



FAIRWIND YACHT CLUB

marina del rey ■ channel islands

May 2010

Editor: Ken Hoover

Volume 37, No. 5

Commodore's Log

Imagine That: The Club Buys A Beneteau

By **Ken Murray**
Commodore

By the time you read this, our new Beneteau 311, "Imagine", will have joined the fleet. This marks a change in the direction from the "Catalina only" thinking in the Club of the past several years. As one former commodore mentioned to me, the club never looked at Beneteaus before because of the perceived cost. Beneteau is the largest builder of sailboats in the world, so it's hard to imagine they have a substandard product. We'll have a chance to find out!

The final accounting is this: The Mark III was transferred to CIH, and a fair-market \$35,000 was transferred from the CIH account to the MDR account. Including taxes, licenses, etc, we ended up paying about \$61,000 for the Beneteau minus the \$35,000, or a net of \$26,000 to upgrade from to a boat that should definitely be an upgrade and last us a long time. All members who have seen the boat have been impressed. (More on Imagine in Marc Levine's article, page 4)

One aspect of buying a boat many people do not appreciate is the complexity. I will be posting a description of the steps in our discussion forums, but I will briefly say it involves many steps that require in-person attendance to the boat involved. This is one of the reasons it is difficult to purchase a boat from a distance. I'd conservatively say it requires six visits to the boat for various purposes. In the case of the Beneteau, it was Marc Levine who did the heavy lifting on this purchase, assisted by other members of the BSC. **Continued on Page 2**

New Editor

You've already noticed there's a new look to the newsletter. There's an explanation.

Page 2

Strategic Planning

Secretary Richard Windebank discusses the strategic planning and other club developments.

Page 2

CIH Cruises

The folks in Channel Islands Harbor have planned some really cool cruises.

Page 5

Commodore's Log continued from Page 1

We are about to enter into our busy sailing season, and I'd ask all our members to work hard in caring for our boats. Each week, we find various problems that have not been attended to on the boats, cleaning, putting things away, documenting properly, removing scuff marks from the hull. Each year, this seems to be a bigger problem.

PLEASE use the checklists on the log sheets. Many people fill them in without actually doing them. NO GOOD! There has been discussion of a fine system for several years, when we find things not done correctly. I'd really hate to go that way, but we need to have the boats cared for. The Boat Chief's job is to see that routine maintenance and major problems are dealt with. It is NOT to do basic cleaning and care that should be done every time the boat is sailed. They really resent being thought of that way, and I don't blame them!

Our Club is a volunteer organization that requires contributions from everyone to make it all work. I often get emails and calls from members wanting something, but can't remember the last time they contributed to the Club. That is not to say that we all need to have another job, but a regular contribution from everyone means no one has to do a huge amount to keep things going.

Speaking of which, as the weather is improving, our various kids service programs are starting up again. This is a great way to get time on the water and improve your sailing skills. These take place during the week, and everyone who participates tells me about how their sailing improves and how much fun they have. If you have an interest, in CIH, contact Mike Delaney.

In MDR, contact Fran Weber. We particularly have a need right now for the Wednesday MDR after-school program, which is in danger of losing the use of one boat due to lack of skippers. Please consider helping these kids.

We will be bringing in 20-some-odd new members in MDR in the next couple months, and we continue to bring in members regularly in CIH. Please help these members in every way to get oriented to our structures and processes, so that they can prosper!



Imagine flies into her new home in MDR.

Fairwind Newsletter Gets New Editor

By Ken Hoover

Editor

The newsletter, as you have already noticed, has a new look and a new editor. But I hope it will continue to keep our growing membership informed about what's going on in the club, just as it has for 37 years.

Long-time editor Robert Baron has handed the editorship over to me. We all owe a debt of gratitude to Bob for his outstanding service as editor and also for the many other ways he has served the Fairwind Yacht Club.

I hope you like the newsletter's new look. This is a first effort produced in a short period of time. There are a number of shortcomings I hope to correct in coming months. The masthead is the work of Paul Antico, who created it for a special edition some time ago. I know some of you prefer to print out the newsletter and read a hard copy. But many of you, like me, read it on a computer screen. I plan to make it more computer compatible with links, flashy color and even video, if I can manage it. My computer skills will need some upgrading.

For those of you who care about such things, I produced this newsletter on a Macintosh using an Apple suite of applications called iWorks. It seems ideally suited for jobs like producing club newsletters.

If the newsletter is to be valuable in helping the club conduct its business, members must contribute. You officers, boat chiefs, cruise chairmen, active members: If there's something the membership needs to know, write an article and submit it to me. Email it to hoover.ken@ca.rr.com

Secretary's Column

Strategic Planning Begins With 40-Member Panel

By Richard Windebank

Secretary

There are three things I'd like to comment on this month: the Strategic Plan, the positive momentum of the club and reciprocity.

For the strategic Plan, we've established a leadership committee and a panel of 40 members that represent a good cross section of our membership. We have so far honed it down to six key issues that we want to focus on, but we may end up with more. From the panel of 40 members, we plan to form a working group for each topic, so they can look at them in depth. Then, we will share each group's thinking with the panel for broader input and then with the membership as a whole. We have tried to keep this to the major issues that affect the future of the club and not get bogged down with a host of less critical issues. That's an attempt to keep us focused on what matters most. **Continued on Page 4**

Continued from Page 3

Here are the six issues we have at the moment:

1. What should the fleet consist of in five or 10 years?
2. Should there be any changes to the pricing structure, i.e., dues and bonds?
3. What is the optimum number of members?
4. Should the administrative (and other) functions of the two harbors be separated?
5. What should the Club's position be regarding community activity?
6. Should we separate the functions of directors and officers.

