



BELLINGHAM YACHT CLUB

The Jib Sheet

September 2006

Volume 81 Number 9 Full Edition

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IN THE NEWS THIS MONTH

TOP STORIES:

- PITCH is Ready!
- Dues Billing to Go Out
- Election Procedures Underway
- Past Commodores to Meet

OTHER NEWS:

- Commodore's Picnic
- Club Calendars & Poets Cove Cruise
- Featured Advertisers
- Commodore Poorman's Last Column

2006 PITCH IS COMING & COMMITTEE IS READY...

If you're a sailor, you know about PITCH! The 2006 edition is scheduled for September 1 to 3 and all the details are on the BYC website, www.BYC.ORG. This huge event needs your help and volunteers are asked to call Michele Hurst at 671-5797 or contact her at michelehurst@hotmail.com.

2006 COMMODORE'S PICNIC AUGUST 26!

The 2006 Commodore's Picnic is this weekend, with food service beginning at about 2PM with Chef Bob Kehoe presiding. Bring an appetizer or side dish; call Commodore Ray Poorman at 366-7364/671-4878 for a ride if you need one...

ELECTIONS IN SEPTEMBER!

Probably the most important part **BYC Members** play in the future of the Club is nomination and selection of the Club's leaders, and once again the annual nominations and elections process is underway, with nominations to be presented by the Nominating Committee and from the floor at the *Annual Nominations Meeting* on Wednesday, September 6 at 1800 (6:00 PM).

Following that meeting, and pursuant to the Club By-Laws, Article X (found in your *Roster/Yearbook* "Bylaws" section), a sample ballot with the list of nominees will be mailed to all Active and Life Members (including Past Commodores) by the 10th of September. If unable to vote in person on the September 20 election day, voters may vote by mail as described therein.

The election itself will take place at the Club on *Wednesday, September 20* with the polls open as always from 1800 (6:00 PM) to 1900 (7 PM) on that day; mail-in ballots must be received at the Club office by September 19 to be counted by the tellers on the 20th.

DUES BILLING TO BE SENT THIS MONTH...

Dues bills will go to all Members early in September, and for voting "Active" and "Life" members (including Past Commodores) the billing will also include the sample ballots (see previous story).

For Members who joined the club between October 1, 2005 and August 31, 2006, your bill will be the prorated amount necessary to extend your first year's membership to September 30, 2007; in this way, all members in the Club at the time of billing will be paid up to September 30, 2007 when their full remittance as billed is received.

Please try to remit your dues promptly, as our all-volunteer office crew otherwise has to spend a lot of time sending out "reminder" invoices! Payment is due by October 1, 2006; if not received, the Member's account will be delinquent; if not received by October 31, the Member's status will be subject to review as called for in the By-Laws.

Note that if you do not wish to continue your Membership, you should notify the Club immediately using the reply envelope in the billing. Please request withdrawal *in writing* so that mistakes are avoided. Remember, if you drop your membership, you *must* pay a new initiation fee (currently \$200) in addition to dues to re-join; and if you rejoin within a year, you must pay back dues. *Keep your membership in good standing and avoid extra costs by paying your membership promptly!*

When your payment is received, you will be sent a new Membership Card good through September 30, 2007, and the card will have your bar code imprinted directly on it.

PAST COMMODORES MEETING SCHEDULED WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 6...

The President of the BYC Past Commodores' Blue Gavel organization, Bud Peterson, has called a meeting for Wednesday, September 6 at the Clubhouse. As usual, refreshments at the no-host bar will be at 5:30 and the dinner will be at 6:00. Among other events, this will be Commodore Ray Poorman's first time to be with the PC's at their quarterly gathering.

VICE COMMODORE ANNOUNCES COMMODORE'S BALL DATE...

Vice Commodore **Alan Callery** with wife and Past Commodore **Karen** have announced that the **2006 Commodore's Ball will be Saturday, November 4**; full details will be in next month's Jib Sheet. You can expect the evening to include a lovely reception, fine food, and dancing into the late late hours with a good band...and knowing the classy romantics that they are, it should be one of the Club's great events! *Mark your calendars now for the evening of Saturday, November 4!*

THIS MONTH'S CALENDARS:

