

Butte Sailing Club News!

Issue 2 | September 2023

2023 BSC Board and Directors

Tom Barrett, Commodore

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Commodore**

**Rich Reiner, Vice-
Commodore**

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**Lise Smith, Communications,
Website & BSC News**

Lisa Williams, Safety

**Greg Hardt & Phil Harold,
Fleet & Facilities**

**Charlene Smith & Jordan
Reed, Feather River Center
Liaisons**

*Events are organized by
subcommittee!*

*Please reach out to the Board
and Directors about how you
can help and serve on a
committee!*

From the Pilothouse, by Tom Barrett, Commodore

It has been a great summer for BSC with lots of activities and sailing at the Forebay, there was even wind available most of the time. Super Wet Wednesdays were a big hit with you all and the community. It gave our members a chance to spend social time together and introduce members of the Chico Yacht Club and Oroville Rotary to BSC. Thanks to everyone for contributing and especially Bryan for cooking up a storm with his pulled pork and tacos. Thursday sailing lessons were also a big hit and thanks to the training crew and new members who participated.

Our club's fleet has increased with a few new boats including 3 Lasers, a Lido 14 and a Hunter added to our existing Vagabond and Catamaran fleet. Now BSC members have a real variety of sailing experiences to hone skills and learn new ones.

This fall should also be a great time to sail. Wind and weather should continue to provide good opportunities to get on the water as we head into winter. Even though daylight is rapidly diminishing there is still time to sail on Wet Wednesdays and of course on weekends.

Changes for BSC – BSC is reorganizing and changing over from a nonprofit 501(c)(3) to a not-for-profit 501(c)(7) social club organized for “pleasure, recreation, and other similar purposes.” This is a better fit for what BSC is and does. We are a pleasure, recreation, and social club. However, this does come with a different price tag. While we will still be a tax-exempt organization our funds must come from the membership with only 35% of funds from non-member sources and only 15% of that from non-member individuals. What that means is that club members will be the primary source of BSC funds and they won't be tax deductible. I don't think any of us write off our BSC membership on our taxes but additional donations to the Club in cash, services, or equipment can't be written off. We won't be able to do traditional fund raisers because of the source limitation. More on this as it develops.

As a membership organization what you want out of the Club is as critical as your support. Please let me or any of the BSC Board know what you want out of the Club and how we can enhance our sailing activities. You can email me at ptombarrett@sbcglobal.net or send comments to info@butesailingclub.org.

Let's Race - How to get started! *by Rich Reiner, Vice Commodore*

Racing sailboats is not just for the seasoned sailor. It can be a fun, learning experience even for beginners. To get started racing, join a Wednesday evening "fun race" at the Forebay. It's a great way to hone your sailing skills in a friendly and supportive environment. Don't be shy, join in!

Here are some basics: Sailboat races are sailed around buoys called marks. After passing through the starting line, there are usually 3 marks to round. The first mark is set upwind (or to windward) of the starting line so boats have to tack to reach and round the mark. The second mark is downwind of mark 1, and the last is set downwind of the starting line so boats will again have to tack back to cross the finish line in the same direction they started. The marks are usually rounded counterclockwise.

The starting line is an imaginary line between a buoy and a designated club member standing on the fishing dock located below the clubhouse or the whaler motorboat. The starting line is set as close as possible to be perpendicular to the wind and boats start the race heading into the wind. Three minutes before the start, you will hear three short whistles and see the club member on the dock or boat raise a flag. There will be two short whistles for a 2-minute warning, and one short whistle at one minute to start. The start will be a long whistle and the drop of the flag.

At the 3-minute warning you will want to position your boat downwind of the starting line. Experiment with how fast you are going and then try to figure out how to reach the starting line at the starting whistle. This takes practice! If you find yourself at the starting line too early, you have options. One is to circle back



before you cross the line staying clear of other boats or slow your progress by turning your boat directly into the wind and wait for the starting whistle. If you are over the line before the start, you can right your wrong by sailing back around the end of the starting line and then restarting.

There are many technical rules in a formal sailboat race, but we generally look the other way for fun racing. There is one rule is always important to keep in mind and keeps us safe when boats are sailing close to each other. When two boats are approaching each other, the boat on a starboard tack (wind over your right shoulder) has the right of way. The other boat must keep clear either by tacking away or passing behind the boat that is on a starboard tack. That's it. Joining a "fun" race is, well, fun! And it will make you a better sailor. Guaranteed!

**Join us for Butte Sailing Club's Annual
Richard Silvera Memorial & Vagabond
"Worlds" Regattas**

**Sunday, October 8, 2023 – N. Forebay
Registration & Set-up: 9:00 am
Skipper's Meeting: 10:30 am
BBQ – 4:00 ish**

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**Rich Reiner- Race Committee Chairman  
Mark Conry – Event Chair**

# Setting Sail Outside the Forebay!



Dean & Becky Dyrr sailing in the British Virgin Islands.



