



Sierra Point Yacht Club



Spyglass Newsletter

Weekly
Summer
Sailing
Races

Club
Social
Events

Cruise outs
& Cruise ins

Monthly
Dinners

Club Managed
by Volunteers



January 2019 Edition

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1. Editor's Update

First of all a happy and prosperous new year to all members and guests of the Sierra Point Yacht Club. I cannot believe we are into 2019 already. What happened to 2018??...it passed way too quickly for my liking. I am abroad again and this time visiting friends and old work colleagues in Singapore. I am up to my old tricks of twinning up our club with other clubs around the world and a focus for me here is the Changi Sailing Club, and I have inserted a small article about the club and sailing in general in Singapore.

A few month ago a colleague of mine from Singapore - Atul Sinha, who is on the board of the Changi Sailing Club in Singapore, was visiting Silicon Valley on business and Captain Jack and Kathy invited Atul to crew on Sea Fever - a sail on the Bay that Atul thoroughly enjoyed. At the club afterwards Atul was presented with a club Burgee. On this trip I will visit the club and hopefully will receive a club burgee that I will bring back to display in our clubhouse. Now I know that



very few of our members visit Singapore, but it would be nice if we did have reciprocal club access privileges, just in case any of our members visit Singapore and vice versa. The Changi Sailing club is located on the Serangoon Channel on the East coast tip of Singapore close to the Changi International airport.

Please read the breakfasts update - volunteers are desperately needed. And we have a bulletin Board update from Tom Munro regarding the benefits, including membership costs, of joining or renewing membership of Boat US under the club cooperating agreement.

Nigel Baker
Spyglass editor.
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2. Commodore's Commentary for January

A new year is upon us, and with that, a slew of resolutions to make us better people in the coming year. One that I like is to take the boat out at least once a

week though I've never been able to accomplish it. The past few years I've resolved not to make resolutions. I guess you would call it my New Year's Resignation and I'm at peace with that.

We had a wonderful Christmas party with members raising \$900 and SPYC matching \$500 for our local charities. Prizes were awarded to decorated boats: a first place tie went to Ozzy Orozco and Martin Tali, I got second and Vincent Benson took third. Our judges were in high Holiday spirits and awarded all participating boats (decorated with more than one strand of lights) a drink of their choice. I can't promise that this will become an annual tradition, but it may serve as incentive for some of you in the next year.

Wishing all of you a happy and healthy 2019!

Michael Bell

SPYC Commodore

3. Club general Updates

No general club updates to report this month

4. Events Calendar

We are kicking off the new season of dinners with Dylan and Emily evoking a french cafe. Big Lou and friends will add to the atmosphere with a group including an accordion. Come and join in the fun. Remember we need you to register January 16th, or you will incur a surcharge of \$5.

Sarah FitzGerald

Event Panjandrum

ASarahFitz@gmail.com

415 412 7510



Cost : Adult \$20
Child (12 and under) - \$12
\$5 surcharge for walk-ins

Cafe Emily
Crepes

Fleuve Sur La Mer

MUSIC
Big Lou
and friends

MENU
appetizers
french onion chicken
scallop potatoes
green salad
gâteau docteur
au poivre

January 19th
Appetizers : 6 pm : Dinner : 7 pm

Join us at the French Cafe
Chefs Emily Balestiere and Dylan Garratt

BREAKFAST AT SPYC - Important Notice

I'm sorry to report that there will be no Sunday breakfasts at the club for the time being. We need someone willing to coordinate (wrangle) the volunteer cooks. Jim Lawrie did a terrific job for a couple of years (Thanks, Jim.), but is now ready to pass it on to someone else. Anyone interested, Jim will be happy to give you the benefit of his wisdom. Remember, we are an all-volunteer club. If you loved those sunny Sunday mornings eating delicious breakfasts on the deck and socializing with your fellows, this may be your perfect chance to contribute.

Melissa Vivas.

Editor's Note:

I think our breakfast sessions are a great venue for club members and guests to get together on a Sunday morning to enjoy a hearty breakfast and to catch up on all the latest gossip. So please help re-start this event by volunteering as a full time coordinator or as a roster cook.

5. Cruise-Outs/Ins Update

From the editor:

The club cruise outs are a lot of fun and a great way for club members and guests to enjoy a weekend away from our normal routines. Kathy, our Fleet Maiden does a stellar job of arranging our cruise out schedules with other Yacht Clubs around the bay, and what better way to support Kathy than to sign up early for each cruise out. I especially would like to entice new members to join the cruise out fun. We will be providing more assistance to Kathy for the 2019 season to enhance and explore new Yacht Club/Marina destinations.

Cruise out schedule:

The 2019 Cruise out schedule is being developed and will be posted in Spyglass as soon as available.

There's more to come so check the SPYC website regularly; bring me all of our constructive suggestions, and VOLUNTEER to help with cruise-outs and any other club activities that appeal to you. The more you participate the more fun you'll have and solid friendships will result. If you're shy you can quietly

approach any board member with your offer to volunteer and we'll hopefully steer you in the right direction. And finally, I have included a 'little' saga from the cruise out to the St Francis Yacht Club featuring Captain Jack.

