



# MERIDIAN



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**District 25**

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## Commander's Report:



Hello, All Stations:

Today was the last day of the boat show. It was also Diablo's day on boat show watch. Before going on watch I decided to go to the dock and give *Seamoor* a bath, and she sure needed some scrubbing. About half way through, I looked up and noticed a sailboat with half of the jib unfurled and it was just stopped there. I asked, "Do you need some help, is your jib furler stuck?" The reply was that the engine was dead. I laid the brushes and hose down and ran over to help. The wind was blowing in such a direction it was making the boat go backwards and it was also turning to port. Their bow pulpit scraped against a concrete deck support. I told them to rig up a bow line and hand it to me. Fortunately, a dinghy came by to act as a little tug boat. However, the dinghy tied up on their port side

stern quarter ( I knew that was not the best place for the tie up) and as the dinghy powered forward it started spinning the boat. The dinghy went around to the starboard bow to stop the turn, which it did. As they brought the starboard side around, the boat was finally close enough for them to heave me a bow line. Not a good heave, it wound up in the water but close enough to be fished out. We walked the boat down to its slip and pivoted the boat in on the wheel at the corner of their dock and tied them up safely. This exercise reminded me of many things about boating and how education and experience matters.

1. Although I did predict that the position of the dinghy was not in the best place, I did not say anything. Sometimes when there are too many cooks in the kitchen, it just gets too crazy.

2. It is a natural instinct of any boater to help out a fellow boater, because we have or will be in situations where we need help.

*[Continued on next page]*



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**Editor: Bob Burget**

For more photos, see [www.diablosquadron.org](http://www.diablosquadron.org)



**Our next Membership Meeting is at Oxbow Marina ,  
at 1830 on Saturday, May 14 , 2011.**

*[Commander's Report, continued]*

3. If you are going to hit something, hit it as slowly as possible. These guys were lucky and suffered a minor scrape to their bow pulpit (remember plastic and metal are replaceable, fingers and other limbs not so easy to replace.)

4. And finally, what is the backup plan? If I can remember my sailing school days, I think they should have tried to sail in with their main and not the jib. There are two reasons for this;

a) it leaves the foredeck clear for look outs, etc., and b) the main can be back winded in case you need to back up.

I was not intending to write a sea story today, and I guess the boat I helped was not intending to lose their engine.

Back to squadron stuff; I am still looking for a phone tree captain. All the captain has to do is recruit cluster captains. It is an easy job, perfect for a retired person or whomever. I would really like to get this off the ground. I have done all the heavy lifting, now it is just making phone calls. Someone step up please, thanks.

Looking over the calendar, I want to remind you that we will **NOT** have a Bridge Meeting on May 5. However, we will have a general meeting at Ox Bow on May 14<sup>th</sup>, I hope to see you all there.

May 4<sup>th</sup> is the District Council meeting it will be held at YBI Coast Guard Station 1800 – 2100. Due to a work conflict I will not be there.

On May 7<sup>th</sup> is the District Building Bridges, for more information go to:

<http://www.uspsdistrict25.org/2011/2011%20Building%20Bridges%20Seminar%20Flyer.pdf>

If you need a ride to Ox Bow call me, if you need crew call me, if you want to go sailing call me 925-283-0991. See you at Ox Bow!

## Education Report

### Lt/C Bill Hart, AP



I've not much to say this month, so here is a quick update as to where we are, and what we have going on over the next few months. First off, we are coming to the end of our winter educational schedule. There will be no classes through the summer –so GO BOATING!

We will be starting a new schedule starting sometime in September; dates to follow. I would love to get a count as to how many of you would like to take Cruise Planning this September. If you are at all considering taking this class, please send me an email at [willhart@sbcglobal.net](mailto:willhart@sbcglobal.net)

Also, don't forget about the *Paddle Smart Seminar* that will be held at Ox Bow Marina during the Ox Bow Cruise the weekend of May 15 and 16. Please give a call to Dave Beyer or email him if you are interested in participating in this event.

In October, we will be offering two seminars; one will be Anchoring, and the other will be Knots, Bends, and Hitches.

That's about it, so.....until next month...

Safe and Happy boating! !



## Executive Report Lt/C Hal Morris, P

Greetings from your executive office. Last month I tried to explain a little about the Executive Officer's responsibility, and I listed the different positions under my wing.

This month, I will start explaining the workings of these departments. I am going to start with the office of the Boat Show chairman. His name is **Tom Dalisky, S** and he has been in this position since 2002. That's nine years of outstanding work, and I know how lucky I am having him again this year.

