: Has approached PO Young at Alameda for advice as to how to begin their own sailing program with Blue Water. Likely will commence after some try out sails...stay tuned.



Training & Certification:

The quickest way to move up the certification ladder...and a lot of fun.

1. First Aid and CPR –Our next class will be in late May or early June at BERKELEY YACHT CLUB. FREE TO VOLUNTEERS, MUCH OF IT ONLINE, AND REQUIRED FOR CERTIFICATION AS CREW AND CAPTAINS. YOU MUST COMPLETE THE ON LINE PORTION BEFORE ATTENDING THE CLASS WHICH HAS THE “HANDS ON” PRACTICE. SIGN UP ON OUR WEBSITE EVENTS PAGE.
2. Certification sail on Bear 3/10.
3. Benjamin Walters had a night overboard live practice on February 16...it went OK, and we have our next night MOB drill on May 3...only open to those who have completed a day MOB and intend to go on our night sails.
4. ALETA certification sail with MOB practice on 2/25 and another certification sail on June 8.
5. And recall if 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.

MOVE UP THE CERTIFICATION LADDER SO WE CAN MEET THE NEEDS OF THE YOUTH.



BOSUN'S REPORT:

GOLDEN BEAR: The latest storms required several volunteers to replace the dock lines and clear the scuppers in the cockpit. Thanks to these volunteers who dropped everything to ensure the boat was safe. Further, Captain Colm has repaired the grinder putting in many, many hours, and Captain Marc has painted it so that winch, beloved by the students, will be back onboard within a month.

ALETA: Captain Scott replaced the battery and so far, the starting issues seem over and with more and more volunteers certified on her, we are using her almost as much as the other boats...and the students love this yellow racer. Captain Scott is checking her every few days which is why she is now a dependable vessel.

BENJAMIN WALTERS: Whisker pole is now ready to mount, and this will be one of the skills we teach to our students. Owner expense. The last night overboard drill demonstrated that our method of lighting the life sling and its line needed improvement and after discussion, a different type of overboard light is being attached to the sling. We will test it on the next night MOB in a few months.

Spaulding Boatworks Offers Access to Tools and Space to our Bosuns!!

Captain Matt, who runs the Spaulding Yard in Sausalito, has offered access to tools and space for our bosuns who need it to work on our boats... Captain Colm, working on the Bear grinder, is using it. THANKS TO THIS GREAT YARD WHO ALSO OFFER INTERNSHIPS ON BOAT REPAIR....and specialize in wooden boats.



OCEAN VOYAGES TRAINING

Recall that Lee and other captains will be continuing offshore training in Benjamin Walters, in late Spring probably...



MONEY: **\$33,349.00** in the bank. But liability insurance still costs 2100.00 a month...and we just spent 20,000 on Bear...if you can, donations are ALWAYS needed. All money goes to boats. And insurance.

DONATIONS IN KIND:

We have had several donations in kind...from anchors to foul weather gear and life jackets and sailing lessons from Modern Sailing.... and now have a committee to determine distribution constituting Captains Lee, Andrew, Steve, Scott and Paul. If you wish to donate some gear or assets, contact Lee. We are fully tax deductible. Contact Lee at lstimmel@stimmel-law.com.

The President's Cocktail party on FEBRUARY 3 brought in a bit over \$5000.00 net thanks to the massive efforts and skill of Kimberly and Shannon. Kimberly is convinced we can do better for the next party which they will be scheduling soon...this is the most net we have ever had from any of our parties!

SUMMER MEMORIAL SAIL AND RAFT UP FOR OCTOBER. This coming October we will have a memorial dropping of leis in the water to remember Captains Bob, Ben and Jim and then raft up to celebrate their lives...A chance to meet all the Blue Water people in the sun, all the boats attending, probably anchoring at China Camp. Or...bring your own boat. Stay tuned for precise date.

VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION PARTY: The next one will be in late August and if anything like the last one Kimberly put on, it will be great. Probably a new locale since Kimberly thinks the numbers attending will be greater than Berkeley Yacht Club can handle...precise date to be announced.



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. Jim Stanton is working with Matt Zarem to set up internships at Spaulding Wood Boat Center, dealing with students from Sweeney and connecting also with the San Rafael police department. **Know a business that would like an intern? Have a business that can help? Contact Lee at lstimmel@stimmel-law.com.** You...yes, you can change a life.



SCHOLARSHIPS:

Recall that **Sategna Foundation**, our longtime partner, working with Jim Stanton and Lee, sent a Hanna Center student to the music festival in a village in Tuscany this last summer. Captain Jim is now searching for the next student to go to Italy for a culture change that can change the life of the student. Over the next few months, we will begin the selection process for the next student.

Also recall that **Sategna Foundation** has agreed to fund an additional Sweeney or other equivalent student for vocational or college scholarships once our selection process is completed. Josue', our scholarship recipient, graduated Suma cum laud with a BS in nursing from USF, was the selected student speaker at his graduation, and has agreed to work with Blue Water and Sategna to help others follow his footsteps...straight As while working full time for a BS in nursing!! He starts his nursing duties at Stanford next month. He has agreed to join the advisory board of Sategna Foundation.

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

Want to help? E mail Lee at lstimmel@stimmel-law.com.



PROTOCOL FOR CREW, STUDENT AND CAPTAIN INTERACTION ADOPTED BY BOARD.

The board adopted the protocols for interaction which are now on our website and when you sign up on a sail there is a link to them. Be sure to review them before your next sail.

GRANTS.... Can you write them? We need some expertise here so if you can, Shannon would love to hear from you and if you know of any grants that might be worthwhile, contact her. Boats cost money...

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 MARCH 12, 2024, 600 PM BY ZOOM.

If you are grouching about our government or a particular candidate, if you are upset at the streets, the crime, the youth apparently free to break into cars, etc....in short, if you are discontented with the present state of things...well, stop talking and start doing.

We have taken about 40,000 children to sea now...our first students are parents or grandparents. We have worked with at risk and incarcerated children for over three decades, working with the school district, the police, the probation departments and two dozen community groups. We know what we are doing and know that the sea can be a mentor as well as a riveting experience for children who have never left six blocks of concrete and stepped on board...our Bay is to them as traveling to the moon would be to you. And you can do that for them...JOIN US AND MAKE A DIFFERENCE...you can keep grouching if you want, but now you can also know you are doing something about it...

