

# Marin Rod & Gun Club

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[www.marinrodandgunclub.com](http://www.marinrodandgunclub.com)



## JANUARY 2008

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*DIANNE RODRIGUES - First Vice President*

*BILL IRONS - Second Vice President*

*PATTI DAMOS - Secretary*

*CATHERINE COFFEY - Treasurer*

*LOU AIELLO - Past President*

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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Todd Meyer

### 2007 Was Outstanding

One year ago I opened my Presidency in this newsletter paraphrasing JFK's challenge to our nation, "Ask not what your club can do for you, but what you can do for the club." Your response as members has been nothing short of outstanding, and made 2007 a great year for our club.

Club By-Laws structure club governance around committees, which now total 26. Rebuilding our committee chair leadership and cross interaction is the President's core tenant and was one of my primary goals this year. One key way of accomplishing this has been to encourage a representative from each committee attend the monthly Board meetings to hear first hand what other groups are doing and be able to give input on the spot when one committee's responsibility might effect another's. The success of pushing the power out to the committees turned out working better than I had hoped, with many of our best new ideas and approaches coming from these active committees above and beyond the Board itself. The results speak for themselves. Committee after committee has accomplished more than what was asked of them and with this experience carrying into next year, I trust my final report to you one year from now will be even better.

Here's a recap of what was achieved by committee--remember there's cross committee cooperation going on in almost all instances in some way or another. Names are omitted intentionally.

**Boat Launch** - Two years of planning and pursuit of permits culminated in the successful installation of new cement pilings, which could last into the next century. (Note: this was a \$24,000 expenditure.)

**Triple H** - Honoring our Heroes from Home moved their shipping operations to the club this year, along with a generous donation of a shipping container from local business. I encourage you all to consider donating to this group that help support our troops serving overseas.

**Pier** - Beginning with the major repair of a key beam on the far edge of the square the "wrecking crew" took off with an impressive set of pier repairs, which are proving our pier can cost feasibly remain a key and solid club attribute FOREVER!!! Specific repair projects included: new joists, rails and planking on the rear half of the square, new planking with joist protected (for longer life) starting at the beginning of the pier walk, new lead rails, and removal of old useless piling and cross beams that improve the piers appearance tremendously. I like to think of it as the Pier AD, which is a very good thing indeed!!!

**Technology** - We've finally made it. The club web site is a vibrant interactive means of communication and greater numbers of members and guests alike are utilizing it for timely information they simply could not get in any other way. My favorite web story this summer was how a lost Sea Lion pup made its way from release at the Farallon Island Marine Sanctuary and swam to our front lawn just 22 days later.

The story was immediately available on the club web site and the accompanying pictures are precious. Technology did not rest on these laurels and oversaw the implementation of Visa credit card processing, *initially for event ticket sales only*, and added FREE wireless access at the club, thanks to collaborative support with our publicity team and local news traffic monitoring.

**Club Events** - 2007 saw a great influx of new event volunteers and participants alike. Attendance increased at all events over the previous year and all events were profitable. We enjoyed more live bands at more events and increased the number of events during the year. Sunday morning Breakfast by the Bay was a welcome new idea that had over a thousand members come and enjoy our wonderful view with a scrumptious breakfast once each month. Attendees at our annual picnic enjoyed completely repaired and repainted picnic tables, the back lot trees trimmed, more games and activities, two live bands, and our game booths painted via an Adopt-a-Booth program that made the entire event more festive than ever. To each and everyone of the event chairs, kitchen staff, clean-up crews, individual volunteers and guests---thanks for your participation and support. (There's even better event news already in preparation for 2008--see the next newsletter for more.)

**Habitat Restoration** - For the record, we are the most successful native oyster restoration site in all of San Francisco Bay and our efforts are recognized and praised within the habitat restoration scientific community throughout North America. Our Eel Grass restoration project is also recognized for its pioneering success. By leveraging our facilities, pier, boat launch, meeting hall and sub-tidal property we have been instrumental in just four short years in helping speed the restoration of our bay and unquestionably are known as a conservation club that has made a significant positive difference. This is something we all can be proud of. Our efforts came close to disaster this past November when a container ship collided with the Bay Bridge resulting in the biggest local oil spill in over 20 years. Our response to protect our restoration and working marine laboratory was swift and proactive. In brief, we coordinated with the lead response company, who we coincidentally have housed oil spill clean up response material in a container on our back lot now for a decade waiting for just such a need. Our discussions with them were to confirm that enough protective booms were in the container to protect our living research and to coordinate how our volunteers would help in getting these booms placed before the oil killed off our new life and contaminated all the area around our pier and shoreline. Fortunately, the oil did not reach us, but a great lesson was learned in how important it is for the club to maintain good relationships and to be seen by all as a positive member of the community at large. Our incredibly successful habitat restoration efforts have very much done just that.