Kathy Stern, Fleet Captain

For information on our cruising calendar please go to our web site cruising section on www.sierrapointyc.org/cruising where you can find detailed info and sign up procedures. You can also contact our Fleet Captain Kathy Stern on: fleet_captain@sierrapointyc.org

6. Beer Can Racing Update Closed for the Winter

Quincy Bragg
racing@sierrapointyc.org

7. Bulletin Board -Boat US Cooperating Agreement

Happy New year to all my fellow SPYC members.

It's time to renew our BoatUS Cooperating Group program. This means members of SPYC get a discount on BoatUS Membership dues and 10% off towing service (international is \$20.00).

When you sign up you will have access to over 25 benefits at a discounted price.

- 24/7 Dispatch to over 600 towboats in 300+ ports nationwide
- Marine Insurance for boaters with 24/7 claims service
- Discounts on fuel, slips, repairs & more at over 1200 boating business
- Subscription to BoatUS Magazine – 6 issues per year

The Cooperating Group number for SPYC is **GA84752Y**. Use that number when you re-up your BoatUS membership.

Cheers, Tom

8. Tech Tips. Items for Sale

No tech tips, items for sale posted this month

9. The Sailing Environment in Singapore

As several members of SPYC know I used to work in Singapore (for 8 years) and retired from my position there in mid 2005. I made many friends in Singapore and to this day visit Singapore at least once a year for 2 weeks to as long as a month at a time to visit my friends and old work acquaintances. Singapore has quite a vibrant sailing focus that is primarily driven by the Government run 'Singapore Sailing Federation'. The Federation's main mission is to inspire Singaporeans to take up the sport of sailing while still students at school (Sailing is part of the standard sports curriculum of Singapore schools) with the goal of becoming experienced sailors and to participate in Asia wide sailing sports and regatta programs. and to aim even higher and win medals for Singapore at the Olympics.

To reach these goals, A National Sailing Center was established in 1999 on the shores of the East Coast of Singapore to take advantage of the South West and North East Winds of the Singapore Straits for year round sailing in various wind conditions.

The Singapore Training Center last March was officially appointed the first World

Sailing approved training center in Asia, (there are now a total of four in the region). The Training Centre focuses on three key areas:

- providing an effective training and development program for athletes and coaches who are aiming to compete in Olympic and world-class events.
- increasing the number of nations who compete in World Sailing events.
- assisting other nations with training to help their athletes qualify for and compete at the Olympic Games.

So, as you can see Singapore has a well defined and operational sail training and sailing sports infrastructure that is becoming the envy of Asia.

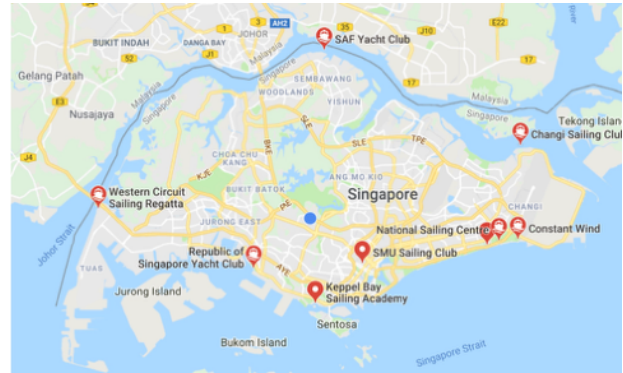
Singapore also has several sailing clubs and marina's scattered around the Island, including: the Changi Sailing Club, the Singapore Air Force Yacht Club, The Republic of Singapore Yacht Club, the SMU Sailing Club. As well as Sailing Clubs and training center, there are various other sailing centers including the



A busy day at the National Sailing Center

Keppel Bay Sailing Academy, Constant Wind Seasport, Punggol Marina Country Club, Raffles Marina, and DBS by the Bay.

I have had a special relationship with the Changi Sailing Club over the years, and have crewed on my friend Atul Sinha's J24 boat that is normally moored just in front of the clubhouse. The club is located at the Eastern end of Singapore right on the edge of the



Map of Singapore showing some of the sailing locations



A view from the club looking out across the Serangoon channel - Malaysia in the distance. The thatched hut at the end of the jetty houses the race control functions

Serangoon channel that separates Singapore from Malaysia. Most sailing activities are conducted in the channel with careful observance of commercial shipping that uses the channel as access from ports both in Singapore and Malaysia to the Singapore Straits.

More longer course racing that entails sailing into Indonesian controlled waters requires a sailing permit for each boat and these need to be obtained from the Indonesian Navy prior to each race.



The restaurant at the clubhouse with views out to the channel

Atul, as I mentioned in the Editor's update, and also featured in a previous edition of Spyglass when he visited our club, is on the Board of Directors of the Changi Sailing Club and is warm to the idea of enhancing relations between our two clubs. To this end I will be visiting the club while here in Singapore to progress this, and hopefully, maybe, be invited to participate in some sailing.



Another view looking out across the Serangoon channel towards the Singapore Straits, the southern tip of Malaysia in the distance. Further away will be the Indonesian Islands of Bintan and Batam. Note also that club members boats of a certain size and above use moorings in the channel in front of the club.

In 2014 I crewed on Atul's J24 in the Changi Sailing Club Regatta and we came second in the J24 class....much beer was consumed in the bar after the race (well, it was a hot day)



The Crew, except Trevor who was taking the photo



The Award Trophy

Thats all for this month folks.. A happy and prosperous new year to all readers of Spyglass
Spyglass Editor

