



## NEWSLETTER and MINUTES JANUARY 10, 2023 (via ZOOM)

[WWW.BLUEWATERFOUNDATION.ORG](http://WWW.BLUEWATERFOUNDATION.ORG).

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**ALL VOLUNTEER ALL THE TIME... THIRTY-FIVE YEARS OF NO ONE ON PAYROLL WITH EVERY DIME GOING TO THE PROGRAMS AND BOAT UPKEEP.**

**...AND WE ARE LOOKING FOR MORE VOLUNTEERS TO JOIN US IN THIS GREAT TRADITION.**

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



### SCHOOL DISTRICT SAILS:

#### SAN FRANCISCO SCHOOL DISTRICT SAILS:

The sails are now scheduled for the rest of the school year with a waiting list. Captain Les can always use more captains and crew, and this program...our oldest...is doing well after thirty-three years of taking kids out. On Golden Bear in the City. We are talking to the police about attending the sails again so they can interact with kids in a non-adversarial setting...the shortage of officers has caused us to have a hiatus of that for the past few years. We hope to start it again...**NEXT SAILS ON 1/26; 2/9; 2/23.**

#### MARIN COUNTY

*The Huckleberry youth program operates in Marin and plans to work with Blue Water. We had a conference call to plan the Marin program and anticipate sails early Spring. Our first regular program in Marin County! ALSO, Marine City which we took on two sails last year wants two more for this year and Captain Les will be setting those up.*

## PIEDMONT SCHOOL DISTRICT

Piedmont School District had their second sail, and all had a great time. They donated to Blue Water to make sure we can keep this going. Expect more sails.

### COMMUNITY SAILS:

Community sails are expanding with more scheduled for this year than at any time in the past: we need volunteers to sign up for those sails!!

1. *Huckleberry Program San Francisco* have indicated they want a program with Blue Water for the At Risk and other challenged students and possibly to have some of their students mentor our other students. They will contact us in January, and we will begin to schedule this new program...recall they are taking over many of the responsibilities once performed by SF Juvenile Probation.
2. *Hanna Center*, a residential program for traumatized children have now scheduled sails for **January 24 and February 28** and intend to continue once a month sails. On Golden Bear.
3. *Project Avery* (children with incarcerated parents) will be contacted by Captain Les...they are old friends of Blue Water.
4. *Greenagers*, a community group we have worked with for well over a decade, plans on sails later this year.
5. We had our second sail with the visually impaired who are already excellent sailors and anxious to get out on the water again and commence various programs, including a racing program and a program in which they mentor some of our probation students. If interested in joining this effort, contact Mariette at [Mariette.Lapiz@comcast.net](mailto:Mariette.Lapiz@comcast.net) who will be running the program.
6. On **January 26** Bear will be taking out the SF District LGBTQ service group.
7. PACT, a program dealing with adoption of children of color, would like to have sails with us and Captain Les has set up two double sails on Benjamin and Aleta, now set for **April 8 and April 15**, leaving from Berkeley.
8. The TI sailing program may be asking if our larger Blue Water boats can work with their students, long used to smaller boats. We will be discussing this further with them over the coming months.



### PROBATION DEPARTMENT SAILS:

ALAMEDA COUNTY JUVENILE PROBATION Our next class is scheduled with night sails, live overboard drills for the students, etc. The first two classes are 2/24 and 3/10. Many double sails with Benjamin and Aleta. Sign up for at least three of the classes since it is mentor-mentee, and you have to get to know your student.

EI DORADO PROBATION We will set up again in Spring. These kids come down early all the way from Tahoe...and love it.

CONTRA COSTA PROBATION The sails are now on hiatus with reorganization in the department...likely will again sail but under a different format. Stay tuned.

SF COUNTY is still working on the type of program they will want given the current state of confusion as to their own students. Huckleberry Program is handling most of their students and we expect regular sails to be set up in February, both a regular class type program (Life Skills Program, six classes) and perhaps another variation. This may mirror the program being set up for Marin County.

## RACING PROGRAM

Captain Andrew and his Olson 40 remains ready, and we are now putting together a racing team for visually impaired adults and youth. Practice is beginning in the next month and they hope to be racing within two months. Many of these blind sailors are veterans of sailing and races and we have been out on sails with them and are deeply impressed with both their skill set...and determination. Stay tuned.



## MAKE AND MEND DAYS – and Damage to Golden Bear

Recall a St Francis boat hit Bear while Bear was at her dock, and we will need some hull work also done. An emergency repair to keep the boat safe was done by some of our captains and we are using her on sails until a full job can be done to put her back looking good. We are still dealing with St Francis, who admit fault, to arrange for the repair but their insurance company is not offering what we consider appropriate compensation. Captain Andrew is in negotiations right now.

