



**March 2020**

**Whoo News**

Just as a reminder, the gate codes have been changed, so be sure to look for your email with your new gate code that was sent out on February 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup>.

We have started taking reservations to secure slips and things are filling up quickly. We have a lot going on this year so you will want to be sure to check out the event calendar on our website to make your plans.

The Pacific Sail and Power Boat Show is scheduled and we are excited to be participating in the event again this year. We are working on a new booth design that should prove to be "so Owl Harbor", we can't wait for you to see it.

While you prepare for the longer days, keep in mind our Annual Nautical Swapmeet will be May 2<sup>nd</sup>, and it's a great time to clear the decks.

As always, we look forward to seeing you at any events.



## Time to Spring Forward.....

Here we are in March already and the weather so far has been wonderful. As much as we can use the rain, I like to remind everyone, it will come, just as it normally does, and will catch us by surprise. March 8<sup>th</sup> we change the clocks forward giving us an extra hour in the day to get those "to do's" done, and start making plans, just in time for March 20<sup>th</sup>, the First Day of Spring. It's time to start planning your summer excursions and to be sure to make reservations for the picnic areas in advance for celebrating those special times.

Keep having fun,  
Devery, Max, Twitchell and Captain Jack Sparrow

## April is Boat Show



# PACIFIC SAIL & POWER BOAT SHOW

Show Dates & Hours

Thursday, **April 16th, 2020:** 10am–6pm

Friday, **April 17th, 2020:** 10am–6pm

Saturday, **April 18th, 2020:** 10am–6pm

Sunday, **April 19th, 2020:** 10am–5pm

Show Venues

Craneway Pavilion

1414 Harbour Way South, Marina District, Richmond,  
CA 94804

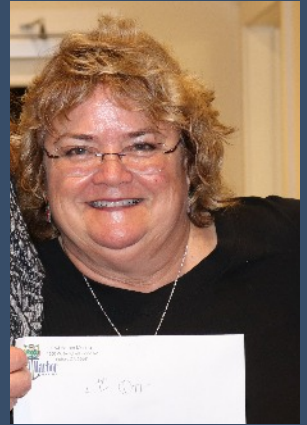
Marina Bay Yacht Harbor

1340 Marina Way South, Richmond, CA 94804

# Chili Cook Off and Super Bowl Winners



Congratulations to Jeni (and husband Rich) VanDusen for being the big "Chili Cook Off Winner"! It was a fun day, even though it seems ages ago, and it was a great super bowl game. The chilies were great, and it was a close call from last years winner, Adam. The big winner for the super bowl pool was Diane Miller who had mixed feelings since she is a big 49er fan. Her winning numbers gave her \$80.00 to get over the loss. All and all, it was a fun time.



## Hose and Faucets

We have noticed that many people are having issues getting their hoses off the dock faucets. The reason for this is that the faucet is made out of brass and your hose connector - well - is not.

With that said, we have been having to throw away many brass faucets on the docks because the hoses won't come off for us to repair or replace, so starting now, we will be asking you to only use a brass fitted hose to attach to the faucets, or a plastic connector to attach the hose to and then the plastic to the faucet.

We will be going through the docks and contacting you if the existing hoses do not comply with this.

There are adapters that will work with your aluminum hose and connect to a brass fitting, that we will try to have available in the office for purchase for your convenience.

We appreciate your immediate attention to this issue and as always, please feel free to contact Devery or Kurtis with any questions.

## Laundry Never Ends

We wanted to pass along a few housekeeping items using the washers and dryers. We are coming across many more situations with regards to items being left in the washers and dryers that are not clothing. The washers have a rubber gasket that goes around the machine near the door that "catches" items that should not be in the machine. We don't mind finding the money, but lately there has been fiberglass pieces, papers, cigarette butts, animal fur and people fur. As a courtesy to everyone (keep in mind you are not the only ones using the machines and many people launder their work clothing and personal items in these machines) to look in this area as well as the dryer screen to be sure all are free of debris. Thank you!

## Missing Registration Stickers

We are still missing some registration stickers on boats. Jeannie will be contacting you to get them updated this month.

## Looking for new "Marina Companion" or 2

The quiet has finally made us realize, we miss our dogs and are ready to enjoy, and provide a new home, to a puppy in need. I am putting this out there because there are so many dogs and puppies at shelters or in need of a home, we want to "rescue" the perfect dog for Owl Harbor.

The requirements are many as you can imagine; must like people, children, other dogs, cats, must be able to work nights, and sleep days getting cookies and belly rubs from everyone. There are more, but if you hear of a dog, preferably a puppy, that is needing a home, please let us know, it may work out and we could have our next best friend to welcome you home.

Please call or email Devery at:  
916-777-6055 or  
Devery@owlharbor.com

# Boating Season Checklist

It's time to start thinking about your boat and getting it ready to get on the water this season. In preparation for this, below is a quick checklist from Boat U.S. to be sure you are safe and can be on the water when you want. Here's to a great year!

