



Summer/Fall

September 2008

Commodore Comments

Thanks to the work of many enthusiastic members our club is in good shape. I'm going to not mention names so that each wonderful, dedicated and enthusiastic member can say or think, "YES! That's me! I did that!." And know what? You're RIGHT...each and every one...RIGHT AGAIN!

At our well-attended monthly board meetings, the diligent work of our club treasurer tells us where we are financially - and where we need to be. We can always use more cash - boats don't come cheap. One key is to attract more members who are excited about club activities. The subject of dues for 2009 will soon be on the board's agenda - your opinions are important and welcome. Please call a board member or come to a meeting.

Job Site, our donated 32ft catamaran, is now in stable condition. She suffered hull damage after breaking free from her mooring three days after the club accepted this very generous donation. Job Site still needs work; fabrication of new rudders, haul out for further hull repair and painting, and standing rigging work on the fore-stay and roller furling tracks. That's the short list. Now that Job Site is secure we can re-focus attention on Private Dancer our new 26ft Folkboat.

Private Dancer has had most of the preparation work done prior to a complete re-painting. Painting will include interior of the cabin, decks, hull-topside and hull-bottom paint. A thousand dollar paint and supplies order has been placed with Port Supply and we are awaiting word of the barge shipment from Honolulu any day now. Like to help, and learn some new skills? Please call a board member.

WindSong is now out of the water and has found a new home as a "Land-Yacht" in the care of a member who will use her as accommodations and as a landscaping feature. The club has benefited greatly from the many expensive parts that were salvaged.

On Sunday August 24th we completed a series of racing Sundays which included the SunFish fleet and, on the last day, our big boat fleet. Some 34 members got to try going fast around the buoys and their sailing skills improved markedly. Who wins is far less significant than all the real-world, boat-handling experience that each of these skippers took home. Congratulations racers.



David Beardsley sailing his cutter out of Hilo Bay.

Instruction for new sailors and new members on Sailing Sunday 101 continues with good turnouts and many new members who sign up. In addition, we completed another three-week, summer fun program for some very junior sailors in cooperation with Kamaaina Kids. Fun, Fun, Fun for young and old.

Our big boats continue to be popular. Skippers who have completed the club-certification process - on-line test material, knot knowledge, three check-out sails, and paid their big-boat dues can reserve a big boat for any day of their choosing. Our user-friendly web page gives easy access to document big boat reservations, as well as repair and maintenance needs. All our big boat skippers care for these boats as if they were their own. A "Culture of Caring" has been a club ethic and goal for many years - it is being achieved. Thank you skippers! Thank you members!

Finally, our club newsletter continues its excellence - primarily on-line and, for some who request, by mail. Many thanks to those who submit interesting articles, fabulous photos, and to all editors, past and present, who put it together. Great job editors!

See YOU on the water, Ron Reilly Commodore 2008

Latest Message from Barry and Pat on Pacific Voyager.

Barry & I are still cruising on our Fuji 45 sailboat, Pacific Voyager. Remember we sailed to Alaska in 2003 then enjoyed 4 seasons in British Columbia, Canada. We left there after having to install a new engine in May of 2007 and slowly sailed south along the US coast visiting friends and sightseeing along the way. We entered Mexican waters on December 10th and have worked our way down the Baja Mexico coast to Cabo San Lucas then over to Puerto Vallarta & Barra de Navidad on the mainland Mexico coast. We visited Mazatlan on our trip back up north then sailed to La Paz back on the Baja side. Now that hurricane season is back, we must sail further north into the Sea of Cortez.

It is a very hot and humid desert place this time of year. Our clothes and skin are constantly drippy. We have cut the sleeves and collars out of our shirts to get more air. We snorkel or jump in the water lots just to get cool sometimes in our lycra suits to protect us from jellyfish stings. The water temperature is between 83 – 87 now and not really refreshing at the high end. The freezer has now become a refrigerator as it cannot compete with the very warm seawater against the hull of the boat. Most of the time it is too hot to cook. You try to come up with all sorts of creative recipes.

We use our watermaker every day and are drinking at least 2 times what we usually consume. We have to be very cautious of dehydration and keep our electrolytes up. Gatorade is a necessity often. The water we make from seawater tastes good but is devoid of minerals so must be replaced with vitamin and mineral supplements. Our 5 big solar panels are working away converting the sun into water -- the panels convert the sunlight to energy which charges our 6 big golf cart batteries which run the water maker. It is an older style and makes only 1 ½ gallons an hour.

We have to keep all the fresh water off the decks as the bees are craving water too, and hundreds of them can come in minutes, and we never leave wet towels hanging on deck. We keep all our drinking water in closed bottles and sodas require a piece of paper towel stuffed into the opening. A big gulp of soda with a bee in it would not be a pleasant experience. At some anchorages we hear what appears to be firecrackers. It is really bat rays doing belly flops on the water. They look like they are having so much fun. We also hear that rattlesnakes and scorpions are numerous, but we have not seen any yet. Some areas have huge cactus and other areas practically nothing at all. We often come upon a really dead looking plant and find a beautiful blossom on it. The waterfalls and cool breezes of Canada are long gone. A fin whale cruised through the anchorage this morning and a lone coyote checked out every inch of the beach for scraps of food. There are a few totally harmless whale sharks reported to be here. We will try to swim with them.

