Lighted Yacht Parade
www.LightedYachtParade.com

32nd Annual Lighted Yacht Parade, December 6, 2008

The 32nd Annual Lighted Yacht Parade will take place Saturday, December 6, 2008 along the waterfront of the Oakland/Alameda Estuary (parade route can be found at parade website). The parade will begin just after sunset (around 5:30pm), and this year's theme is "An Old Fashion Christmas."

Prizes will be awarded for 1st, 2nd, & 3rd place for the Best Decorated Power Boat and the Best Decorated Sail Boat. The first place winners in each category will receive dinner for 4 at an Oakland Fire House. This unique day includes a wonderful dinner prepared by the Oakland Firefighters and a tour of their station. A grand prize will also be awarded for the Best Overall Decorated Boat. This year's grand prize winner will receive $500 cash. Judges will evaluate boats based on: representation of this year's theme, the number of lights, and creative use of decorations, costumes, and music. Interested parade participants can find enrollment information and entry forms at the parade website: www.lightedyachtparade.com.

Spectators can watch the parade from any waterside restaurant along the estuary. Public viewing areas will also be available at Wind River Park in Alameda and Jack London Square in Oakland.

The Lighted Yacht Parade is sponsored and organized by the Encinal Yacht Club, the Oakland Yacht Club, and the Marina Village Yacht Harbor. The organizing committee is excited to announce that this year **John Beery Yachts, Fast Imaging, KTVU, Port of Oakland, KKMI, and Club Nautique** have joined as event sponsors. The additional sponsorship will enable the committee to expand promotion, increase participation, improve participant prizes, and generated more charitable donations.

Similar to past years, the parade partners with The Oakland Firefighters Random Acts and the Alameda County Community Food Bank. Participants and spectators are encouraged to donate food, new unwrapped toys, or money at the designated drop

sites located at each organizer's facility. These donations go a long way toward providing food and toys to deserving kids and families during the holiday season.

Each year on the first Saturday in December, the Lighted Yacht Parade kicks off the holiday season. Bay Area boat owners share in the holiday spirit by decorating their boats and participating in the parade. Hundreds of spectators gather along the waterfront at specified viewing areas or at restaurants that afford them a view of the estuary. Last year 35 boats participated in the parade, and this year's organizers expect even more.

Completed entry forms must be returned with the $30.00 entry fee and a $25 refundable deposit for the parade numbers, by December 4, 2008. Each boat that enters the parade receives a commemorative bag full of great gifts, as well as a framed photograph of their boat in the parade.

A Skipper's Meeting is scheduled for Thursday December 4th, at 6 PM. at the Oakland Yacht Club, located at 1101 Pacific Marina in Alameda. The parade route will be reviewed and participant numbers will be assigned. Those who cannot make the meeting are welcomed to pick up their number and parade instructions during regular business hours (Tuesday-Saturday, 9:00-5:00) at the Oakland YC office anytime after December 4th.

The Encinal Yacht Club is the third oldest yacht club on the San Francisco Bay. The Club's mission is to foster and encourage a love of yachting and racing, aquatic and other sports, and to promote the health and pleasure of its members through social interaction.

Located on the Alameda side of the Oakland Estuary, The Encinal Yacht Club is owned and operated by its members. The Club is currently accepting new members. For more information go to their website at www.encinal.org or call the office at (510) 522 3272.

The Oakland Yacht Club is the ninth yacht club to be formed in the Bay Area. The Club's goals are (1) to foster the sport of yachting and to encourage both power and sail boat racing in the Bay Area (2) to improve boating conditions, laws, regulations, and boat handling skills, and (3) to bring people together in the interest of boating and associated social functions.

Located on the Estuary on the eastside of Alameda Island, The Oakland Yacht Club is an equity club that owns and operates a 220-slip marina and two-story clubhouse. The Club is currently accepting new members. For more information go to their

website at www.oaklandyachtclub.com or contact Club Manager, Craig Wong, at (510) 522 6868.

The Marina Village Yacht Harbor is a privately owned, full-service marina that is available to the public. Conveniently located on the sunny and sheltered Alameda Estuary, the Marina Village Yacht Harbor is just minutes away from the San Francisco Bay and only a 20 minute drive from San Francisco and a 5 minute drive from Oakland.

The marina offers 750 secure slips, ranging from 28 to 72 feet, with dockside water, electricity, phone, and cable. Ample parking is available, as well as, clean restrooms and showers, free ice, and coin operated laundry. For more information go to their website at www.marinavillageharbor.com or contact Harbor Master, Alan Weaver, at (510) 521 0905.

Oakland Firefighters Random Acts is a 501(c)(3) non-profit charitable organization with a simple aim – to help Firefighters give something extra back to the communities in which they work. The organization provides a central location where Firefighters can request funds and resources to create a "Random Act of Kindness" when they see people in need within the community and on their 911 calls. Donated toys are used throughout the year and distributed by Firefighters to children at Christmas and when they visit Children's Hospital and Kaiser Pediatric Department. Additionally, the organization supports the community with its Random Act of Reading Program, Citizen Hero Program, and Books and Balls Program.

Random Acts is a proud recipient of such honors as the National Community Service Award from Firehouse Magazine, a Certificate of Special Congressional Recognition, The National Federation of Fire Chaplains Host Award, and the City of Oakland Mayor's Proclamation "Oakland Firefighters Random Acts Day." For more information go to their website at www.ofrandomacts.org or contact Secretary/Treasurer, Cindy Chin, at (510) 465 8422.

The Alameda County Community Food Bank is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that has been serving the community since 1985. As the county's clearinghouse for donated food, the Food Bank provides food assistance for 40,000 low-income Alameda County residents each week, which includes 14,000 children and 7,000 seniors. Most adults served are among the working poor.

For more information go to their website at www.accfb.org or call (510) 635-3663.