SEPTEMBER Business, Social & Cruising			
9/1, 9/15	Fri	Fridays at Five	Steve Moore, 201-8999
9/6	Wed	Membership Meeting	Nominations for Officers
9/6	Wed	Past Commodores' Meet	5:30 / 6:00PM See story above
9/15-9/17	Fri-Sun	Poets Cove Cruise	John or Patricia Gargett, 656-5700
9/20	Wed	BYC Elections	Election of Officers See story above
9/23	Sat	Governor's Pt. Race	Party
9/30	Sat	Marmetta Cup Race	Party
SEPTEMBER Sailing Races & Events			
9/1-9/3	Fri-Sun	PITCH	Terry Robertson 510-2083
9/5	Tue	Perspiration Dinghy Racing	
9/6, 13, 20, 27	Wed	Regular Fall Racing 1-4	Terry Robertson 510-2083
9/9 - 9/10	Sat-Sun	Bellingham Bay One Design	Terry Robertson 510-2083
9/23	Sat	Governor's Point Race	Terry Robertson 510-2083
9/30	Sat	Marmetta Cup	Terry Robertson 510-2083

OCTOBER Business, Social & Cruising			
10/4	Wed	Officers Installation	Installation of Officers
10/6, 10/20	Fri	Fridays at Five	Steve Moore, 201-8999
10/21	Sat	CLUB SCRUB	Bob Kehoe 676-0898
OCTOBER Sailing Races & Events			
10/4	Wed	Fall #5	Terry Robertson 510-2083
10/7	Sat	Jack Island Race	Terry Robertson 510-2083

POETS COVE CRUISE IS SEPTEMBER 15-17...

John Gargett, cruisemaster, writes: "The Poets Cove Cruise has been rescheduled to September 15, 16, and 17! To ensure you have a slip, it is important that each Captain make a reservation directly with Poets Cove (250-629-2111). When you make your reservation, tell them you are with the Bellingham Yacht Club and they will need the Captain's name, overall (not on-deck) length and the beam of your boat. And, make sure and call early for reservations as Poets Cove is now a very popular spot!

"As to the fun - here is what we will be doing:

"Friday night: Dock party at 1730 till...

"Saturday daytime: A hike, but no, not to the top of Mount Norman, rather we will hike to Gowland Point, weather permitting. Gowland Point has beautiful views back to Mt. Baker and we will be passing a number of studios for those who would like some local art. Bring some cheese, wine or other snacks and we will have a picnic at the point. It is an easy, about 2 mile, walk on the road and it is flat. We may be able to get the hotel to drive anyone who might prefer not to walk.

"Saturday Evening: We will have dinner at the hotel, but before we make reservations, we need to know two weeks in advance how many will plan on dinner. Please let me know as soon as possible so I can book ahead. Average cost is about \$20 each, plus drinks.

"During dinner, we will be listening to *your* music, your favorite songs of the sea! For this to happen, you need to drop off your favorite sea songs at the club on a CD in an envelope for me. I will compile these songs into a single CD. But there is a catch - you will be expected to tell us why it is your favorite song(s) and give the history or legend of the song(s). And, you will be expected to tell your story wearing a hat of your choosing - no restrictions, but you do have to have a hat to attend dinner and wear it for the entire dinner. So if you bring a motorcycle helmet that saved your life, just know you will have to wear it for a couple of hours.

"Finally, we want you to take lots of pictures. I will have a computer to download the pictures, and then following the cruise I will produce a DVD with both the pictures and music we will all be contributing. If you still have an old style film camera, you will need to get the prints to me after we get back.

"Sunday morning: It's a potluck breakfast. I will assign foods after we know how many are coming.

"For further information, please give either Patricia or myself a call at 656-5700 or email john@gargett.com"

ANOTHER GREAT WEBSITE!

Try www.animatedknots.com for a great primer on knots for all kinds of activities: It's a wonderful way to learn about proper tying techniques. Then click on the sport: Boating, climbing, fishing, scouting, etc.

This is possibly the best teaching website I've ever seen, and it's fun for everyone.

--- Joe Coons

COMMODORE RAY'S FINAL COLUMN:

It's hard to believe a year has passed since I started writing these columns, or that my time on the board is running low. There are so many things that have transpired over the past couple of years, and this month's article may seem like a book, but there is so much to say.

I've met many wonderful people this year. The volunteers in our Club have certainly made my job more effective and helped our operation run smoothly. There are so many volunteers it is hard to thank them all; however, I want to say "Thank you" to a few that spend significant amounts of time, money, heart and soul to make your Club the wonderful place it is:

Past Commodore **Dick Johnson**, our illustrious on-site manager: Without Dick it seems all lounge and club operations would stop. The burgers would never be there, the Club would rarely be open, and we would always be running out of beer and alcohol, or be missing a bartender. He makes the Club lounge a shared living room for all of us.