As you know, we have numerous boat shows in our area, either in Jack London Square or Pleasanton fairgrounds. They are usually seven days long. The first person that is notified of the function is the District 25 Boat Show Chairman, who then assigns dates and times to the nine squadrons in District 25. It is up to the chairman of each of these squad-

rons to contact members in their squadrons, to spend a few hours manning the display booth that district 25 has set up at the boat show.

Diablo usually has one day of 8 hours, and Tom tries to get 2 couples for 4 hours to maintain the booth handing out safe boating information and informing the public about our boating courses. and try to get them to sign up for them. The big perk for the members who volunteer to maintain the booth is that they get to go to the boat show free.

Tom works very hard getting volunteers and he tries not to use the same members every time, so if you get a call from Tom, please try to help him. In fact, if you think you would like to volunteer for the next boat show, just email Tom at [tmdca@yahoo.com](mailto:tmdca@yahoo.com) and he will put you on his list of members to call. I'm sure he would appreciate it.

Your Exec, Hal.





## Administrative Report Lt/C Marta Van Loan, P

Alternatively, go to the USPS website and click on Access Sail Angle.Com. We already have one story posted and 76 Diablo members have accessed Sail Angle.

Now for Anne Bonny; she was an Irish woman (March 8, 1702 – possibly April 25, 1782) who was the captain of a sailing vessel, but not just any vessel. It was a pirate ship! She became a famous female pirate operating in the Caribbean.

Ok, now for Diablo news and information. Our traditional Oxbow Cruise-in is just weeks away. Did you get your reservation in yet? Even if you don't plan to "cruise-in" there's full afternoon of activities and our evening BBQ to make a "road trip" worthwhile for the Saturday fun. Given the cost of gas, perhaps you would consider inviting a Diablo member along on your boat for the weekend or share a ride in your car for the day. We have two coveted trophies: the Oxbow Trophy and the Knott Hole Trophy for the winner of the beanbag toss. Adam Galbraith and I will be defending the Knott Hole Trophy – Adam can really toss a bean bag!

Mark your calendars for the "Movie Date with Your First Mate" on Saturday, June 25<sup>th</sup>. I'm still taking votes for your favorite nautical theme movie; call me with your favorite 925-372-4152. If you don't vote you don't have to right to complain about my selection for the movie. This is a family event, so, bring the kids and/or grandchildren.

As a closing note, for light reading, try *The Lobster Chronicles* by Linda Greenlaw. It's about a woman "lobsterman" off the coast of Maine; a delightful read. She has a number of books that can be obtained from the Contra Costa Library System.

See you at the Oxbow, Marta,

Marta

AHOY DSPS members,

Have you ever read any of Patrick O'Brian's seafaring tales? According to the companion lexicon, **Ahoy** was an exclamation used to attract attention, similar to the German *Heu!*

Now that I have your attention – Spring is finally here!!!! You don't need me to tell you how nice it is to have sunny skies again.

As a follow up to my column last month I asked several questions;

1. Do you know why magnetic north moves?
2. Would you be interested in a Member's Corner?
3. Who was Anne Bonny in maritime history?

The answer to the first question is that the molten core of the earth shifts and moves as the earth spins and tilts and thus the magnetic field around the earth also moves.

Several members did respond to the interest in a Member's Corner, but you'll have to go to Sail Angle to read what DSPS members had to say about how they got involved. You can then post your own story. If you haven't used Sail Angle, the USPS new communication – outreach, here's the link <http://www.sailangle.com/default/index/login>

# May 13<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup>

## Diablo Sail and Power Squadron Ox Bow Cruise



### Friday May 13<sup>th</sup>

The cruise officially begins on Saturday.

1830 Dinner at Pete's Steakhouse, Isleton **PLEASE RSVP** Rides available from Oxbow for berthers

### Saturday May 14<sup>th</sup>

- 0900 Ox Bow Marina hosts a continental breakfast in the clubhouse for overnight berthers.
- 1030 All Saturday cruisers should rendezvous at the entrance to the Mokelumne River by San Joaquin River marker 46. Monitor channel 71 for instructions when you get to the buoy.
- 1200 All boats should be tied up in the marina. .
- 1300 The world famous Ox Bow horseshoe tournament will begin. This is not an event for the faint of heart. This is a hard fought competition for the coveted Ox Bow horseshoe award.
- 1330 **BBQ Hot Dogs & Hamburgers Please bring a side dish**
- 1730 Social hour starts
- 1830 Dinner begins. The dinner and general meeting will be held in the club house. After desert it is time to award the much coveted Ox Bow trophy. This is a highly sought after prize that is given only to someone really special.