It was Barry's turn to moderate the cruisers' net this morning. Other boaters within single sideband radio range report in to say who and where they are and then Don Anderson from Oxnard, California is called and gives us the weather report for the Mexico coast. We are now powering 5 miles to a small town where we hear there is a grocery store (tienda) and internet coverage. A small café is reported to have hamburgers. Haven't had one of those in a long time. Going to try to sign up for Skype today so we can make phone calls using our computer. Amazing !!

I am now sitting here in the cockpit enjoying the little breeze that has finally started to blow. We put up the com-

plete awning to try to get a little shelter from the intense sun. It has taken me months to sew it from the tan shade cloth from Home Depot. The boat is 45' long and 12' wide at the mid section. We hung it high enough to walk under and have added 30" panels along the sides. It really helps, but when the wind totally stops, even our fans do little to help. The awning has to be taken down every night as the sudden fierce winds called "Chubascos" can come up to 30 - 50 knots in minutes.

There are only about 20 of us left here for the summer. Hundreds of others have left their boats here and flown home or sailed to the south Pacific islands. There are probably quite a few who stay at marinas in places like La Paz. In November (after hurricane season) we will slowly work our way south and eventually through the Panama Canal then back north to the Texas coast. It is, however, well known that cruisers change their minds.

Fifteen of us hid in the only hurricane hole here, Puerto de San Juan, last week. Tropical Storm Julio passed over La Paz with lots of wind and rain. It came north along the backbone of the mountains instead of the water so lessened slowly. Other places north of us got 35knot winds and loads of horizontal rain. By the time it got down to us there was no wind or rain. We escaped that one. Thanks for your prayers. We will have to meet all these boats there again if another one forms which is likely since we have another 1 ½ months of hurricane season. It gets really scary.

We have learned to play a couple of games with other cruisers. One is a game using dominos with up to double 12. The mind and eyes really have trouble with all those dots at times. The other game is Baja rummy. We really depend on each other down here on our boats and have to be very self sufficient. At times there may be 10 of us in an anchorage or at other times we may be alone for awhile. You try to have spare parts for everything and lots of tools and how-to books for all your equipment. We go for long periods of time without internet or cell phone coverage. Just buying groceries takes a very long time. It nearly always starts with taking your dinghy a good ways to shore and a long ride back if the conditions have gotten sloppy. Long walks with backpacks or carts are common. You may have to go to several different stores to get all you need. Getting it into the rocking boat without losing anything or getting hurt is a challenge. Washing all the produce off with bleach and removing all the store wrappings is next. Finding where to put everything is a challenge also.

A huge black cloud came over the hill last night, and the wind went from 20 knots to 51 in about a minute. There was lightning, thunder, sideways rain. The boat was heeling over quite a bit as we tried to get the awning down. That is the first rain we had seen in a long time, but we could have done without the fierce wind. We all survived it and will now have to watch for these things around the clock as the convection builds huge thunder clouds most every day.

We fish almost everyday. Our favorites are the Spanish Mackerel and Dorado. We have fish tacos often and bbq it at other times. We love fishing.

Later --- well it happened. We swam about 30 yards from the boat to the little whale shark. He (or she) was about 12 - 14 ft. long, a blue gray color with tan spots. A huge mouth always open as it sucks in 1500 gallons of water per minute.

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2008 Summer Racing Series Racing Results

BY SAILOR												5 Race
Sailor#	Sailor name	race 1.1	race 1.2	race 1.3	race 2.1	race 2.2	race 2.3	Race3.1	Race3.2	Race4.1	Race4.2	Avg. score
3	Ron	3	1		1		1			1	1	1.00
8	Paul Hirst		4	2				1	1	4		2.40
15	Barrett Werk				2	6	4	1	3	4	2	2.40
12	Sarah Kay				4	2	5	2	2	4	4	2.80
2	Janine Cohen	4	2	3	4					3		3.20
9	Irene		7	6	3			1	5	5		4.00
7	Heather	5	3	5		3				5		4.20
17	Kim	5	3	5		3				5		4.20
18	Mike		7	6	3			2	4			4.40
6	Terry	6	6	7	5	4						5.60

Thanks to all for participating in the 2008 Summer Racing Series. At least 34 people sailed in one or more races and several participated in 6 or 7 races. The event was scored on the basis of 5 best races. For those who had more than 5 races they had "throwout races" so the 5 best scores were used. Final scores were calculated for those who had 4 or more races. All results are posted on the website blog. Please do not hesitate to let the board know what you'd like to see in future racing programs.



Left: The crew of Melekai as they finished the big boat race. Andrew Sheppe was at the helm and Suzzane Middlestradt was working the lines during the race. As they crossed the finish line they gave each other a high five.

Below: Paul Hirst sailing Cheers with a friend.



