



NEWSLETTER and MINUTES JULY 13, 2021 (via ZOOM)

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JULY 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. NO ONE ON PAYROLL, EVERY DIME GOES TO THE PROGRAMS AND BOAT UPKEEP.

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...often with police on board to interact with children in a non adversarial setting. The police are ready to go...we just need the District to get up and running. Stay tuned.

COMMUNITY SAILS:

Community sails are continuing.

1. South Beach Summer sailing camp has the final sail of the initial three dates scheduled: July 29, on Golden Bear.
2. Two Greenager sails scheduled, one for August 7, one for August 21. Golden Bear
3. 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 live overboard practice drill (July 9) and we now have 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 will have VIPs from Camp Sweeney, family of friends of the students who are coming to see what the students have learned.... 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. GOOD WAY TO MEET LOTS OF OTHER BLUE WATER VOLUNTEERS. OUR PRESIDENT, SHANNON, WILL BE HANDING OUT THE CERTIFICATES ALONG WITH PROBATION OFFICERS AND ADMINISTRATORS.

The next class, now ten classes long over four months, begins a month or so after the graduation.

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 August.

CONTRA COSTA July 24 with their first sail, on Benjamin Walters and this will be the start of a full class. Stay tuned for the follow up dates

SF COUNTY is still working on the type of program they will want given the current state of confusion as to their own students. They hope to have a clear plan in the next few months and have indicated that Blue Water sails will be part of their program. Stay tuned.

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 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** –Our next class is scheduled for the Golden Gate Yacht Club on Saturday October 16. 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 18 went well and we are concentrating on building up certified crew and captains on this vessel. More to be scheduled soon.
3. **Golden Bear** will be scheduling additional certification sails in the next few months.
4. **Benjamin Walters** has certification sails scheduled for August 14 and September 12.
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.

SIGN UP ON THE EVENTS PAGE.

OCEAN VOYAGES TRAINING

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



BOSUN'S REPORT:

GOLDEN BEAR: The bow pulpit done and working well. The bow light in it needs work as does the forward hatch which Captain Colm is working on. The deck under one stanchion seems soft and we may have to do some work there. And soon we will have a discussion as to putting some type of head on board.

ALETA: Captain Paul M is developing a list of all the projects needed over the next year. Corrosion on the stringers below may be our first step and hatches may need additional work.

BENJAMIN WALTERS: Putting in new decking just forward of dodger, head rebuild and new lifelines on the boat in the next six months, all at owner expense. Ready to rock and roll.

Note all boats have passed surveys but we wish to develop a multi year plan to keep improving them.

MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT ON OUR IMMEDIATE TASKS THIS MONTH:

Thank you for attending the BWF Board meeting Tuesday!

Some action items as discussed:

- *Continuing our reach out to Partner Organizations to return to sailing, Lee will reach out to Scott (and Jill?) to see if we can get a reconnection with Marin County.*
- *Both potential Program Partners, Call of Sea (Matthew Turner) and Gaslight have been checked out, and it will be up to the Sail Coordinators (particularly the Probation programs since those students have a cohort and multiple sails scheduled) to engage them into their schedule. Let's see how this works out.*
- *The Racing Program (Lee and Andrew) will target Alameda County with a proposal to identify participants and trial run on Andrew's boat.*
- *Certification sails: Thank you, Andrew for saving the Aleta shake out sail on 7/18th! Golden Bear First Captains, we need cert sails scheduled on Golden Bear, please!*
- *Andrew to ask GGYC for space for Board Meeting in September (and on-going?), donate evening for a BWF dinner in November and possibly President's Cocktail Party earlier (Aug or Sept)? Shoot for the moon, right!?*
- *Shannon to work on re-wording the call for volunteers on the website to include non-sailors too.*
- *Colm/Andrew and Paul to get the list of boat repairs from the last survey to Lee and the Insurance committee ASAP. In the meantime, Colm is looking at the hatch on Bear and a bow light wiring and Paul is checking out the fiberglass peeling on Aleta.*
- *Marty will see if we can get one of our boats a commercial gig.*
- *With the drain on our funds for Insurance, we need help with the Development Committee. Everyone, please contact Shannon and David with any nominations, or volunteers with fundraising know-how. Also any suggestions for fundraising, grant opportunities etc. are welcome!*
- *Taking the party-of-friends suggestion, Shannon will plan the President's Cocktail Party pronto.*
- *Shannon and the legal team (Lee) will look into issues with requiring passengers to be vaccinated or masked. We currently ask our volunteers to be vaccinated and to contact Shannon if they want to sail and they are not vaccinated.*

Shannon Kastner, President

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. Blue Water volunteers have now checked out sails on both boats. 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. First step is to integrate a sail on Gas Light on one of the Alameda County sails and Joyce from Gaslight will be at the next probation department graduation ceremony.

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 due to the virus. Andrew will contact Golden Gate Yacht Club to see if we can arrange a date in late Fall probably in November. 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. These have always been a high light for our organization as we get to see all the volunteers and the partner organizations we work with and realize the power of what we do....Date in the next newsletter.

INSURANCE SEARCH:

Recall we spent over sixteen thousand dollars for insurance this year and that 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. We are developing an improvement budget to present to the board over the next few months so we can lower the premiums which are now are our single largest expense...despite not a single claim for thirty years!

MONEY: \$7320.00 in the bank. We will receive another \$5000 again from the Mary Norris Foundation. The development committee is being expanded so we can raise sufficient funds for these major expenses. Joanne raised about \$600.00 for her birthday now going to Blue Water.

Treasurer Marty has filled in and filed the tax forms for us, continuing his own tradition of doing the necessary, mundane work that keeps us going...

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 to 16,000 annually...Boats eat money. OUR MONEY GOES TO PROGRAMS AND THE BOATS. NO PAYROLL, NO BIG OVERHEAD. HELP?



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

INTERNSHIPS:

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. Know a business that would like an intern? Get onto the committee.

SCHOLARSHIPS:

In terms of scholarships, recall that our long time 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. Josue' from Camp Sweeney continues to excel in the nursing program, straight As but needs several thousand more for the coming year!

Want to change lives...? Really change them? *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. A click away and lives are changed...*



Make and Mend Days August 28-9

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. Next month we will do our own 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...a chance to meet many other volunteers and to get to know the boats very, very well. Sign up on line. We also have to bring Golden Bear to Berkeley and back to do this so we need crew for that...and a chance to up your certification.

RACING PROGRAM

Captain Andrew owns a 40 foot Olson which will be a good test boat for our proposed racing program and he is willing to allow it to be used. Andrew and Lee are to present a plan for the try out to Alameda County probation. 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? Other departments? There has been expressed interest from some yacht clubs to sponsor this...but first, let's see how it works...stay tuned.

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 hopes to have a test program for us in the next month.

UTUBE OF BLUE WATER SAILS?

It has been suggested that we explore how difficult it would be to set up Utube 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: AUGUST 10, 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... David Mischel
dmischel@gmail.com



From three hour exploration sails on the Bay for every Middle School and High School in San Francisco to intense four month courses for incarcerated students, Blue Water offers a variety of experience and challenges for our volunteers and students. You can show a student a whale or find an incarcerated student an internship. Up to you...

But one theme is constant...to help underserved and at risk children find out what the sea can offer as a challenge and mentor...it changes them...as it changed you.

Don't grouse about how much more we need to do for our disadvantaged populations...join us and do something about it....!

**May the bridges
I burn light the
way.**