



NEWSLETTER and MINUTES JUNE 8, 2021 (via ZOOM)

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JUNE MEETING WAS BY ZOOM CONFERENCE

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



ALL VOLUNTEER ALL THE TIME...THIRTY PLUS YEARS OF PEOPLE GIVING THEIR TIME FOR AT RISK AND UNDERSERVED YOUTH...AND LOOKING FOR MORE VOLUNTEERS TO JOIN US IN THIS GREAT TRADITION.

SAN FRANCISCO SCHOOL DISTRICT SAILS:

It will be Fall before the usual sails can begin again and Captain Les is keeping in touch with some of the District people so we can plan the sails. Remember, we have been taken every Middle School and High School in San Francisco out sailing for decades now...

COMMUNITY SAILS:

Community sails ARE beginning again and there are a lot of them.

1. South Beach Summer sailing camp has three dates: June 24, July 8 and July 29, all on Golden Bear.
2. We have two Weekend Adventure sails (kids from the Tenderloin, middle school age) July 10 and July 17.
3. Two Greenager sails scheduled, one for August 7, one for August 21.

4. Friendship House sail (Muwekma Ohlone Tribe) with stop at Angel Island, [July 15](#).

5. And more are being scheduled.

PROBATION DEPARTMENT SAILS:

ALAMEDA COUNTY JUVENILE PROBATION CONTINUES and is going well, now occurring on Friday afternoons and evenings aside from the graduation ceremony on a Sunday. We just finished the night sail and our next sail is the live overboard practice drill (July 9) followed by our July 25 graduation celebration and tandem sail on Benjamin and Aleta, with potluck lunch, rides on the inflatable, and handing out certifications. This begins in the morning, lasting until mid afternoon. The graduation sail is tremendously moving, with friends and family of our students seeing what their children and friends can do...and cheering them as they get their certificates. **IF YOU CAN, SHOW UP EVEN IF YOU DON'T GO OUT...SHOW THESE STUDENTS THAT THEY ARE APPRECIATED. BRING FOOD, AND PREPARE FOR A VERY MOVING AFTERNOON.**

EI DORADO PROBATION is setting their own schedule to bring their students down for sails. Stay tuned for the actual dates. This will likely begin in July or August.

CONTRA COSTA is again beginning their program, July 24 with their first sail, on Benjamin Walters and this will be the start of a full class.

SF COUNTY has contacted us to begin the process of setting up a new class but due to their own changes, likely not until August. We just had a zoom call with them and will be taking the new POs in their system sailing to show them what the experience is like. Stay tuned for details.

MARIN JUVENILE PROBATION has also contacted Blue Water and we plan to begin sails with them probably in the Fall.



Training & Certification

Our full day training and certification sails speed up the certification process. We have developed pandemic safe protocol for the training. We are also scheduling more CPR-First Aid Red Cross certified training since that is also a prerequisite to full certification.

1. **First Aid and CPR** –We had a good class on June 5, using the Golden Gate Yacht Club and will be scheduling another one in about six months in the same location. FREE TO

VOLUNTEERS, MUCH OF IT ONLINE, AND REQUIRED FOR CERTIFICATION AS CREW AND CAPTAINS.

You must complete the online portion before the class which has “HANDS ON” practice.



2. Certification sail on Aleta on July 11, leaving from Berkeley.
3. Golden Bear will be scheduling additional certification sails in the next few months.
4. And recall if come on a sail as a guest, make sure the captain checks out your skills and you can move along the certification list.

SIGN UP ON THE EVENTS PAGE.

OCEAN VOYAGES TRAINING

Recall that Lee and other captains will be continuing offshore training in Benjamin Walters, in August probably...Stay tuned.



BOSUN'S REPORT:

GOLDEN BEAR: Aside from some more work to waterproof the forward hatch, the extensive list of repairs is completed, including rebuilt pulpits. A check out sail occurred on June 20 and she will soon be sailing almost every

four or five days showing the students what she can do. And soon we will have a discussion as to putting some type of head on board.

ALETA: Steaming light being repaired, and high-water alarm installed. Rest of work now done. She is scheduling certification sails now and the goal is tandem probation sails with Benjamin Walters beginning in July. We need more trained crews and captains on this boat.

BENJAMIN WALTERS: Has passed all surveys. Putting in new decking just forward of dodger, new lifelines on the boat in the next six months at owner expense and deck leaks at shrouds that bring in water when the gunnels are under water have been repaired and are now water tight. All at owner expense. Ready to rock and roll and is already doing student sails.

BRIGATINE MATHEW TURNER CONNECTION GASLIGHT CONNECTION

Both the Mathew Turner and Bay Lights Charters are up and running again and have contacted us for working together on sails. A sail has been scheduled with Blue Water volunteers on the Mathew Turner and we have already had a test sail on Gas Light. As the schools and probation departments open, we will work to arrange voyages on those two great vessels. Further, the SF Police Wilderness Foundation may also arrange police-student sails. Stay tuned for dates.

ANNUAL PARTY AND NOMINATIONS FOR AWARDS NOW BEING SCHEDULED.

