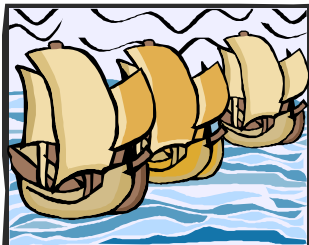


NEWSLETTER FOR BIG ISLAND BOATING

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Twenty years from now, you will be more disappointed by the things you didn't do than by the ones you did. So throw off the bowlines. Sail away from the safe harbor. Catch the trade winds in your sails. Explore, dream.....

—Mark Twain

Starting Line Tips - Barry Bolln

Thought I'd drop a few tips about proper race-starting procedure. I know this may seem funny coming from a guy that wasn't anywhere near the line when the gun went off to start the last race, but hang in there. I have done this before, and my timing will get better.

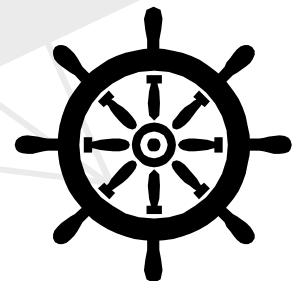
Ideally, you want to be at the favored end of the line on starboard tack at full speed with clear air one second after the gun goes off. To accomplish this takes lots of practice and a little luck.

- 1) Usually one end of the line or the other is favored because of distance to the first mark, currents, or wind direction and speed. Check your race chart against these factors to see which end of the line might give you an advantage.
- 2) Obviously starboard tack is favored because it has right-of-way over port tack.
- 3) Small, light, quick dinghies can hold position on the line and take off with the gun. The rest of us need to time our approach from some distance away.
- 4) Maintaining clear air is one of the more important factors. If most of the boats are converging on one end of the line (jockeying for position and stealing one another's wind), it may be to your advantage to move down the line a bit to maintain your speed.

One of the keys to good starts is to get to the line early, assess the conditions, plan your strategy, and then make as many timed approaches as you can. One last thing to keep in mind is that most "fender-benders" occur during starts. Be careful.

NEXT MEETING—

Monday, May 14, 6:00pm., Wailoa State Park, Pavilion #3. Bring your potluck and a friend. Speaker will be the Captain of the Coast Guard Cutter Kiska, Lt. Kevin Lopes, USCG. He will give a short talk, and then we will have a question and answer time.





Lots of boats have sailed to Hilo this last week. Go to Radio Bay weekly to see the boats and talk to the crews. Let someone know if they need any help.

Yacht Club and YMCA Partnership – John M. Luchau

Barry Bolln and I met with the YMCA Sailing Committee in Waimea after touring the YMCA Sailing Facility in Kawaihae on Wednesday the 18th. The Sailing Committee members were unanimous in their support of our partnership and the acquisition of a facility where the old pavilion now stands in Reed's Bay. They agreed that a Bay Front Facility would not be good for training because of the Wailoa outflow, the normal onshore breeze and chop plus there is a conflict with paddlers on the Bay Front. They also agreed that better security could be had at a Reed's Bay Facility because of the close proximity with most of the moored boats.

Bob Masuda of the YMCA is moving forward on talks with the State concerning the Facility location. Many of our future sailing instructors have received their CPR Qualifications and we will be setting up a First Aid Class for them. Other qualifications that need to be accomplished are background checks and a TB test as well as the instructional course. If you are interested in becoming a U. S. Sailing Association Certified Instructor contact Barry Bolln at 961-4474.

If you are in the area of Kawaihae drop in to see the Y's facility. You find it by taking the first drive into the harbor, go to the ocean, turn left, follow the water until you come to a cyclone fence with Matson containers inside and a large pavilion where sequences of "Wind on the Water" were filmed.

Special Thanks To:

Larry & Robbyn Peck— for towing Hoku to her mooring and assisting voyaging yachts in Radio Bay with their needs.

David Beardsley— for rescuing the Bolln's runaway dinghy.

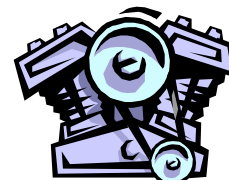
Mauricio Barbis— for diving to survey a couple of moorings.

Richard Messina— for your compassion for a fellow sailor in Kona.

Sam Gaughen— for your warm hospitality and information when we visited the Kona Sailing Club

Thanks— to anyone we have forgotten.

