



BELLINGHAM YACHT CLUB

The Jib Sheet

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IN THE NEWS THIS MONTH

TOP STORIES:

- Lighted Boat Parade Dec. 8
- New Years Eve Party December 31
- Sailing Banquet Trophy Winners
- Round the County Report
- Tom & Jerry, Comm.'s Ball Reports

OTHER NEWS:

- Commodore's Column
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- Editorial, and *much more...*

LIGHTED BOAT PARADE IS SATURDAY DECEMBER 8...

Deck your boats and join the fun!! This year's annual Lighted Boat Parade is scheduled (weather permitting) for Saturday, 8 December at 5:00 p.m. Awards are given for the best boat as well as the best 'first-timer', so try your best to WOW the judges. To register your boat for the parade, please stop in at the BYC between 3:30 and 4:45pm on that Saturday.

A big "Thank You" goes to **Brian and Carol Pemberton** for once again offering up their boat as the Review Boat which will host our select group of expert judges. Then, after the

parade, come warm up back at the Clubhouse with free chili, hotdogs and cornbread.

There's no charge this year, but we do ask that you consider a donation to the "Sink the Dinghy" fund in the spirit of the season! (See story below)

Finally, rumor has it that our very own **Santa "Kehoe" Claus** may be making an appearance that night, *so bring the kids* and take a few photos with Santa. It's a guaranteed evening of fun and holiday cheer, so I do hope you make plans to join us. Any questions can be directed to Commodore Tavelli or me. Ho Ho Ho! --- *Michele Hurst, Fleet Captain*

NEW YEARS EVE PARTY COMING!

BYC is again hosting a New Years Eve dinner and party in the lounge. Chef Bob Kehoe has again agreed to man the grill. The menu will be New York steaks this year, with smaller "medallion" cuts available, too. Cost will be \$15.00 per person, less if you get the smaller steak option. Make your reservations early and you can do that at the bar. *If you intend to eat dinner, you must have a reservation.*

So, if you don't want to go to a wild party but would like to celebrate the New Year and have a good time, BYC is the place to come. Please join us. --- *PC Dick Johnson*

HOW ABOUT THE BOAT SHOW TRIP JANUARY 26?

The Bus to the Boat Show has been scheduled for Saturday, January 26, leaving the Club at 8:30 a.m. **sharp**. Here's the deal: \$45.00 will get you the ride down and back, a ticket, breakfast down and dinner back with all of the usual drinks and FUN. There is a sign-up sheet at the Club and Steve Moore will put out flyers...*you should sign up now for a spot!* For anyone that's never been on this trip, it's great fun! The tickets get you into both the in-the-water and Quest Field shows, and the food is great thanks to **Jodi Erickson**, chairperson. The bus leaves Seattle at 5:30, which turns out to be plenty of time, and we expect that, as before, there will be a special lounge for Yacht Club Members to relay. Such a deal! --- *Joe Coons*

TOM & JERRY PARTY WAS A GOOD TIME, BY-LAWS APPROVED

Thanks go to Past Commodore Bud Peterson and his son Jim who were "Tom" and "Jerry" serving at the annual Tom and Jerry Party on the day before Thanksgiving! With the BYC Officers and Board serving Members from behind the bar and the Club's provision of the great food, the 100-or-so Members present had a fine time at this annual BYC event kicking off the holiday season.

Pursuant to the notice that had been published in the November *Jib Sheet*, Commodore Terry Tavelli held a brief Membership meeting at which the two By-Laws changes that were proposed by the Board were approved unanimously. One change dealt with a resignation by any officer, requiring that lower officers move up in rank immediately, with a replacement coming at the lowest level; the other change deletes the word "Surviving" from the member class formerly called "Senior/Surviving"; now these Members are simply "Senior Members". --- *Joe Coons*

TWO PACRIM SAILORS STILL NEEDED FOR TATEYAMA 2008...

In April of 2008, the Bellingham Yacht Club will be sending nine ambassadors and six racers to Tateyama, Japan, to participate in the PacRim Regatta. Created primarily by the BYC in 1990, this regatta occurs every two years and rotates around the Bellingham Sister Cities in Japan, Russia, New Zealand, Australia, Canada, and here in Bellingham.