**Building and Grounds** - A fifty year old building and almost 20 acres of grounds

demands a lot of upkeep. I think it would be fair to term this a "catch-up" year, with lots of long needed repairs and additions getting the attention they needed. Before I list some of them, please know that the majority was done thanks to volunteer support of our crafts skilled club members. Repair of building and gate lights, painting of women's bathroom, finalized clean-outs in back lot and added protective enzyme system to further help keep blockages from occurring in the future, replaced pass key system and electronic pier door locks, replaced sewage system for pier keeper, professionally cleaned bathrooms, kitchen, bar and red room carpet, added electricity to back lot and pier, repaired back fence, repaired electric outlets, and upgraded automatic sprinkler system on front lawn plus many more.

**Club Rental** - This was a learning year for club rentals. How do we leverage what we have, while minimally impacting use of the club for members? Rentals ranged from birthday parties, to tool shows, all with almost no impact to club except for revenue. I expect 2008 will continue to explore how we best handle this area and will see an increase in the value it brings the club in general.

**Member Resolution** - Chances are you heard nothing from this committee, which is great! The few relatively minor issues we faced with members this year were handled in a polite courteous manner vs. making them issues of unnecessary attention.

**Bingo** - After 30+ years of club operation, we will be partnering with a charitable organization moving forward. The dedication of our bingo volunteers is unparalleled within the club and we all are grateful for your selfless devotion these past many years.

**Membership** - New membership increased dramatically this year over the past four years. In fact, over 100 new members joined the club, which represents an increase of over 33%. Best of all, these members are actively participating in various club activities in a very big way. Hats off to membership for this outstanding year.

**Historical** - This committee has been inactive for a long time and recently got jump started in two very good ways: transfer of club video tapes to DVD's to make them cost effectively available to members who would like a set, and a scrap book of our former Lady's Auxiliary, which does a nice job of showing the dedication and contributions of this group prior to rule changes that included women for membership. This committee is just getting going and if you have any ideas or contributions for it please consider stepping forward.

**Kitchen** - Running the kitchen is a demanding chore. From coordinating stock with all events to keeping things clean and operational, the kitchen demands a

# JANUARY 2008

## GENERAL MEMBERSHIP

**MEETING - 7:00 p.m.**

*Third Friday of the Month*

*All Members & Guests Welcome*

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**MEETING - 7:00 p.m.**

*First Tuesday of the Month*

*All members welcome*

# !!!BINGO!!!

**7:00 p.m.**

*Every Thursday night*

*Sweet rolls, coffee & tea*

*served at your seat*

*Bring your friends & neighbors*

# !!!BINGO!!!

## BREAKFAST BY THE BAY

8 am to 12 noon

\$7.00 - Adults, \$2.50 - 16 & under

## JANUARY 20

Eggs, Potatoes

Choice of Ham, Bacon, Sausage  
or combo of above

Toast, Pancakes, Orange Juice, Coffee

Club bar open for refreshments

Louis Huerto-Rojo & Bill George,  
Co-chairs

*Next Breakfast - February 17*

### President's Message (continued)

combination of work ethic and ability to cooperate that is not so easy to find. Our kitchen committee this year has been exceptional and I encourage you all to stop in following any event and individually thank this team for their tireless volunteer efforts that benefit us all.

**Publicity** - Our recent run of significant mention in both Television and Newspaper is testament to the most effective publicity committee this club has probably ever enjoyed. Best of all, it's all been positive. It just shows once again how putting the right people in the right position yields good results. Thanks to this team for being so proactive on the clubs behalf.

**Bar, Finance, Office, Scholarship, By-Laws and Nominating** all performed their respective tasks in support of us all and are all very much appreciated for your important roles.

