

September 2007 – Fall Edition

Advisory Committee Members



Jim Rutherford – Chair
Morning – 7:45 am
Afternoon – 4:30 pm



Kim Trotter – Liaison
Morning – 7:45 am
Afternoon – 5:15 pm



Paula Wade - Secretary
Morning – 6:30am
Afternoon – 5:15 pm



Dale Knight - Membership
Morning – 7:00 am
Afternoon – 4:30 pm



Kathy Beistel
Morning – 7:45 am
Afternoon – 6:00 pm



Robert Boyce
Morning – 7:00 am
Afternoon – 5:15 pm



Jeff Hobbs
Morning – 6:30 am
Afternoon – 4:30 pm



Rhonda Schor
Morning – 5:30 am
Afternoon – 4:30 pm

Cindy Skinner – VBAC Founder
Morning – 7:45 am
Afternoon – 5:15 pm

Contact VBAC at

VallejoBaylinkAdvisoryCommittee@yahoo.com



It's not like starting your car in the morning

Do you know everything that has to happen in order to get your Ferry going in the morning, and put to sleep at night? Well, here is an idea of what occurs long before the sun comes up in the morning...and after it goes down at night...

Morning Startup...

The Captain and Crew arrive 90-minutes before the first scheduled sailing; they perform the following tasks to get the boat ready for service...

Captain:

- Check boat schedule board for assignments and operational notes
- Board vessel
- Crew meeting
- Security sweep of entire vessel
- Check the vessel hard log for recent vessel operations history
- Check generator fluid levels (lube oil, coolant)
- Check main engine fluid levels (lube oil, coolant)
- Open sea valves in engine rooms
- Start generator (port on even days, starboard on odd days)
- Switch vessel from shore power to ship's power after generator is warm
- Turn on all electrical breakers to feed ship's electrical systems, turn on HVAC
- Open sea valves in jet rooms
- Check fluid levels for reduction gear and waterjet (lube oil)
- Prime and start fire pump, test for flow, then secure the pump
- Check opposite generator fluid levels and start to verify availability, then shut down and place on standby

Captain, continued:

- Visually inspect main engines
- Turn on all pilothouse electronics (radios, radars, navigation equipment)
- Check primary steering and reversing systems
- Check backup steering and reversing systems
- Issue bank to deckhand in charge of selling tickets
- Await clearance from engineer to depart for ferry terminal
- Leave for ferry terminal ~30 minutes prior to scheduled departure

Courtesy of Captain Jason Covell

Crew:

- Attend morning meeting with Captain
- Assist with security sweep
- Check and stock restrooms
- Clean interior windows as needed
- Disconnect shore power once ship's power is online
- Remove brow and cast off lines at vessel departure

Courtesy of Deckhands Probst, Lathrop, and Collins

Story continued on Page 2...the Shutdown

Meet Your Crew... 5:30am / 7:45am



Captain Jason Covell

- Born in Berkley, CA, raised in El Sobrante
- Captain for 13 ½ years
- Aspiring photographer



Doug Lathrop

- Deckhand for 17-years



Mikie Probst

- "Found in a cabbage patch on Oct 17, 1946"
- 26-year career Navy man
- Move to California in 1964
- Working on the SF Bay since 1972
- Started working on the ferry boats in 1990
- Began on the Vallejo ferries in 2000



Lost & Found

Passengers may inquire about Lost and Found items by calling the Vallejo Baylink Ticket Office at 707-648-4349. If your call is not answered, leave a message including your name, telephone number, a description and any additional information that will assist Vallejo Baylink staff in locating your lost item, and we will get back with you. Please note that items unclaimed after 30-days are donated to a local charity.

Vallejo Baylink values your patronage, comments, and suggestions. We strive to provide safe, reliable, comfortable, and efficient transit between Vallejo and San Francisco.

Contact Vallejo Baylink at:

e-Mail: info@Baylinkferry.com / Phone: 877-64-FERRY / Fax: 707-562-3141

Subscribe to the mailing list at: www.Baylinkferry.com/information/mailling-list.php

Evening Shutdown...