Richard Veach, chairing the project, advises that changes in the plans of two sailors mean that **there are now two spots open on the team!** Contact him at 647-0720 if you want to know more about this great sailing and goodwill opportunity. --- *Joe Coons*

2007 SINK THE DINGHY PROGRAM A VERY WORTHY & TIMELY ONE!

This year, in keeping with the *Sink the Dinghy Fund* concept of giving back to our community, the Club will be honoring someone who has served our country. We boaters have a long history on the water, a number of our members have been in the armed forces, and more than a few served in the Navy...and **Navy Petty Officer Keith Griffin** passed away while aboard the USS Carl Vinson earlier this year, and is survived by his wife Nichole and two boys Colby (3) and Alex (9 months) in Lynden. Petty Officer Griffin met his wife Nichole in San Diego, and then followed her up to Lynden where they were married and started their family.

One of the surviving family's long-term needs is a college education fund for the children, so this year *we will put all funds raised into a trust account for Colby and Alex*. Of course, age-appropriate toys are always accepted as well! We are conducting our fundraiser through the remainder of 2007, presenting what we raise to the family at the Fridays@Five, January 4th, 2008. Joining the family at the club on that date will be the Commander of NAS Whidbey.

Last year we raised \$5,000 for last year's charity, and as of 11/22, we have over \$1,400. As you consider what you can provide this year, I ask you to think of the service the men and women in uniform have provided through our history, and recognize that while we are remembering *one* who has served, we are remembering *all* who have served...

Please, help us exceed last year's drive and again attain our goal of giving back and meeting a need within our own community. Mail a check payable to the BYC and marked "Sink the Dinghy fund" to the Club, or drop it in the fish bowl at the bar, or use your credit card to make a contribution at the bar. I am investigating the possibility that these contributions are tax-deductible, and will advise in the next *Jib Sheet*. Thank You! ---*PC John Gargett, Chair*

2007 SAILING AWARDS BANQUET (& FLEET CAPTAIN'S WRAP-UP)

The Sailing Awards Banquet was well-attended and a success with Bill Apt functioning as MC. Awards were presented for the top 3 finishers in each series and in distance races with trophies for PHRF Boat of the Year and perpetual trophies for one-designs.

PHRF Boat of the Year went to **Mick Corcoran and Cathy Holland** on *Blackfoot*. The **Laser Perpetual Trophy** was awarded to **Lisa Marsauden** and the **Etchell Perpetual Trophy** went to **#552** with crew of **John Pedlow, Tom Malone and Craig Cooper**. Congratulations on

your performances.

Special thanks to **Marlene Bolster** for the decorations and for everyone who contributed to the scrumptious pot luck dinner. In addition, many support volunteers were recognized for their efforts with **Bob Snowball and Dick Johnson** topping the list for all they have done for us. Racing is made possible with Bob Snowball out on the course every Tuesday and Wednesday volunteering his boat and his time. Dockside, Dick Johnson has been there for us to make sure all runs smoothly at the club. Thank you both for what you do and to all others who have volunteered to help over the past year!

The best advice I had one year ago as I began my stint as Sailing Fleet Captain was "to delegate." Fortunately, I have had some very good people that were willing to step up and help to make this year a success. I would like to thank **Eric Yaremko** for writing the sailing instructions and for being the "go-to guy" on weekend races that I could not attend. Eric was also the one who was instrumental in getting **Dick Rose** to provide us with the rules seminar that was appreciated by many. **Jerry Roloson** was the guy behind getting us Coast Guard permits and has provided valuable input on many occasions. We will all miss **Dale Jepsen** for the person he was, for what he brought to our club and for the level of racing we enjoy as a result. Dale set us up for success by making sure our Race Committee was well trained and led me toward scheduling of the basic race management seminar last spring.

On a final note I would like to welcome both **Michele Hurst** as Fleet Captain and **Jeff Vernon** as Sail Fleet Captain for the coming year. We are in good hands and we can look forward to another year of great racing!

--- Dave Steffan

HELLO, PAST COMMODORES!

This is a "Head's Up!" so that all of the BYC Past Commodores and their significant others will plan to come to the PC's annual Christmas Dinner on Tuesday, December 18 with cocktails at 5:30 and dinner at 6:30. P.C. Bud Peterson has arranged for our long-time pianist, Roger Quiggle, to entertain at the keyboard, and a first-class dinner will be served.

We have enjoyed these festive occasions for the past several years, and they have been lots of fun. No "business", just a social time and a chance to enjoy our Club and visit with PC's and their partners with a glass or two and a nice meal. Please put it on your schedule, and call me for any details.

...P. C. Bud Peterson

COMMODORE'S COLUMN...

The holidays are fast approaching and it seems like only yesterday that we were celebrating Halloween! Looking back for a moment, **Jody Erickson** did an incredible job of planning, organizing and decorating for a great Halloween Party, with fun activities for children and adults that included bobbing for apples and costume contests. **Bob and Judy Kehoe** took top honors for the couples' costumes.

