

**REAR COMMODORE:**

- **AT THE CHANGE OF WATCH.**
  - Usually the new Rear Commodore will have no report when called upon in the change of watch meeting.
- **THE REAR COMMODORE ATTENDS THE GENERAL AND BOARD MEETING.**
- **CRUISE PLANNING FOR NEXT YEAR'S CRUISING SCHEDULE**
  - Your year as the Rear Commodore will be filled with planning and preparation for your year as the Vice Commodore, next year.
  - Every year there is more competition for the prime cruising destinations from other yacht clubs, so start this process as early as possible.
    - Being the first to reserve sites allows you to do the following:
      - Notify your members before their personal calendars fill up,
      - Encourages greater participation,
      - Smooths out the planning process,
      - Reduces last-minute changes and the uncertainty of finding sites
- Identify cruise possibilities
  - Discuss with the board, and especially the current Vice Commodore, how many cruises would be appropriate for the following year
    - Provide a list of new and old venues for the cruises.
    - Enlist the opinion of experienced members of the club to get information on the benefits and drawbacks of some cruise sites.
  - Share the cruise sites with the DRYC Bridge for discussion.
    - Re evaluate the various sites
    - Establish priorities for the "best choices"
  - Calendar the cruises
    - Using the previous year's DRYC calendar and overlaying that onto next year's US Holidays calendar:
      - Select approximate dates for each cruise
      - Evaluate the pros and cons of each
- Flesh out cruises:
  - Check internet Tide charts (printed ones are not available) For each of your selected dates, look for:
    - Super-bad minus tides on the dates you selected for shallow venues
    - Super-bad currents on long cruises such as Fall and Summer Cruises, or long distance weekend cruises
  - Determine what problems would be associated with each cruise venue:

- There are some sail boats in the club that can not get under some fixed bridges. There are also some smaller boats that can't easily do more than 3 days on the hook without support,
- Try to alternate between cruises to docks and marinas, and tie-outs. Most members like both, but prefer alternating.
- High fuel costs seem to provoke conversation, but don't seem to prevent participation, but long trips like to Petaluma on a 3-day trip will limit some participation.
- Enlist the assistance from cruises directors.
  - It is suggested that you don't try and do all the cruises yourself.
    - Once you have determined the date and the location of your cruises the Cruise Director can take on the planning at that time. Look over the responsibilities of the Cruise Director so you have a better idea of what the Cruise Directors can be doing for you. The amount of freedom you give your Cruises Directors will be determined by your management style and your comfort levels with delegation.
    - Take the time to discuss with the Cruise Directors, the scope of their responsibilities.
- Plan activities to do on each cruise. This can be done by your or your Cruise Directors.
  - Old and new activities that have been popular:
    - Dinghy activities (not just races), kayak races.
    - Swimming often too cold and unpopular before mid July.
    - Club members like to attend City and local activities such as Arts and Crafts Fairs.
    - Invited speakers, crafts, dancers
    - Tupperware Party type presentations
  - Call marinas, clubs, park districts to determine:
    - All your options at each venue.
    - Determine if docking or mooring is available, costs of berthing, meals, events, etc. ,
    - limitations
      - Certain dates,
      - Overnight ok?
      - Duration of stay limits,
      - Check tide book re: depths during that period
- Set up your Cruise Plan for the entire year
  - Make presentation to the Board either by e-mail, hard copies, or personal presentation.
    - Listing dates is the minimum

- Listing activities in addition to locations and dates, gives your Board more to discuss, and you'll get more suggestions about good and bad attributes of each selection.
  - These positive and negative comments are very helpful and can help you avoid some real pitfalls you might otherwise stumble into.
- Using the information from your presentation to the Board,
  - Prepare as complete a list of all your Cruise Program as you can.
  - Contact each cruise facility to lock in your dates. Keep notes
    - To whom you spoke
    - Their title and phone numbers
    - What they promised
    - Set a time to meet with them to see the facility
    - Make a field survey of each site (may want to wait until you have a Cruise Director to go with you)
- **NOTIFY THE MEMBERSHIP**
  - Prepare copies of your TENTATIVE schedules for distribution at the Fall Membership Meeting
  - Present your plan and take comments
    - Make appropriate changes to your Cruise Plan, perhaps in consultation with your fellow officers.
  - Plan on publishing the Cruise Plan in The Ripples next year as soon as possible in order to:
    - Stimulate interest in going on the cruises,
    - Capture reservations on members' calendars
    - Obtain Cruise Directors more easily at this early stage.
- At the change of Watch Dinner, plan presenting your cruise schedule in your report as the new Vice Commodore.