



NEWSLETTER and MINUTES SEPTEMBER 14, 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 late 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. We have been asked by the District to amend our agreement with them to assure that only vaccinated crew and captains are on the school sails...and have agreed to do so. As for when the sails begin....? 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. Golden Bear Silver Springs High from Grass Valley [September 23](#).

2. Weekend Adventure Sail (kids from the Tenderloin) [October 2 now over to November 13.](#)
3. TLC Family Services [October 7](#)
4. Sacred Heart Cathedral [November 6](#)

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

We have also been approached by two or three other community groups and will be scheduling those...the community sails are becoming as numerous as the District sails were...and those District sails will begin in the next few months we are sure...

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. An outbreak of Covid in their facility may put this over a month or so.

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 late Fall. One of their people will join us on the first Alameda Probation sail to see how we work.



MAKE AND MEND DAYS

Our Make and Mend for Aleta and Benjamin Walters on August 28-9 went great, people meeting in Berkeley, inventorying and cleaning the boats, doing minor repairs, having a great time. Potluck food and lies about past sailing experience abounded.

Our final MAKE AND MEND will be on Golden Bear in the City, probably around October 23...stay tuned for details.

MAKE AND MEND is a good chance for non-sailors to learn a lot about the vessels...and to meet the hundred or so volunteers that make this organization work!

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. Remember, YOU MUST COMPLETE THE ON LINE PORTION BEFORE ATTENDING THE CLASS WHICH HAS THE “HANDS ON” PRACTICE.



2. **Certification sail on Aleta** More to be scheduled soon.
3. **Golden Bear** has two certification sails planned, one this 9/19 and one more to be scheduled.
4. **Benjamin Walters** has a night MOB certification sail scheduled for November 6 and a day certification sail for December 11.
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.

The number of certified crew and captains has increased significantly in the last two months...as we gear up for the full reopening of our programs. Good people, good sailors and much energy. We do need to increase certified captains and crew for Aleta and that will be our primary goal over the next several months.

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. We are now exchanging outlines and plans. Stay tuned for our various proposals and if interested in joining, contact Lee at lstimmel@stimmel-law.com.

Volunteer Dan Jones encountered an organization that works with a portable van to give students hands on teaching on sailing and the ocean and they expressed interest in working with Blue Water. Dan and others will meet with them to discuss it further.

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: Captain Colm has sent the hatch to Canada for full repair, and it should be back in the next month. The bow light needs work. The deck under one stanchion seems soft and we may have to do some work there and that will be our priority after the hatch returns.

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: Wheel cover being repaired, some minor deck leaks and repair of the knot meter. Much cosmetics. New anchor in the works. All at owner expense.

BROCHURE FOR HANDING OUT

At the request of SF Harbor Master, we have revamped our brochure so it fits more easily in racks and that will be delivered in the next few weeks.

BRIGATINE MATHEW TURNER CONNECTION GASLIGHT CONNECTION

Bay Lights Charters who operate the charter vessel Gaslight which is a reproduction of a hay scow schooner out of Richmond are working closely with us now, having one of the Alameda County Probation sails on board and offering fund raising charters for our boat projects. Matthew Turner had a Blue Water volunteer sail, and we will be reaching out to Matthew Turner to determine what makes sense there. Given that we may be working with Marin Probation, in the same county as Matthew Turner, some sails there may make sense.

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. It looks now as the venue will be either South Beach or the Golden Gate Yacht Club and it will be in Spring. 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. Most likely March or April will be our “coming out from Covid” party.

WEB SITE DEVELOPMENTS

Our web gurus have now allowed pictures to be downloaded for each volunteer which will help captains and other volunteers get to know all of us. Go to the site and get your picture on your certification page.

Shannon is working on wording to make it clear that we need non sailing volunteers to help with not just administration but with our scholarship, internship, fund raising, party planning, etc. etc. Sailing is only part of what we do.

MONEY: \$17,724.63 in the bank. 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. He has succeeded in getting waiver of the state property taxes for Aleta which is what the law allows.

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.



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 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. Josue' from Camp Sweeney continues to excel in the nursing program, straight As. Josue' is working full time, taking loans and we are helping him make this happen.

We just paid for one of his most expensive texts and he continues his record of success.
We want to enlarge the program to more students. Want to help? E mail Lee at lstimmel@stimmel-law.com.



RACING PROGRAM

Recall Captain Andrew owns a 40-foot Olson which will be a good test boat for our coming 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.

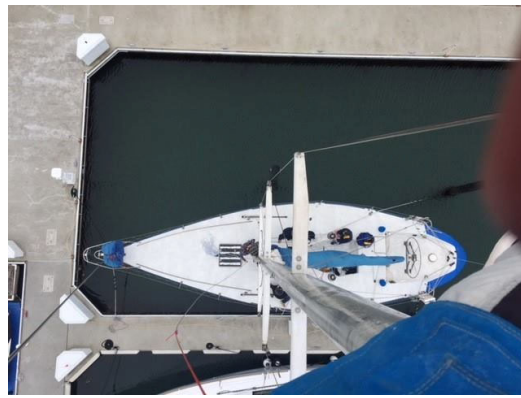
Captain Andrew will meet with the Sweeney people on October 1 at our probation sail and we will begin some scheduling.

Probation kids on race teams.... now THAT is something to think about...

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



One of the probation students, staring out at sea on a sail, softly commented, “This is always here, isn’t it.... but I’m not.”

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

NEXT MEETING OCTOBER 12 BY ZOOM.