After offloading last passengers for the day, the crew will hose down the port side of the vessel if it will be mooring starboard side at the Ferry Maintenance Facility, or vice-versa. They will also drop off cans, bottle, and plastic recycling, and newspapers, then the vessel heads to the Ferry Maintenance Facility on Mare Island for nightly tie-up.



Captain:

- Secure main propulsion
- Shut down all pilothouse electronics
- Switch vessel from ship's power to shore power
- Shut down generator
- Supervise fueling of vessel to 85%, fill water to 100%, pump sewage to 5%
- Clean pilothouse
- Inspect and secure jet rooms, close sea valves
- Inspect and secure engine rooms, close sea valves
- Inspect all machinery
- Secure potable water pumps
- Lubricate locks
- Secure, dog, and lock all exterior doors
- Check mooring lines to account for weather and tides
- Drop off copies of all vessel logs to office
- Communicate any concerns to engineering crew
- Fax daily log to ferry dispatch office in San Francisco

Courtesy of Captain Chuck Elles

Crew:

- Tie up vessel and rig the brow
- Connect shore power, close breaker when directed by Captain
- Assist with fueling, filling potable water, sewage pump out
- Remove all remaining recyclables and trash from the vessel
- Wipe down all tables and hard surfaces
- Sweep and vacuum vessel
- Wet mop all interior decks
- Clean, sanitize, and stock all restrooms
- Wipe down window sills
- Hose down vessel exterior
- Clean windows and squeegee dry
- Replace any broken security ties
- Sweep stairwells
- Spot treat carpet and upholstery stains (as time allows)
- Clean ventilation louvers
- Check and stock first aid kits
- Secure banks in the safe
- Training and drills (as time allows)
- Order vessel supplies if necessary
- Change light bulbs if necessary

Courtesy of Deckhands Westgate, Vitalich, and Wright

Ferry Fact

How much fuel does it take to operate the ferries?

The fuel costs for July - **\$337,598** (at an average of \$2.53 per gallon)

For the month of July 133,374 gallons were consumed (averaging 7 gallons per mile)

Number of miles logged for the ferries in July - 18,644

Average fuel consumption per round trip in July...

SOLANO = 426

MARE ISLAND = 355

INTINTOLI = 353

VALLEJO = 351

Daily consumption average is 4,400 gallons or about 1.5 gallons per passenger

Average speed of the ferries is 38 knots or 43 miles per hour

Community Corner

"Did you know..."

The **Vallejo Beautification Advisory Commission** is a commission of the City of Vallejo to advise City Council and the City on issues relating to the improvement and beautification of our fair city.

The Vallejo Beautification Advisory Commission has monthly public meetings the last Monday of the month, at 7:00pm in the City Council Chambers. Topics include the Vallejo Garden Tour, Landscaping plans, park rejuvenation, illegal dumping, code enforcement, Arbor Day Celebration, and the Holiday Tree Lighting Ceremony down at the Vallejo Ferry Building.

The Vallejo Beautification Advisory Commission was instrumental in Vallejo becoming a "Tree City USA" city. This means Vallejo will receive thousands in grant money to keep the city trees shaped up, and promote the urban forest, which can increase the property values, decrease crime, and help keep areas cool in the summer.

The commission invites Vallejo citizens to come give public comments, suggestions, or volunteer for community projects.

For more information, please contact **Joe Bates**, Asst Landscape Maintenance. Mgr, and commission liaison, at joebates@ci.vallejo.ca.us

Reminder about Ferry Security

Vallejo Baylink is operated under an approved Security Plan as administered by the United States Coast Guard; and in cooperation with local law enforcement agencies.

Passengers are reminded that they should report suspicious persons, activities, or objects to a Crew Member as soon as possible. The Captains and Crews have been specifically trained to take appropriate actions. This applies not only onboard the ferries, but also to the public areas adjacent to ferry loading facilities. Trust your instincts. If something doesn't look right, please bring it to our attention immediately.