If you have a special thanks, let the editor know so it can be included here.



"The Engine Quits" - by Lin & Larry Pardey - from April 2001 "Sail" magazine

It is a common situation. Your engine suddenly quits as you are entering a harbor or approaching a dock. Armchair sailors on shore watch with interest, waiting to see what will happen. Will panic break out on board your boat? Or will you calmly switch from power mode to sail mode and quickly gain control of the situation? To make this switch instantaneously requires both practice and forethought.


One of Larry's favorite sea stories illustrates this well. A friend of ours, Chuck Ryan, was crewing on a 35-foot sloop in French Polynesia. The sloop was powering out of Huahine through a deep pass in the reef with a gentle trade wind blowing on its beam. It was a golden day, but without a forward-thinking sailor, it could have been a disaster.

Halfway through the pass the engine dies. Knowing he had those hungry Huahine reefs on two sides of him, the owner instantly dove below and scrambled for the engine compartment. Chuck, a lifelong sailor, simply watched bemused. He had wisely attached the halyards to the sails before the anchor came up. The result? Chuck calmly hoisted the headsail, trimmed for a beam reach, and easily sailed clear of the pass. When the skipper finally poked his head out the companionway, he looked around at the open sea, then up at the sail, and exclaimed, "Gee, that was a good idea!". With all his years of experience, many of them in small engineless sailing dinghies, Chuck's reaction came to him quite naturally. The skipper/owner, who was more familiar with motorized transport, reacted just as naturally. With practice and a little forethought, anyone can gain the skills and confidence needed to react as instinctively as Chuck did to sail out of a tight spot. Next time you are powering into harbor, ask yourself, "What would I do right now if the engine died?"

Kona Sailing Club – John M. Luchau

On April 26 Pat, Barry and I made a trip to Kona to meet with Sam Gaughen who is the Secretary and a long time member of the Kona Sailing Club. Richard Messina met us there, and we talked at length about their origins and obstacles. Our discussions were extremely fruitful. Sam presented our club with an official Kona Sailing Club burgee to be the first in our burgee collection for eventual display.

. They schedule 13 regattas/races a year and several other events. Their membership is about 80 strong. KSC has one annual membership meeting, and monthly Board of Directors meetings that are open to all members. They elect officers and directors at the yearly meeting, but it is mainly a party at which just a little bit of business takes place. The minutes of the board meetings are published monthly in their newsletter. As you know, our membership meetings are monthly and some of you have stated that there should be less meeting and more fun. Now that our club's most formative time is nearly over, maybe someone could make a motion at our next meeting to effect that change for our club? Instead of potluck preceding a membership meeting we could have a sailing related lecturer, instruction, race or fish tournament with a potluck after. Just have an event each month. Of course, that means that someone will have to volunteer or be appointed to be the Chair of Events (or Party Chair).



Roger says the fish are biting, so get out there and practice your techniques for the sail/power team fishing tournament. Date pending.

Upcoming Events

RACE DAY — Saturday, May 5. Skipper's Meeting on the beach at Reed's Bay at 11 a.m. sharp. Race begins at 1 p.m. Racers and spectators are to bring their own food, beverage, chairs, etc. as there will be no formal setup for the "after the race talk story time" on the beach.

NEXT MEETING— May 14, 6pm. Wailoa Park, Pavilion #3. Potluck



Notices, Services, Buy, Sell, or Trade.....

Mauricio Barbis (961-6730) offers expert diving, boat repair and boat maintenance to club members at a reasonable hourly rate.

SAIL REPAIRS - Mitzi Christensen - 966-4622

Joseph Messina (965-8906) offers diving and boat cleaning, maintenance.

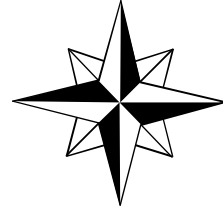
GARAGE SALE - Ed & Lani Chase, 29th St. in Paradise Park. Call for info. 966-4005

....Was ever skipper so fortunate as I with shipmates so loyal, capable, and true? I ask you, Lord, to bless each one. Bless our ship; keep us a happy crew. — John Jay Hughes



DO NOT FORGET TO PAY YOUR MEMBERSHIP DUES—\$16





**Na Hoa Holomoku of Hawaii
Yacht Club
P.O. Box 1661
Pahoa, HI 9778
holokai@hawaii.rr.com**

