



Windwords

*Newsletters are also
posted on our website*

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From the Helm



Sailing with my new wife.....

Last Monday afternoon, the rake broke digging into the newly roto-tilled front yard... an omen; it was time to go sailing. Lynn and I reserved Bravo, hopped on the boat for a quick check out. The wind was light with gray skies looming overhead, a perfect day to go sailing. It had been a while since we pulled the starter rope, untied the fenders and hoisted the sails together, too long. Smiles sneaked across our faces as we slipped away from the dock and across the water for an afternoon sail. Tacking and Jibbing in Keller Cove as a storm front loomed on the horizon, I told Lynn that we had already sailed an hour, she thought we had just gotten started. The storm would be here soon, there were white caps racing toward us and the fun began. Lynn even let out a little yelp of excitement as the boat heeled over and surged away. The winter rust was coming off Lynn's helming skills and she remembered more than she thought. I was just glad that she let me take the helm and steer the boat for a little while. The rain front was closing in on us; Lynn and I didn't quite make it back to the dock before the rain started. We were damp not drenched after playing hooky from yard work. We hurried up the dock ramp and into the truck just as the rain started to pour. We looked at each other satisfied with our afternoon sail.

We hope to see you out on the bay on the next sunny day. Remember, it is ok to play hooky, you don't even have to break a rake to go.



Skipper Butch

Club Events

Annual Spring Bar-B-Q—POSTPONED AGAIN DUE TO WEATHER!

The weather simply refuses to cooperate this year for our spring Bar-B-Q. Angel Island is all soggy! We've decided to postpone it indefinitely. Instead of choosing another date right now, we will pick one after we have seen a solid week or two of sunshine. Perhaps we'll call it a "Summer Bar-B-Q" this year!

Poker Run and Open-House Bar-B-Q—April 29th!

March's Poker Run and Bar-B-Q were a smashing success—even the weather played nice! Deborah



Rapsinski, Andrew Middleton and crew won the event with an amazing 3-of-a-kind hand – triple nines! Many people fought the currents and picked up cards from the buoys under sail, others used their motor. Either way, everyone

had a great time. Butch started up the Bar-B-Q about 4 in the afternoon and cooked all the burgers. We'll bring more



next time! Check the calendar on our website for all of the scheduled future dates. The next Poker Run will be a bit more challenging as far as Buoy locations and clues, so be prepared to do some navigating!



Ladies and Men's Sails

It's the right time of year again to start scheduling monthly Ladies and Men's Sail

Days. The dates are up on the web calendar. The first Ladies Sail Day is April 10th. Ladies sails will be on Mondays this year so that you won't have to put up with Matt or Butch on your boat! They didn't look good in skirts, anyway! Men's sail days will be held on Saturdays this year, so that more people can join in the fun! The first one is scheduled for April 15th. The tide book has convinced Butch that South Beach will be a good destination. Please come out and bring some friends! The Ladies are still making us guys look bad with all of their sign-ups! These events are free to all and guests are welcome. Let us help you get your friends hooked on sailing—they'll never forgive you! The only cost you are responsible for is buying your own lunch at whatever SF Bay destination the wind and sea will carry us to.

Friday Night Sails

Friday night sails will resume starting April 7th. Bring your closest friend and a warm cuddly blanket for your laps. Enjoy a romantic sail with Butch and Lynn to a dinner destination on the bay. The cost is \$100 per person and includes dinner. You will also be responsible for your own alcohol bill.

Classes & Specialty Classes

Bareboat Charter Class

Bareboat classes have resumed for 2006 and are filling up fast. If you'd like to sign up for a bareboat class, you will have to plan a month or two in advance. Call the office and reserve your spot! There are currently openings in May and July. These classes will be filling up soon so don't wait.

April Boat Show

Remember to stop by and visit with us at the Tradewinds Sailing School Booth during the April Boat Show at Jack London Square. The dates are April 19th to 23rd.

Review Classes

This year's review classes are scheduled and up on the web calendar. If you'd like to get into a one day Basic Keel Boat Review, Basic Coastal Cruising Review or Bareboat Charter Review class, check the dates and let us know.