### NEW MEMBERS

Jack Carlson, David Degere, Virdell

Hickman, David Jacobsen Robert Kneisel,

Ben Lee, Mick Mitrovich, Joe Murphy, Steve Skaggs, Michael Tomita

### IN MEMORIAM

**Our condolences to the families of**

Members who have passed away:

John Cowen

Arthur Soares

## CRAB FEED

**JANUARY 12**

**ALL YOU CAN EAT CRAB**

**LIVE MUSIC**

**TICKETS - \$40**

## SUPERBOWL

**February 3, 2008**

**TICKETS - \$13.00**

**Hors d'oeuvres**

starting at 2 p.m.

**Chicken, etc. - Dessert**

served at halftime

Chairs: Ron & Dianne Rodrigues

## It's That Time Again

# “MEN'S

# NIGHT OUT”

Mark Your Calendar for

**Saturday,**

**February 23, 2008**

Music by

# “The Boppers”

## *Lovely Entertainment*

## **Steak Dinner**

with all the trimmings

## **Tickets - \$40**

(Tickets are Limited)

**Sold at Club Bar & Office**

***No Tickets Sold at the Door***

**Purchase of Six or More Tickets**

**Reserves Your Table**

**Doors Open at 6 p.m.**

**Must be Over 21 to Attend**

### 2008 MARIN EXPRESS BOOKS

**2 for 1 Dinners - still only \$20**

The MARIN/SONOMA EXPRESS books will be available at the club from 1 pm to 6 pm on the following dates: Jan. 5, 6, 19, 20 & Feb 2 and 3. Call the club before coming

down to ensure that I have enough books. Or call Len Gaskell at (415) 884-2989 and leave a message.

### PIER REPORT

**By Christopher Badouin**

The pier has been looking great with all the hard work, but unfortunately even with the nice weather, fishing has remained spotty. Though we should begin to see some active bite on leopard sharks as they make their typically late fall migration into the North Bay. What did you ask Santa for this year? I asked the Jolly guy in red for some great days of fishing and of course some fishing gear!

Hope you had a Safe and Happy Holiday Season and I look forward to being with you all in this new year!

**Other Areas:** How about catching some living sea monsters? If that sounds good then it's time for some offshore fishing in search of jumbo Humboldt squid. They are averaging 7 to 8 feet in length. Crabbing has also been good if you can get good weather outside the Golden Gate.

### Good Fishing

\*\*\*\*\*

### ANNUAL DUES NOTICE - CLIP & SEND

**Marin Rod and Gun Club**

**PO Box 150900**

**San Rafael, CA 94915-0900**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Member # \_\_\_\_\_

Birthdate if qualifying senior \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address \_\_\_\_\_

**\$75.00 - Dues, Regular Member**

**\$37.50 - 65 or Over w/10 Years Membership**

**\$10.00 - Dependant Card, Renewal**

**\$25.00 - Dependant Card, New/Replacement**

**\$50.00 - Late Fee if Applicable**

**\$\_\_\_\_\_ - Additional Voluntary Contribution**

**\$\_\_\_\_\_ TOTAL Enclosed**

**Members who joined October, November or**

**December 2007 are paid through December**

**31 of 2008. NOTE: IF DUES NOT PAID BY**

**MARCH 31<sup>st</sup>, ADD \$50 TO THE ABOVE**

**FEE - DO NOT DESTROY YOUR**

**CURRENT CARD.**

Each member understands that he/she is

responsible for any losses he/she may cause or may

suffer while using Marin Rod and Gun Club

facilities. As a member of this Club, the person

warrants that he/she currently possesses adequate

liability insurance to cover any loss that may be

attributable to him/her and for any losses suffered

by him/her. In addition, the member understands

that the Club is not responsible for any errors or

omissions of any other member of the Club.

Member's Signature \_\_\_\_\_

(REQUIRED FOR RENEWAL)

Date \_\_\_\_\_

**DEADLINE w/o PENALTY - MARCH 31<sup>st</sup>**

\*\*\*\*\*

### CLUB DVD'S Available

We have DVD's of several club events

including 1991 St. Pat's dinner, 91 Fish Fry, 92

Anniversary Banquet, 93 & 94 Picnic, 94 Luau,

95 Western BBQ and a DVD of “The History of the Club”. Cost is \$5.00 each. Leave your name and number at the club if you are interested.

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