Our club continues to evolve in a positive and progressive way. Last month, we brought in 16 new members, and I would regard our finances as "healthy". We are all excited about moving the Mark III to CIH to fill a much needed spot. It's an ideal boat for CIH's needs and is significantly better than they could have done on the open market. We hope it will be as valuable to CIH as it has been to MDR for many years. MDR members are sorry to see it go, but happy it stays in the family.

MDR is equally excited about the arrival of "Imagine," the sparkling Beneteau 311 that has already become the favorite of many MDR members. That's really the way it should be. Any time we acquire a new boat, we should look for something that has great appeal. We want our newest boat to be the most popular boat in the fleet. That's a product of continually upgrading our boats to make the club even better than it already is.

Now a word on reciprocity: Although Fairwind has no clubhouse, that does not deter other yacht clubs from offering us their kind hospitality, a practice that is symptomatic of the sailing community. There are so many clubs from Santa Barbara to San Diego that have sent us their kind invitations to use their facilities that I am tempted to suggest that all clubs outside of our home ports are happy to offer their facilities to us as visiting yachtsmen. We will post copies of some of the invitations we have received on the Fairwind Website under "Reciprocal Clubs" in the "About Us" section of the Fairwind website.

How Imagine Became A Fairwind Boat

By Marc Levine
Junior Staff Commodore

Exciting news this month. After many weeks of detail work the boat selection committee has completed the delivery of a beautiful 2001 Beneteau 311. On April 3rd the voyage from the Cabrillo Boat Shoppe haul out yard in Long Beach to MDR was completed.

This is a very classy boat that will and will fit nicely into to our fleet as an entry level large boat. It is very easy to handle and is a delight to sail. Many of the features of this boat will be obvious to the eye. **Continued on Page 5**

Continued from Page 4

Things like three separate cabins, a centerline table with a beverage locker that will seat six adults, beautiful wood work, Stereo system with at helm controls, chart plotter, VHF radios above and below deck and much more.

What is also very impressive is the workmanship that has gone into the keel and hull. The hull is balsa cored with hand-laminated fiberglass sheet roving with stringer reinforcements. What this means is you come away with a strong, buyout, lively feeling hull. The keel is elliptical shaped and carries a lot of its ballast at the tip helping to create an extremely well-balanced feel to the boat. We will have the survey available that was done on this boat to allow members to learn more about this boat if they wish.

Purchasing a vessel involves a lot of attention to detail. Adding to this the vastness of the ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach can make the task even more daunting. A two-hour passage to a haulout facility, coordinating personnel and vehicles, getting papers signed, checks tendered, etc., can seem like a whirling dervish at times, but the end result is worth the effort.

I was honored to be given the privilege to chair this BSC. Paul Antico, Brad Benum, and Dan Romy also served on this committee. Paul and Brad did yeoman's work during the critical surveying, haul outs, and delivery sail. Bob Hoffman helped with driving logistics and new member Bill McKinney also helped with shuttling us around the vast harbors and was a member of the delivery crew. Two other board members were also instrumental in making this wonderful addition to our fleet possible: Treasurer Michael Delany, who was and is always there in a timely manner when we need him, and our Commodore Ken Murray, who provided our membership with vision, guidance and inspiration during this endeavor.

Channel Islands Cruise Schedule

May 29: Ventura Harbor Dinner Cruise:- Depart around noon, early dinner around 5pm, night time sail and return home by 10:00pm.

June 11-13: Santa Cruz Island: Smugglers and Prisoners Harbors.

July 9-11: Santa Cruz Island: Destination to be determined.

August 20-22: Santa Cruz Island:- The backside (Coaches)

VICE COMMODORE'S REPORT

A special welcome to our new Fairwind Yacht Club members:

Alexander "Sacha" T
DuWayne Kilbo
Genevieve Kayat
Rosalie and Gary Green
Patrick Bambrough
Patricia Rose
Simon Barere
Lee Coit
Ville Kaajakari
William McKinney
Bob Bauer
Pat Hubbard

Congratulations to our members who have moved up to larger boats:

Bill Tan
Al Levi
Corey Chase
Calvin Smith
Geoff Duckworth
Spyro Spears
Leonard Brownlow

We are delighted for all of you!

FAIRWIND APRIL 3RD WORK DAY HEROS

Thank you from the bottom of our bilges to the top of our wind vanes

Mark Arbing
Maury Barth
David Bell
Susan Bonner
Marv Brown
Gerri Chabot
Harvey Chao
Geoff Duckworth
Diane Engler
Tom Greene
Ken Hoover

At Loose Ends . . .



When a work party ventured down to Basin G to get the Hobie Cats ready for the season, they discovered a line from one boat had been left dangling in the water for the entire winter.

Naturally, sea life had claimed it. It took two men to haul it out of the water, and it was quite a dirty job scraping the line clean.

Pictured with the marine squatters is commodore Ken Murray.

Preben Klug
Pierre Landry
Nancy Marino
Robert Matheny
Guillermo Maynetto
Ken Murray

More April Work Day Heros

Bruce Naliboff
Daniel Romey
Chris Semper
John Stephenson
Bill Tan
Simon Tregurtha
Gilbert Tseng
William Wagner
Carole Walsh
Richard Windebank

UPCOMING EVENTS

May 15th at SMWYC – The 10th annual Crab Feast and Auction to benefit the City of Hope.
5:30 Cocktails 6.:30 Crab Dinner 8:00 Auction Extraordinaire
Cost: \$60 payable to: City of Hope Reservations: 310-827-7692



Bill Tan checks out Imagine, MDR's new Beneteau 311.