At last it is time to schedule our "annual party" which was put off last year. Andrew will contact Golden Gate Yacht Club to see if we can arrange a date in mid to late Fall. Stay tuned for a date. At the party we will have our awards for Volunteers of the Year, Bosun's award, and Partner of the Year. Due to the Virus, this will have to be a two-year Volunteer of the Year award, etc. Entertainment, food and a chance to see the large number of new members who have joined us over the past two years.

INSURANCE SEARCH:

Recall that our prior insurance carrier withdrew from the California marketplace. Our search for replacement was extremely frustrating and expensive. We ended up having to spend 16,000 plus to insure the three boats. An insurance committee was formed to work with one of our most knowledgeable surveyors (C and C) to advise as to what work we can do over the next year to lower the premiums. Steve, Joanne and Lee are on the committee and would welcome one or two more. Stay tuned. Our single largest expense is becoming...insurance...despite not a single claim for three decades!!

MONEY: \$24,009 in the bank. We will receive another \$5000 again from the Mary Norris Foundation. But 16,000 is soon to be spent on insurance as described above. The development committee is being expanded so we can raise sufficient funds for these major expenses. Please contact Shannon or David if you can help with fundraising efforts.

Remember, we need about \$30,000 a year for good maintenance alone, not including the large projects on the boat... And insurance costs have just about doubled...Boats eat money. OUR MONEY GOES TO PROGRAMS AND THE BOATS. NO PAYROLL, NO BIG OVERHEAD.

HISTORY OF BLUE WATER?

A brief history of Blue Water is now on our website...telling not just how and when but why...



INTERSHIPS AND SCHOLARSHIPS

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

INTERSHIPS: The Way Out...

Eric G, Lee, Andrew, and Joanne are on the committee seeking to establish and expand our internship program. Once completed, a full description of the Internship Program will be presented to probation departments, donors and businesses and we hope to get this off the ground in the next several months when the economy opens again...So far, we have had two great successes. Internships give these students both experience and the beginning of a resume' that can open worlds for them. Note that both Matthew Turner and Gaslight are interested in internships for our students. Once the pandemic is fully over, we shall begin the process of matching probation kids with businesses wanting to give them a door to our world.

SCHOLARSHIPS:

In terms of scholarships, recall that our longtime partner Sategna Foundation has agreed to fund an additional Sweeney student once our selection process is completed. While welcome, given the ongoing needs of current recipients, we need additional sources of funding for our scholarships. Sategna should not carry the entire burden here. Josue' from Camp Sweeney continues to excel in the nursing program, straight As!

THIS IS WHERE THE RUBBER HITS THE ROAD...THIS IS HANDS ON LIFE CHANGING. These programs go beyond slogans and bumper stickers. This is your chance to do good work that you can see and touch...even if you do not sail, we need volunteers to help on the scholarships and internships and if interested, contact Lee at lstimmel@stimmel-law.com. This changes lives...this is you lighting a match to push back the darkness. Join us!



Make and Mend Day to be Scheduled:

In the British navy a day would be set aside to clean and do minor repairs on the vessels and before the pandemic we did this annually. Time to put together a Make and Mend day, with all three vessels gathered together for all of us to do housecleaning, repairs and tell lies to each other about our sailing adventures. Pot luck and a lot of fun...Stay tuned for dates.

RACING PROGRAM

The **KNARR fleet** at St Francis is interested in exploring having some probation students under our auspices participate in their very active program. Andrew and Lee will be working with Alameda County and SF County to begin the process of seeing if these students would like the racing of the boats. Andrew owns a boat that is perfect to try out the experience. Probation kids on a racing team...these kids are super competitive, good sailors and this gives an outlet for their tremendous energy...and, down the road...racing against the yacht clubs?

STORY CATCHER APP FOR BLUE WATER!

Recall that April, who creates videos of family history is developing an application for iPhones that allows people to make and edit short videos on the phone...something that can be kept on the phone and used to memorialize our sails and show possible volunteers and funders precisely what we do and shared with other volunteers for outreach. April has made a breakthrough on the bugs and hopes to have a test program for us in the next month.

YouTube OF BLUE WATER SAILS?

It has been suggested that we explore how difficult it would be to set up Youtube channel to show the public what we are about and what these sails do for the students. We shall be exploring that with some of the techies in our organization.

NEXT MEETING: JULY 11, 2021 a Zoom meeting

It is likely that in September we will begin our in-person meetings again, perhaps with Zoom as a possible addition, either at Golden Gate Yacht Club or 48 Gold Street.

ZOOM:

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...and we will send out on our e mail list some days before the meeting as well. David Mischel dmischel@gmail.com



The sea is a unique mentor for these students. It challenges them in a locale that is both beautiful and awesome. It requires the best from them and does not allow one to “fast talk” one’s way out of failure to prepare and perform. The sea is “honest” in its demands...but has demands that one must meet. And the students respond...

From Middle School kids enjoying three hours on the Bay to incarcerated gang kids who are brought to a place they never thought they would see, Blue Water presents an opportunity for these children that is both unique and powerful. And...the students sense it and more often than not, rise to it.

We are all volunteers like you...no paid employees, just people giving their time and energy to these children. As one probation student said, “You are the first people with me that aren’t paid to be with me...” He said it sadly...but with wonder. Join us.