On **March 18** we have another full day Make and Mend Day for all three boats where minor work is done, potluck, and a lot of fun. Berkeley Marina and you can sign up on our events page.

## Training & Certification:

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

1. First Aid and CPR –Our last class was at Golden Gate Yacht Club on NOVEMBER 12, 2022. Another one will be scheduled in the next few months. FREE TO VOLUNTEERS, MUCH OF IT ONLINE AND REQUIRED FOR CERTIFICATION AS CREW AND CAPTAINS. We will be scheduling them regularly just as we do with certification sails.



2. Benjamin Walters had a gale certification sail and another day certification already scheduled for **2/17**.
3. Aleta next certification sail is **March 11**. Last MOB sail became an exercise in handling an emergency when stuffing gland gave way. More on that below.
4. Golden Bear has her next certification sail **on February 4**, with live overboard drill.
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.
6. **Boaters Cards** are now required by the State for most Californians, and we have made it a requirement for certification. The class is entirely online, easily taken and useful to refresh your knowledge.



We have many new certified captains, including first captains, as well as new certified crew. Given our expanding programs, this is great news.

## OCEAN VOYAGES TRAINING

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



## BOSUN'S REPORT:

**GOLDEN BEAR:** We still need repair due to accident with St Francis, but she is capable of sailing and is out more than once a week. The soft part on the deck near a stanchion needs work and the lifelines may need replacing soon. New dock lines are installed, and we may put cleats on her. A porta potty is likely to be installed.

**BENJAMIN WALTERS:** Deck work rebedding some of the plugs on the teak decks. Jib and staysail inspected, and some repairs made by Hood Sails. All at owner expense.

**DIVINE WIND:** Captain Andrew reports all is well on board, and she is ready to race.

**ALETA:** Despite spending many thousands at BMC to work on the prop, etc, the packing gland gave way during an overboard drill resulting in water pouring into vessel. Captain Richard and his excellent crew handled the emergency and the Berkeley Marina, once the boat was back in her berth, came with emergency pumps since the bilge pump on Aleta had burned out. Buckets saved the boat, and she is now hauled at BMC who admit they are responsible and need to fix this. KUDOS TO THE CAPTAINS AND CREW WHO CALMLY HANDLED THIS EMERGENCY AND BROUGHT THE BOAT HOME!

## **ANNUAL PARTY AND NOMINATIONS FOR AWARDS FOR SPRING**

It looks now as the venue will be the Berkeley Yacht Club and it will be in late 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 highlight 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. Want to help set all this up? Contact Lee at [lstimmel@stimmel-law.com](mailto:lstimmel@stimmel-law.com)

**MONEY:** \$25,387.00 in the bank after our massive payments for past Aleta repair. We are still hassling with Alameda County over tax exemption for berth in Berkeley (the boat is already exempt.) Shannon is working hard to raise additional funds and could always use help from the rest of us.

Remember, we need over \$50,000 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.... No payroll costs...all volunteer...but boats cost...so all you can do to raise money is welcome. You can contribute online at our website and since we are a nonprofit, all donations are tax deductible....

**President Shannon is planning a fund-raising party on Gaslight in the Spring and Benjamin Walters has received sums for taking groups out. She is also putting in our application to the St Francis Sailing Foundation now that Covid is lowered to the point where our sails have begun again.**



## **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. 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: the new **Italian Program**:

Josue, the former Sweeney student, is going into his last year of a BS in nursing and we received a dedicated donation of six thousand dollars to help him make it through the last expensive year. Think...from incarcerated at Sweeney to the top of the nursing profession...while working full time and getting all A's. An inspiration to the rest of us. He has agreed to go back to Sweeney and talk to the other students about how he made it...and they can as well.

In terms of scholarships, **Sategna Foundation**, has developed a new form of grant for our Sweeney students. The founder owns a home in a village in Tuscany in which community is all. The concept is to send one or two students there for two weeks where they will live with the founder and be exposed to an entirely different world, one in which values, connection and culture is remarkably different. IF combined with an internship or scholarship upon his return, may be the type of thing to change a life.

This program is being developed with help from various probation departments and will begin THIS year. Lee and Jim are putting together the Italian program and invite others to help.

Want to help? E mail Lee at [lstimmel@stimmel-law.com](mailto:lstimmel@stimmel-law.com).



#### **ZOOM...**

We have a new zoom link...the old one expired....so 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](mailto:dmischel@gmail.com)

**NEXT MEETING FEBRUARY 14, 2022, BY ZOOM.**

35 years of doing this.... over 35,000 students taken to sea...the first kids we took out may have grandkids now! JOIN US AND KEEP THIS TRADITION GOING...

