

# WINDWORDS

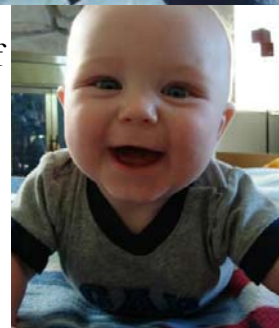
*Newsletters are also posted on our website*

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## The Skipper's Away...



The Crew will play! We hope everyone had a wonderful holiday season. We had close to 20 relatives for a week and we are glad to get back to work and relax! Butch and Lynn ordered us up some cold and nasty weather and then flew off to the British Virgin Islands for a few weeks. I'm sure they are thinking about us, though (yah, right)!



Come on in and say "Hi!" and get your classes planned and scheduled for the coming year. We have announced that we are adding Celestial Navigation and Offshore Passage-making to our list of ASA courses. These classes are looking similar to Coastal Navigation and Advanced Coastal Cruising in that they tend to fill up very quickly for the year. If you don't think about them in the spring and get them scheduled, chances are you'll end up waiting to get into one next year.

We recently sent out a policy update letter for our members. By now everyone should have had a chance to read it - if you are a club member and haven't received one please contact us so we can make sure you get a copy. The letter highlights many exciting changes for 2007 - maybe we have too many New Year's Resolutions - but hey we have to stay busy, right? You will soon see some wonderful additions to our web-site, including being able to see your course history and charter history at Tradewinds. Also online will be a new and improved crew list so you can find other Tradewinds members and students to enjoy sailing with.

Checkouts for the spring are up on the web, it's always good to be checked out on every boat in case you want to make a last minute reservation. Take a look at the web calendar and call us if you can make any of them.

We are looking forward to an exciting new year of sailing and instructing. We hope to see each and every one of you out here enjoying the bay. Remember, just because you don't have to stop by the office when you sail the boats doesn't mean you can't come on in and say "Hey" and tell us your sea-stories!

-Matt, Brandy and AJ

## Classes & Specialty Classes

### Classes

This year's class schedule is up on the website. We just want to let everyone know about the classes that are filling up and new classes on the schedule. Call the office and sign up for your classes today.

#### **Basic Coastal Cruising - 25 spots**

Feb 17, Feb 24, Feb 26, Mar 3, Mar 10, Mar 14, Mar 17, Mar 24, and Mar 26 (start dates for the class)

#### **Bareboat Chartering - 21 spots**

Mar 29-30, Apr 14-15, Apr 26-27, Apr 28-29, May 5-6, May 19-20, & June 2-3

#### **Coastal Navigation - \$295 - 7 spots - Requirement for Advanced Coastal Cruising**

Mar 31-Apr 1

#### **Advanced Coastal Cruising - \$1195 - 12 spots - Requirement for Offshore Passage Making**

May 18-20, July 20-22, Aug 17-19, Sept 14-16

#### **Celestial Navigation - \$295 - 2 spots - Requirement for Offshore Passage Making**

Mar 17-18

#### **Offshore Passage Making - \$1695 - 7 spots**

June 7-10, July 5-8, Aug 2-5

### Specialty Classes

Here are the first of this year's specialty classes. If you want to sign up for any of these classes please call the office.

#### **Advanced Motoring & Docking Class - \$150**

March 3, May 6, June 10

#### **Advanced Anchoring Class - \$150**

March 18, May 20, June 24

#### **Catamaran Basics Class - \$195**

Mar 11, June 3

#### **Basic Keelboat, Basic Coastal, Bareboat Reviews - \$125**

May 12th, June 16th, July 15th



### Add a Few Boat Certifications to Your Tradewinds Resume

We have scheduled this spring's checkouts. We want everyone checked out on every boat - take a look at the calendar and see if you can't get a new boat certification or two on your Tradewinds Resume!

## Skippers Tip

When learning to sail, you are going to screw something up. Probably more than one thing, and probably more than once. It's unavoidable. It's also perfectly normal.

Even if you've sailed for fifty years, mistakes inevitably continue to come with the sport. (No matter how long you've been at it, you can't anticipate every single combination of weather/equipment failures.) A beginning sailor is, naturally, going to make uninformed judgment calls until his or her experience meter rises. Never waste precious time beating yourself up over sailing mistakes. The key is to expect them, *learn from them*, chalk them up to experience and then get on with your sailing.

## *Housekeeping*

### *New Improvements:*

Progressing forward into the spring, we are adding new features and improvements to the club that we think everyone will find exciting and useful. You now have the ability to add yourself to an online waitlist if none of your favorite boats are available for a day that you'd like to sail. You will also be able to add yourself to a more user-friendly online crew list to meet others to sail with. We plan to add functionality that will allow you to update all of the information you have on file with us such as email address, mailing address and phone numbers as well as signing yourself up for newsletters and special announcements. In addition, you will be able to look up your charter history, class history, and upcoming class enrollments online. Also in the works are improvements to the online boat availability calendar and the class calendar. Float Plans will be available on our website for members to fill in and submit to us electronically. ACC certified members taking boats out of the bay will be required to file the float plan with us. This year we are adding to our curriculum some more advanced ASA certification courses, including Cruising Catamaran Sailing, Celestial Navigation and Offshore Passage-making.