Paul Melcon & Noal Childs and Jordan Reed & Lise Smith represented BSC at Whiskeytown Memorial Day Regatta.



Greg & Sally Hardt on Morning Mistress & Wilson Newman in his "new" Cal 29 race in Hidden Harbor Yacht Club's D-Cup Rally.



Lise Smith at Donner Lake RS Aero Summer Camp hosted by Richmond Yacht Club.



Mike Sealy raced in the RS Aero Worlds in Calasetta, Sardinia



San Francisco Bay - Jordan Reed and Mike Sealy on his Beneteau -Pronto.



## Off Season Sailing Opportunities *by Jordan Reed*

Mid-October sees the last of our Club scheduled events and gatherings. With the evenings becoming unavailable to sail it may appear natural to shelve your sailing mojo for the winter season. Here is a list of alternatives to consider however, to keep your sailing skills fresh:

- Become a US sailing member (\$65/year)
- Take the boater safety course (online) to receive your Department and Waterways (DBAW) Boater Certificate.
- Keep an eye out for great weather days on the Forebay and make sure there is more than one person out with you. Schedule sailing with friends using Whats-app and work toward a specific goal or achievement ( try out a different boat, etc).
- Search out club members sailing/racing in the bay or Sacramento and offer to crew.
- Take a CPR class that provides important safety skills for on and off the waterways.
- Purchase a fixer upper boat to restore, or adopt a club boat to do the same.
- Sign up for a boating class via other sailing schools or aquatics center.
- Attend a club meeting or look at the task list (located on the fridge) to see what you can do to help the club for next season.
- Explore what it would take to be certified as a small boat instructor (contact [info@butesailingclub.org](mailto:info@butesailingclub.org) for more info).
- Practice tying knots while watching your favorite show!



*BSC's Super Wet Wednesdays have been well attended and offered members a chance to get to know each other both inside and outside of a boat! These last Wednesday of the month events have included music making, cornhole, BBQ and more! We also invited Oroville Rotary and the Chico Yacht Club members to join in the fun and see what BSC is all about!*

## BSC's Laser Fleet Grows!

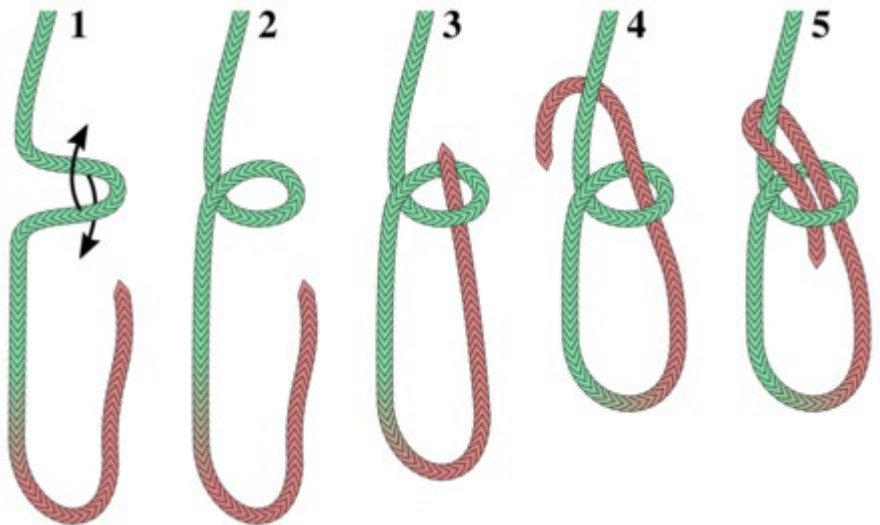
The Club recently acquired three Lasers bringing the number now to five on the forebay. BSC has offered several Laser clinics with instruction on rigging and sailing these fun, fast boats! Lasers are a classic one design dinghy and perfect boats for both beginners as well as seasoned sailors. Most Wet Wednesdays include the opportunity to get checked on a Laser or other Club boats! Thanks to Jordan Reed and Kurt Flint for putting in a lot of hard work in rigging the boats and getting them ready for sailing!



## Knot of the Month: The Bowline *by Paul Melcon*

The bowline is a loop knot widely used in sailing. It is used for tying a loop in a mooring line, hoisting or hauling an object, tying a jib sheet to the clew of a headsail, and countless other purposes. Two bowlines are often used to connect two lines. The bowline is easily tied, and like all good knots, can be easily untied even after it has been under heavy load. The bowline has approximately two-thirds the strength of the original rope.

- 1,2. Twist the standing line (green) to make a loop.
3. Pass the free end (red) through the loop
4. Pass the free end behind the standing line
5. Pass the free end back through the loop.



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If you are interested in contributing to the next BSC News!, please let Lise know at lspsb@yahoo.com