## Before You Launch

- \* Inspect and replace hose clamps as necessary. Double clamp fuel lines and exhaust hoses with marine-rated stainless steel hose clamps. While not technically required, it's a wise move to double clamp whenever possible on all hoses - especially those below the waterline.
- \* Inspect all hoses for stiffness, rot, leaks and cracking, and replace any that are faulty. Make sure they fit snugly.
- \* Inspect prop(s) for dings, pitting and distortion. Make sure cotter pins are secure.
- \* Grip the prop (on inboard drive systems) and try moving the shaft up and down and side to side. If it's loose and can be wiggled, the cutless bearing may need to be replaced.
- \* Check the rudderstock to ensure it hasn't been bent. Operate the wheel or tiller to ensure the steering works correctly.
- \* Inspect the hull for blisters, distortions and stress cracks.
- \* Make sure your engine intake sea strainer (if equipped) is not cracked or bent from ice and is free of corrosion, clean and properly secured.
- \* With inboards, check the engine shaft and rudder stuffing boxes for correct adjustment. A stuffing box should leak no more than two drops each minute when the prop shaft is turning.
- \* Inspect, lubricate and exercise seacocks.
- \* Use a garden hose to check for deck leaks at ports and hatches. Renew caulk or gaskets as necessary.
- \* Inspect and test the bilge pump and float switch to make sure they're both working properly.
- \* Check stove and remote LPG tanks for loose fittings and leaking hoses.
- \* Inspect dock and anchor lines for chafe and wear.
- \* If equipped, ensure that the stern drain plug is installed.
- \* After the boat is launched, be sure to check all thru-hulls for leaks.

## Engines and Fuel Systems

- \* Inspect fuel lines, including fill and vent hoses, for softness, brittleness or cracking. Check all joints for leaks, and make sure all lines are well supported with noncombustible clips or straps with smooth edges.
- \* Inspect fuel tanks, fuel pumps and filters for leaks. Ensure portable tanks and lines are completely drained of stale fuel before filling with fresh fuel. Clean or replace fuel filters and/or fuel-water separators if not done before winterization.
- \* Every few years, remove and inspect exhaust manifolds for corrosion (for inboard-powered and inboard/outboard boats).
- \* Charge battery.
- \* Clean and tighten electrical connections, especially both ends of battery cables. Use a wire brush to clean battery terminals, and top up cells with distilled water (if applicable).
- \* Inspect the bilge blower hose for leaks and run the blower to confirm correct operation.

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## Engine Outdrives and Outboards

- \* Inspect rubber outdrive bellows for cracked, dried and/or deteriorated spots (look especially in the folds) and replace if suspect.
- \* Check power steering and power trim oil levels.
- \* Replace anodes/zincs that are more than half wasted.
- \* Inspect the outer jacket of control cables. Cracks or swelling indicate corrosion and mean that the cable must be replaced.
- \* Inspect lower unit oil level and top up as necessary.

## Sailboat Rigging

- \* Inspect swage fittings for cracks and heavy rust (some discoloration is acceptable). Inspect wire halyards and running backstays for “fishhooks” and rust.
- \* Remove tape on turnbuckles and lubricate threads, preferably with Teflon. Replace old tape with fresh t don't wrap airtight.
- \* If you suspect the core around a chainplate is damp, remove the chainplate to inspect and make repairs.

## Trailers

- \* Inspect tire treads and sidewalls for cracks or lack of tread and replace as necessary. Check air pressure; don't forget the spare.
- \* Inspect wheel bearings and repack as necessary.
- \* Test all lights and replace any broken bulbs or lenses.
- \* Inspect winch to make sure it's working properly. Inspect hitch chains.
- \* Inspect trailer frame for rust. Sand and paint to prevent further deterioration.
- \* Inspect brakes and brake fluid reservoir.

## Safety

- \* Check expiration dates on flares.
- \* Inspect fire extinguishers. Replace if more than 12 years old or if age is unknown. More than 40 million Kidde extinguishers with plastic handles [were recalled](#) on Nov. 2, 2017.
- \* Ensure you have properly sized and wearable life jackets in good condition for each passenger, including kids.
- \* Check inflatable life jacket cylinders and dissolvable “pill” bobbins in auto-inflating models.
- \* Test smoke, carbon monoxide, fume and bilge alarms.
- \* Check running lights for operation and spare bulb inventory.
- \* Update paper charts and chartplotter software.
- \* Replenish first-aid kit items that may have been used last season or are expired.
- \* Check the operation of VHF radio(s) and that the MMSI number is correctly programmed in. ([BoatUS members can obtain a free MMSI number at BoatUS.com/MMSI.](#))

Get a free vessel safety check from the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary or U.S. Power Squadrons.

Find out more at [SafetySeal.net](#).

For more information about the nation's largest advocacy, services and safety group, go to [BoatUS.com](#).