Past Commodore **Steve Moore** has continued to do such a neat job of keeping our email bulletins organized, timely and interesting for promotion of our Club among our Members. Like many of our volunteers, he just keeps serving us faithfully and with quality...and speaking of our dedicated PC's, thanks to **Bud Peterson** for his work leading the ever-supportive Past Commodores' organization as they give our Club so much support, both verbally and with cash!

Past Commodore **Steve Ross** has been a mentor to me all year and provided historical observations, documented our proceedings, held us to Robert's Rules of Order, kept us in line with the bylaws, and provided stability and long term views of the operation of the Club that makes it what it is today. His help in documenting and building new features in our Point of Sale system has made operating the facilities even easier and more flexible.

Rear Commodore **Terry Tavelli** is appreciated for his constant attention to detail, his assistance in operating the fleets and making sure all of the events at the Club go off smoothly.

When I started working on the executive board, one of my main goals was to improve the perception of the Club in the community, and to other clubs. This year's Opening Day was a special time with the other clubs' involvement and Whatcom County Executive **Pete Kremen's** address. **Terry Robertson**, our Fleet Captain, continued this welcoming by working with the Corinthian Yacht Club to increase our relationship on Thursday night racing with the casual fleet, and by agreeing to supply his own boat as their committee boat. The hospitality of old and new members have generated many smiles in and around the harbor and so has Terry's outreach to other sailors and clubs. He held one of the hardest positions in the club this year, and managed to do a lot of committee work, also filling the shoes of the vacant Sailing Fleet Captain position, and made sure we had race committees and permits!

Trustee **Michele Hurst** is lauded for her work as our membership chairman, and PITCH co-chair. Michele's assistance with promotion, and work on sponsor contracts have brought a new level of professionalism to our sponsorships, I hope you will support her as our Fleet Captain nominee for 2006/2007.

Trustee **Dick Grimshaw** spends a tremendous amount of time maintaining the accounting and books for the Club with the help of **Pam Heward**. He's instrumental in telling us how much something cost and putting together the financial reports for our meetings, as it seems he is always there to offer an opinion; he also works hard with the dinghy and junior fleets.

The Club has physically changed as well, and our entry way is a welcoming place. Many people helped with the remodeling and increased the openness of our club. **Bob Kehoe**, Building and House Chairman, was instrumental in these projects, and has been working on the sprinkler system project to allow us to maintain the building with the current code, and to allow us to grow in the future. And the next time you are in the Club, you must see the new table **George Eastwood** and **Tom Selman** built for us to sit at and plan our cruises!

I appreciate **Joe Coons** serving as *Roster* publisher; he has been helped as the *Jib Sheet* Editor by **Loraine Boland**, **Pam Heward** and **Meredith Ross**. Speaking of Joe, I feel the

Bellingham boating community coming together, and I believe the BYC should continue to expand our efforts with additional community education, reaching out to our boating neighbors and helping to inform and educate. Joe helped by continually updating the BYC's *Northwest Cruising Guide*. We should continue projects like this, and assist organizations like the US Power Squadron to further educate the boating community. Our membership should continue the fight for more marina space so boaters have a place for their kayaks, dinghies, and boats of all sizes. Bellingham has been challenged for far too long with long waiting lists. The Club can be instrumental in the success by working with the Port of Bellingham and, of course, with our harbormaster, **Mike Ensley**.

The race committees ran races two to three times a week all year. These dedicated people include **Jamie Ashton** as principal race officer, with **Jane Sylvester**, **Michele Bodtke**, and many others responsible for providing a reliable and safe environment for our sailing fleets. Special thanks go to our full-time committee boat owner/operator **Bob Snowball**, and **Dale and Virginia Jepson** for their direction, inspiration and motivation of all concerned.

Our dinghy fleet grew substantially and held a significant regional event, the District 6 Laser nationals. The main person responsible for our significant growth in this area was **Michael Poulos**, as well as our dedicated fleet of dinghy racers.

Thanks to our bartenders that keep the Club open all year, and our guests and members entertained. There are so many to thank that have barbecued all year, and supplied thirsty people with beverages, although several stand outs are **Ken and Char Malseed**, **Steve Moore**, and **Craig Henderson**. You all have contributed to our fellowship and our "bottom line"!

Thanks also to **Trudy Kelsoe** for her help on programs, race committee, bartending, volunteering as the 2006-7 membership chairman, and anything else we threw at her; thanks also to **Missy Stephen** for her help in programs and with apparel, and ship store.