Aloha All Clubmembers,

In my enthusiastic nearsightedness, I thought that I would be able to handle the job of secretary for the club, because I had stopped searching for a cruising vessel and figured one would find me.

Well, Surprise!

One came up and blind-sided me right out from nowhere.

This leaves me in a position that I will be leaving here 9/10/08, and cowardly abandoning the club without a secretary.

ANY CLUBMEMBER WHO CAN READ, WRITE AND HAS ACCESS TO A COMPUTER IS ABLE TO DO THIS JOB. YOU WILL ALSO BE GREATLY PRAISED FOR YOUR COMMUNITY SERVICE AND GOODWILL.

So if any person out there thinks that they could take minutes for the last three board meetings of the year, you will be our heroes.

Just a reminder, If I, Scott Scott can do it, You can probably do it better.

Aloha, Thank you, and I am not sure when I will be returning. I know I won't be spending fall in the Sea of Cortez. I have been there in the fall and it is miserable. God bless Pat and Barry.

Aloha,
Scott Scott
Acting Secretary

"Barry and Pat" from Page 2

We both got to touch it as it swam between us sucking in the plankton to eat. It looked so huge compared to our size. We cannot imagine swimming with an adult one of 40+ feet. We will continue to look for the bigger ones. We were so excited. After we got back on the boat, we noticed another small one a little further away. Look these critters up on your computer to see what they look like. WOW!!!!

Na Hoa Holomoku of Hawaii Yacht Club
Minutes from Board of Directors Meeting
Reed's Bay Hotel Lobby
August 5, 2008

Present:

Dave Partlow
Jon Olson
Scott Scott
Martin Burs
Janine Cohen
Ray Purifoy
Lynn Nakkim
John Luchau
Mac Cooper
Leslie Scott
Richard Cohen

1. **Meeting to Order:** Dave P calls @ 1835.
2. **Approval of Minutes:** Jon O motions to approve, Scott 2nds, motion approved.
3. **Treasurers Report**
 - 3.1 Janine presents July banking reports and clothing report on remaining T's. Jon O motions to approve, Martin B 2nds, motion approved.
4. **Membership Report.**
 - 4.1 Janine C. presents extensive month by month report explaining where our funds are coming from.
 - 4.2 Much discussion that club needs to expend more energy toward sunfish repairs.
 - 4.3 Kama'aina Kids to possibly make 300 dollar donation.
5. **Facilities/Equipment Report.**
 - 5.1 Equipment and boats have been stolen and everyone knows locks need to be changed. Martin B motions to change combos, Janine 2nds, motion approved.
 - 5.2 Sunfish need some real repairs and equipment checks.
 - 5.3 Windsong needs to be disposed of properly.
6. **Race Committee**
 - 6.1 Mac C reports racing is going well; a lot of ties and tiebreaking races will possibly be necessary. Requests that ALL boats out for racing day on 8/24/08.
7. **Fleet Captain's Report**
 - 7.1 Jobsite appears watertight at this time.
 - 7.2 Dancer nearing point of painting, discussion of paint purchase shelved till next BOD meeting.
 - 7.3 Martin B. mentions that Paul Reid in CA will donate Walker Bay Motor mount. Thank you, Paul.
 - 7.4 Sunfish need extra workdays to be kept in the condition needed to be safe for beginners and Sailing 101 .
8. **Old Business**
 - 8.1 New t-shirts. Yes or No? Lynn N. to investigate. Janine C. suggests that this is not financially viable.
 - 8.2 Push to get old members to rejoin the club.
 - 8.3 Suggestion of raising rates for large boat users to cover the more expensive upkeep of these boats.

9. New Business

- 9.1 Jon O to talk to Glen at DLNR about switching Dancer to the mooring of Windsong.
- 9.2 PSA's are out on radio.
- 9.3 Lynn N motions to change name of club, no 2nd, motion shelved.
- 9.4 Richard Cohen mentions club is doing better than ever despite growing pains
- 9.5 Lynn N suggests raising rates for families and unmarrieds.
- 9.6 Mac C will write Alicia Starsong regarding Laser donation.
- 9.7 Dave P. motions for 5 yr. membership for donations of large boats and amounts over \$2500.00 to the club. Martin B 2nds, Motion approved.
- 9.8 Scott will donate Victoria 18 "praxis" to club if they are able to get donations for shipping from Florida.

10. **Adjournment:** Dave Partlow motions to adjourn meeting @ 2012. Martin 2nds, motion approved.

Club Classified
Notice Aloha all NHH members. The club is interested in giving the boat "Windsong" away to anyone who is willing to remove it from the water properly. It is to be made clear that this vessel is not seaworthy at this time. It could be used as a project for a fishing boat someday, or a cabin while you are building on your lot. Interested parties should contact the board at board (at) hilo-sailing (dot) org.

About Na Hoa Holomoku of Hawaii Yacht Club and the Starboard Quarter
Na Hoa Holomoku of Hawaii Yacht Club P.O. Box 1661 Kea'au, HI 96749
To submit articles for publication please email your aticles and photos to: Attn: Newsletter Editor newsletter (at) hilo-sailing (dot) org