



NEWSLETTER and MINUTES AUGUST 10, 2021 (via ZOOM)

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MEETINGS ARE ALL ON ZOOM UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE!

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.

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



SAN FRANCISCO SCHOOL DISTRICT SAILS:

It still is likely that 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. This thirty plus year tradition of taking every Middle and High School in SF sailing, often with police onboard, will continue as soon as the virus retreats. Stay tuned.

COMMUNITY SAILS:

Community sails are continuing.

1. A final Greenager sails scheduled for [August 21.](#)
2. Golden Bear Silver Springs High from Grass Valley [September 23.](#)
3. Weekend Adventure Sail (kids from the Tenderloin) [October 2.](#)

[Captain Hugh will be checking out possible additional sails with Alameda schools and Captain Les will be contacting Marin City to see if they would like to schedule sails.](#)

PROBATION DEPARTMENT SAILS:

ALAMEDA COUNTY JUVENILE PROBATION SECOND CLASS OF YEAR BEGINS. Eight classes beginning October 1 and lasting until the graduation sail in January. Two night sails and live MOB practice for the students. Sign up on the website.

EI DORADO PROBATION will be beginning soon and may bring down students from other probation departments in the rural area of the Sierras. Will begin in a month or so.

CONTRA COSTA PROBATION Now doing monthly sails, leaving from Berkeley.

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.



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. This 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.

Good chance for non sailors to learn a lot about the vessels...

Training & Certification:

1. **First Aid and CPR** –Our next class is scheduled for the Golden Gate Yacht Club on **October 23.** 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 More to be scheduled soon.
3. Golden Bear has two certification sails scheduled, 8/31 and 9/19 (yep, one a weekend and one a weekday.) There will be live MOB certification on the 8/31 sail.
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.

CURRICULUM COMMITTEE MEETING

Since we are now teaching many probation departments, we have decided to formalize our curriculum of the classes and the teaching aids we will be needing. Luckily, we have many current and former teachers in Blue Water and the current math teacher at Sweeney will also be on the committee. Stay tuned for our various proposals and if interested in joining, contact Lee at lstimmel@stimmel-law.com.

OCEAN VOYAGES TRAINING

Recall that Lee and other captains will be continuing offshore training in Benjamin Walters, in Fall probably...Depending on status of Covid.



BOSUN'S REPORT:

GOLDEN BEAR: The bow light needs work as does the forward hatch which Captain Colm is sending to Toronto to be worked on. The deck under one stanchion seems soft and we may have to do some work there.

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: High water alarm improved, gunnels and cockpit painted, engine goes in for 50 hour check in October. New winch covers and wheel cover being repaired. Owner expense.

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. Gaslight will be doing one class for the Camp Sweeney sails as we check out how the kids will react. We will be reaching out to Matthew Turner to determine what makes sense there.

ANNUAL PARTY AND NOMINATIONS FOR AWARDS DELAYED AGAIN.

With the return of Covid, we are delaying...again... our "annual party" which was already 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 or Winter. 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.

POLICE STARTING SAILS AGAIN:

With the District starting, the Wilderness Program of the SFPD will also become increasingly active and sailing with Blue Water is one of their activities. Les will be working with Officer Karl Ma to set up these sails once we get a schedule from the District.

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: \$8423.05.00 in the bank. We will soon receive another \$5000 again from the Mary Norris Preyer 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...and fighting with the local property taxing authorities who seem to forget too often we are tax exempt.

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. He needed \$5700 immediately for part of his tuition for the coming year which Blue Water fronted due to timing needs but hopes to be reimbursed from Satega. Josue' is working full time, taking loans and we are helping him make this happen.

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 Istimmel@stimmel-law.com. This changes lives.*



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 presented a plan for the try out to Alameda County probation which is excited to try it out. We will do a series of casual races with the students on board to see if they like it in the next few months. Previously, SF Probation was also very interested...but Covid has shut them down for now.

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 months.

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



Why do you go to the ocean? Why sail? Going five miles an hour at great expense in the wet and cold? What draws you, makes you want that more than most anything else in the world.

That same thing grabs our students...from Middle School kids on a field trip to incarcerated children never off the concrete before...that same thing changes them. You can bring them there...you can show them a new world.

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

NEXT MEETING SEPTEMBER 14 BY ZOOM.