Over the last few months we have had numerous guests from around the region including a visiting set of cruisers from the Anacortes and Everett Yacht Clubs, and the annual meeting of the Metal Boat Society with members from around the globe. Two of our members, **Tom Purdy** and **Steve Hayward**, were instrumental in bringing this group to Bellingham this year along with **John Gargett** in the past, and it sounds like they will be back next year. Also, the Pacific International Yacht Racing association held several meetings at our Club as it is a focal point between the US and Canada, and held a special wilderness medical training course for anyone venturing out of the reach of immediate medical attention. We hope they will be back this year for another course.

The Women on the Water event (WOW) was this past weekend and was a great time. The men dressed like women to participate, and **Jeff Vernon** walked away with the overall "Mr. Wow" award: Look out Hollywood! We had several participants from Anacortes, and many great female sailors on the water. Most of all, everyone had fun and there were smiles everywhere.

Crab Fest is one of my favorite annual events, with the fleet rafting up in Chuckanut Bay, everyone cooking and eating crab, sharing dishes, and enjoying social time aboard each others' boats. This is what it's all about. There were kids swimming, a water balloon fight, and several crab incidents with minor contusions from pinchers! Thanks to **John and Pat Asmundson** aboard *Still Waters* for anchoring the crowd!

The reality is that I can not say "thank you" enough to *everyone* that has helped out this year: You should all pat yourselves on the back!

Some notes: For all of you, this last (August 26th) weekend is the annual **Commodores Picnic** and for the first time this year the **Commodore's Dinghy Relay Race**, both great times to say hello to your fellow members and thank all of the people that make the Club...

In my final words I want to say an important process is taking place right now, and YOU should be a part of it: Your guidance and votes make a difference in selecting the best people to help the Club operate effectively. Two dates you should plan on attending at the Club are the **Nominations meeting on September 6th at 6:00 PM and elections on September 20th**. If you have questions about either process, or would like to nominate someone for the board, contact any of our nominating committee members - **John Gargett**, Past Commodore and chairman; **Chuck McCord**, Past Commodore; **Tim Mumford**; **Jane Sylvester**; and **Mike Poulos**.

Last, a huge "Thank You" to **Sally**, my ever-supportive and beautiful wife for all of her help (especially for a great Commodore's Ball), and our children Tierney, Kayla and Abby for enjoying the water with us and helping out with junior programs whenever they could. And thanks to my father, Ray Sr., for introducing me to sailing at three days old and continuing the spirit of boating in our family...

I hope to see you all on the water in the future! In appreciation,

Ray Poorman, Commodore

THIS MONTH'S FEATURED ADVERTISERS

DAWN DURAND is a Realtor! This means that she is an expert you can count on to help you buy or sell a home here in Whatcom County. And through Windermere Real Estate, she has the connections to help you wherever you've moving to, or moving from. She's in touch with pricing, loans, and legal details...everything that has to be *done right* when you make the deal that's likely to be the largest of your lifetime. When you are buying a home, or listing one for sale, why not deal with a successful professional? You can reach Dawn at Windermere Real Estate, 515 West Bakerview, dawndurand.com, or call her at 739-3380.

BELLINGHAM YACHT SALES & CHARTER specializes in quality motor yachts. Dean & Nick Oulette have operated it for the past 22 years, starting as a small brokerage in 1984, now a nationally recognized dealership. We also have captivating charters right here in the Northwest. Our brokers, shipwrights, skippers, and support staff will help you find, enjoy, and maintain the right boat for your intended usage. We are dealers for *Albin*, *Sabreline*, and *Back Cove* Motor Yachts. All three are "Down-East" designs, utilizing the finest modern materials. We also have an extensive list of used, brokerage vessels. And we have select charter power boats, too. Call 671-0990, or see us at 1801 Roeder Avenue.

BYC Officers and Board

Commodore Ray Poorman; Vice Commodore Al Callery; Rear Commodore Terry Tavelli; Fleet Captain Terry Robertson; Past Commodore Richard Veach; Secretary Steve Ross. Trustees, 1st Year: Dick Grimshaw, Michele Hurst, Bob Kehoe, Bob Snowball; 2nd Year: Geoff Chamness, Jamie Foti, Don Dangelmaier, Jason Watson.

Past Commodores -IOBG

President Bud Peterson, Vice President Steve Ross, Secretary Dick Johnson. Meets Quarterly.

The BYC Jib Sheet

*September Editor: Pam Heward Editors: Loraine Boland, Joe Coons, Pam Heward, Meredith Ross
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