Boat Checkouts

Checkouts have resumed and are in full swing, including Tuesday and Thursday evenings. Check the web page calendar and call us to get signed up for checkouts. Please remember, we have made checkouts free for you, they are not free for us! Be courteous and treat them like you would a paid class. If you must cancel, please give us as much notice as possible. Remember, before you can reserve any boat you need to attend a checkout for that boat.



Housekeeping

Boat moves:

We have been shuffling some boats around in the two marinas again. Please check the website for their latest locations (there is a link in the members section). Please pay close attention to the location when you make your online reservation, since it will tell you what slip the boat is currently in.

Reservations!

Summer is coming and the boats will be getting much busier. Remember, you are responsible for keeping track of your reservations. When you reserve online, please pay close attention to the boat, slip, dates and times. We've had a couple of mix-ups where someone took the wrong boat or took a boat on the wrong day.

Suggestions? Comments?

We are striving to provide the best sailing atmosphere possible to our members and students. If you have any suggestions as to how we could serve you better, please let us know. We welcome comments, both positive and negative about the way we operate our business. Catch us on the docks or feel free to email us your comments.

Butch: Butch@tradewindssailing.com
Brandy: Brandy@tradewindssailing.com
Matt: Matt@tradewindssailing.com



Specials

Save some \$\$\$ with our April Boat Show special!

Share your sailing passion with your friends! They can take advantage of our 3-class package price of only **\$995** until the end of April.

Hats, Shirts, Visors and Gloves!

Stop by the office and pick up your Tradewinds logo gear. You've been asking us for hats and visors with the Tradewinds Logo—now they are here! Polo shirts are \$20, Hats and Visors are \$15. All prices include tax. If you need some sailing gloves, they are \$20!

Lifejackets

We have auto-inflating suspender style lifejackets (with harness) in the office for \$180 including tax! Just stop by to purchase one. We recommend them for anyone who sails because they are much more comfortable than the ones on the boats.



Articles

Sea Story is on it's return voyage from Mexico

We'd like to share an email we received from Jerry Rouillard on his way back up the coast:

Hello from Scenic Bahia Tortuga, or Turtle Bay in English...

Wynn, Dennis and I cruised in late this morning after (finally) a nice 170 mile run up from San Juanico where we laid over last Wednesday. We actually left there at midnight to get a daylight arrival here in Turtle Bay, so we got a chance to take advantage of the waning moon that has been helping us navigate ever since we left Puerto Vallarta. For those of you who haven't had a chance to spend some personal, late night time with a bright moon on the open sea in a sail boat, let me just say it's one of the treats that make the nasty weather and the rest of the discomforts of an extended voyage well worth it...

Met an interesting couple on another boat at San Juanico. John and Amanda are from the San Francisco Bay area, and have been out cruising since 1999. They have been all the way to Nova Scotia and are now heading back up to Newport Oregon, where his parents live. Of all the places they have been, Caribbean etc, the Canadian Maritimes is their favorite. Didn't expect to hear that, but they were pretty emphatic, so I don't doubt it really registered with them. Will have to file that for future reference. Of course they also mentioned that coming north on this coast is some of the toughest sailing they have done....

Before San Juanico, we rested briefly at anchor in Bahia Santa Maria, close by Magdalena Bay and about 190 miles north of Cabo San Lucas. Just before we left, some Mexican fisherman sold us a couple of lobsters for our departure lunch. Good thing we fixed them then, because the next day and a half were far too rough to be boiling anything on the boat. Gotta be careful how you plan your menu on stretches like that....

Right now, we're the only sailboat in Turtle Bay, which is the first time we've been quite this special here. Of course there's also a 100+ foot power catamaran at anchor right next to us, so we're pretty small stuff in that comparison. Something just a bit wierd in seeing that big and expensive a boat in a dusty and very rustic little byway like this....

No dead whales in the Bay this time, but plenty of dolphins and seals..

We're headed out early tomorrow for the second half of the Baja outside. Weather looks OK so far, but experience tells us that can all change quickly.

Sea Story is doing fine, and so is her crew. More when we get to San Diego next week, weather and luck notwithstanding....

Jerry