### *New Reservation Period:*

Another change that you may have noticed is a third reservation period each day. Over the past year we have noticed that many members like to sail early in the morning and return boats in the early afternoon and others prefer to sail in the afternoon and return to enjoy the sunset at the dock. In order to provide more opportunities for each member to go sailing, we've added a third reservation period. Members will now be able to book boats from 9am to 3pm, 3pm to 9pm, and overnight from 9pm to 9am. Of course you can still book a boat for the entire 24 hour period or combine any two consecutive reservation periods (i.e. 9am to 9pm, 3pm to 9am, etc.).

### *New Reservation Policy:*

In order to continue to make Tradewinds unlimited sailing program feasible and functional, we have extended the two-weekend day reservation rule to include weekdays. This means that our reservation system will only allow any given member to hold two reservations at a time, the total of which will be limited to 48 hours. Due to increased boat use during the week, it has become necessary to put this rule into effect to allow all members an equal opportunity to sail each boat. There will also be a limit to how far in the future reservations can be made. The system will not allow reservations to be made more than 90 days in advance.

### *Retirement of TARTS:*

As we continue to update computer systems and functionality, we've noticed that greater than 99% of reservations are being made on our web system. We've decided to retire the TARTS system (telephone touch tone reservations) that has served us so well over the years. If you are not near a computer with web access, you can always call us to make reservations.

### *New Cancellation Policy:*

Along the lines of our K.I.S.S. (Keep it simple, skipper!) philosophy, we will be changing the way our system handles cancellations. In the past it was a confusing formula involving the daily boat rate. Going forward any cancellation within 48 hours of the beginning of the charter (i.e. 9:01am Thursday for a 9am Saturday charter) will incur a \$50 cancellation charge.

### *Websites*

Here are some sites we think you'll enjoy. If you have any sites that you use please feel free to send me a link so we can share it with others.

<http://www.animatedknots.com>

<http://www.tradewindssailing.com/members/weather.shtml>

<http://www.schoonerman.com/sailingterms/>

<http://users.aol.com/sailgower/lexicon.html>



## Club Events

### Farallone's Trip

Join us on a 42' catamaran "Cat Balou" for a day trip to the Farallone Islands. The Islands are about 20 miles west of the Golden Gate. On this trip you will experience first hand what sailing is like on the California Coast. Everyone should experience this trip at least once. We will be running these trips on April 15th (sold out) and June 16th. The cost is \$195 per person.

### Sailing Adventures

#### **La Paz, Mexico: July 11-18, 2007 - \$1485 per person**

Sunny days, warm clear turquoise waters, legendary sea life. Come explore the Sea of Cortez with us aboard luxury bareboat sailing yachts. A fantastic price, and it includes airfare, yachts, hotels, even food! Only 6 boats, and cabins are going fast- don't delay, sign up today!

Go to the Sailing Adventures page on our website at:

[www.TradewindsSailing.com](http://www.TradewindsSailing.com) for all the details...



#### **Coastal Cruising on a ULBD-65 - \$495 per leg**

March 31 – April 11, 2007: San Diego to San Francisco

A unique adventure, cruising aboard our ULDB-65 race boat. Fast and fun, but in cruise mode, with furling sails, electric windless, etc. Explore the coast of Mexico or California, with lots of stops, anchoring, and relaxing. Only 2 spots left – don't miss out on the fun, sign up today!

### Suggestions? Comments?

We strive 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](mailto:Butch@tradewindssailing.com)

**Brandy:** [Brandy@tradewindssailing.com](mailto:Brandy@tradewindssailing.com)

**Matt:** [Matt@tradewindssailing.com](mailto:Matt@tradewindssailing.com)

## Boat Improvements

- Amazing Grace is sporting new batteries and charging system (be sure to leave the AC breaker on for the charger), new Y-valve and other plumbing. A new dodger is also under construction (so if you sail the boat while it is off, please don't report it stolen - we know!)
- Mr. Magoo, Rocky and Natasha have new single - lever throttle/shifter mechanisms. Pushing the red button allows you to throttle up the engine without putting it in gear. With the button not depressed, moving the handle forward shifts the boat into forward gear and moving it back shifts into reverse gear. Call the office if you get on one of these boats and have questions.
- Bullwinkle and Rocky also have new VHF radios. The mic plugs into a connection out in the cockpit. All of the radio controls are on the mic. Please be extra careful when plugging in and removing the mics - a bent pin inside the connector cost us about \$60 in parts and 2 hours labor. Mics should be stored inside the boat when not in use.
- Galen has a new mainsail from Quantum. Please pay close attention to it as you furl and unfurl it. Lets go easy on it as we break it in. Be sure and loosen both the boom vang and the main sheet during furling and unfurling. A little bird also told us to mention this: even though it is a roller furling, you shouldn't roll it up with wind it like a jib. Please point directly into the wind and let things bang around a bit while you furl it.
- Robbie J has a new alternator - no more battery charging problems.
- Expect to see Chocolate Float (or is it Taz?) back in the fleet with a new engine and other improvements soon.

## Specials

### Basic Keelboat Class

**\$ 100 Savings! Winter Special** - Basic Keelboat Class - **\$425**. Class must be started by March 31st, 2007. This makes a great present for someone just getting interested in sailing. Gift certificates available. Take advantage of this winter special to get your friends and family hooked on the sport that you enjoy so much.