### Sunday May 15<sup>th</sup>

- 0900 Fizzes will be served off the *Chicken of the Sea*
- 0930 There will be a potluck breakfast on the dock. Please bring your best dish to share with the group.

Arrive on Friday and spend the day relaxing or warming up for the annual Horseshoe Tournament.  
 Saturday .....Horseshoe Tournament...BBQ Lunch....Games....BBQ dinner.....meeting....awards  
 Sunday.....potluck breakfast on the dock with the famous Fizzes served off the *Chicken of the Sea*

**10 Berths Available** So sign up early.....deadline is **May 6<sup>th</sup>!**

\_\_\_\_\_ **cut along this line and mail to** \_\_\_\_\_

Geoff & Melinda Goselin 323 Kingston Ave Martinez, CA 94553      [gdgsoot@aol.com](mailto:gdgsoot@aol.com)

### Friday Pete's Steakhouse Isleton @18:30 Will You Attend Yes # \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

Please check dinner choice for each person  
 Prime Rib 8oz \_\_ 12oz \_\_ 16oz \_\_ Chicken Breast \_\_ Salmon Filet \_\_ Veggie Fettuccini Alfredo \_\_  
 All dinners served with house salad, baked potato and cream corn

### Saturday

Galbraith "No Tomato" BBQ Chicken, salads, chili bean soup, cornbread casserole, rolls & dessert

**\$19.50**

Your Name \_\_\_\_\_ Boat Name \_\_\_\_\_ Boat LOA \_\_\_\_\_ Width \_\_\_\_\_

Berthing **with Continental Breakfast & Pool Privileges** @.75 a foot per day **including swim platform**

Arrive on Friday (approx time) \_\_\_\_\_ Saturday \_\_\_\_\_

Berthing total ( x's #. of days) _____	I would like to help with the BBQ _____
Saturday dinner total _____	I would like to help with set-up _____
Total _____	I would like to help with clean-up _____

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Boating Apparel is in stock

Shirts, Hats, Sweatshirts

**DSPS Squadron Burgees with gold 50th anniversary border!**

Baseball Hats (\$15.) Blue and White

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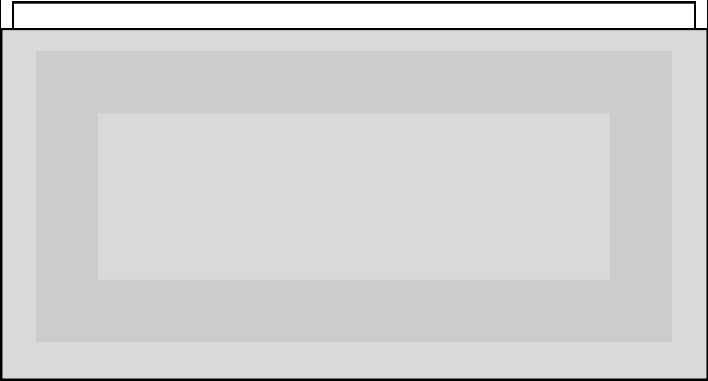
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[jrpckp@comcast.net](mailto:jrpckp@comcast.net)



## FOR SALE:

**Mercury 2 stroke 8hp outboard**

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[Hal Morris haltoyone@frontiernet.net](mailto:Hal Morris haltoyone@frontiernet.net)



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## ANCHOR

One large, galvanized, Danforth 3000, free... It is in excellent condition., recommend for boats 30 feet and up. I will even deliver it to a USPS event or meeting.

Contact Bob Burget  
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**UPCOMING EVENTS & DSPS OFFICERS**



**UPCOMING EVENTS**

**DISTRICT 25 MEETIN G                      MAY 4**

**BUILDING BRIDGES                              MAY 7**

**OXBOW CRUISE                                  MAY 12 —15**

**DSPS MOVIE NIGHT                              JUNE 25**

**OFFICERS 2011-2012**

Commander :            Cdr Guy Schwartz, N  
Education Officer : Lt/C Bill Hart, AP\*  
                  Assistant :            Lt William Long  
Executive Officer: Lt /C Harold Morris, P  
Admin Officer:           Lt/C Marta Van Loan  
Secretary:                P/C Richard Holden, AP\*  
Treasurer:                Lt/C Marie Guard  
                  Assistant :            P/Lt/C Sherrill Zeserson, P  
Immediate P/C            P/C Ron Glenn, P  
Elected Board:           Lt Geoff Goselin  
                                  Lt Herb Lederman, P  
                                  Lt James Brunell, AP\*

*Please Refer to your current Roster*