And I want to thank everyone that attended the Commodores Ball. Many people have mentioned to me how much they thoroughly enjoyed the evening...I know I did. A special thanks to **Jenny Roberts, Roger Quiggle** and the **Bellingham High School Alumni Swing Band** for providing an evening of fantastic swing music. I remember looking around the dance floor and marveling that it was still full at 11:15 when they called for last dance. The evening wouldn't have been a success without the help of the planning committee. **Jane Sylvester, Gerri Rae, Sally Poorman,** and **Nancy Rogers** spent countless hours on the decorations and their efforts paid off as they created a beautiful atmosphere reflecting the theme "The Sea Down Under". I also want to thank **Kathy Pace** for her help in planning and organizing the event. She took care of making sure everything was in order to make the evening a success and **Joe Coons** was our MC. The evening wouldn't be complete without wine to compliment the fantastic meal prepared by Emerald Bay Catering so **Rich & Carol Veach** and **Al & Karen Callery** volunteered to take a wine tasting trip to Eastern Washington to select some excellent wines for the event. And thanks to **Corie Hansen** who did a masterful job taking pictures. Check out the BYC web site where you will find them posted.

The Racing Fleet Awards were held this past Saturday. The event was very well attended with boat owners and crews in attendance. I wish to congratulate all the winners this year and also extend special congratulations to **Mick Corcoran & Cathy Holland** on *Blackfoot* for winning Boat of the Year. To win such a prestigious award takes a lot of commitment to racing. Not only must you do well in the BYC series and long distance races, but you must also participate in and place well at other regional regattas such as Whidbey Island Race Week, Tulip Cup, International Yacht Club Semiahmoo Regatta, Windermere Cup and others.

There are several events on the horizon in the near future (with details in this *Jib Sheet*):

- The Lighted Boat Parade is December 8th.
- **John Gargett** is again chairing the "Sink the Dinghy" program and has chosen to support the education of the children of a Navy seaman who gave his life protecting our country. Join me in supporting our efforts to *surpass* last year's total of \$5000.
- New Year's Eve, we will again be hosting a party at the BYC...**Bob Kehoe** will be whipping up a mighty tasty dinner on the grill with the cost to be around \$15 per person.
- In January, we will again be hosting a Boat Show Bus. **Jody Erickson** is helping coordinate this event and seats are limited.

Finally, just a reminder to all those who have yet to pay their 2007/08 dues, please do this as soon as possible as they were due at the end of October. When you break it down, the cost for an active membership is only \$27 a month...less than a meal for two at a decent restaurant. Where else can you find so much fun and camaraderie for that price?

Terry Tavelli, BYC 2007-2008 Commodore

FROM THE BYC FLEET CAPTAIN...

Merry Christmas from the Fleet Desk!

Please plan on joining in on the fun Saturday, 8 December, when the BYC hosts the annual **Lighted Boat Parade**. Check out all the details in the article in this month's Jibsheet.

Cruising Fleet Captain, Allan Troupin, is busy gathering your ideas and suggestions for some great cruises next year. Do you have someplace you'd love to go? Send me an email and I'll be happy to forward it on.

Racing Fleet Captain, Jeff Vernon, is also busy putting together next year's racing calendar. If you have any comments, complaints, suggestions or praises, send them my way and I'll share them with Jeff and his team.

A big THANK YOU to **Dave Steffan** (2007 Racing Fleet Captain) and his crew for putting together a fantastic Awards Night. The potluck was scrumptious and it was terrific to see such a packed house. Congratulations to all the racers for getting your boats out there and competing. And special congratulations to **Mick Corcoran** and **Kathy Holland** for winning Boat of the Year! See you at the Club! *...Michele Hurst, Fleet Captain fleetcaptain@byc.org*

FROM THE MEMBERSHIP DESK...

On behalf of the Board of Directors and the BYC Membership, I would like to extend a warm welcome to the following new members:

- **Michael and Maya Allsop**, Active members from Bellingham, 65' power boat;
- **Bruce and Angela Butterfield**, Non-resident members from Seattle, 54' custom aluminum power boat;
- **Thomas and Liz Waggener**, Non-resident members from Mill Creek, 35' Hunter sail boat;
- **Mike and Teresa Werner**, Active members from Bellingham, 30' Tollycraft power boat.

---Michele Bodtke, Membership Secretary

COMMODORE'S BALL A HUGE SUCESS

The 2007 Commodore's Ball on November 3 recognizing our new BYC Commodore **Terry Tavelli** was a sheer delight. This year's theme, "The Sea Down Under", was an evening of fun, good food and good music. And most of all an evening with GREAT friends!

The decorating Committee of **Jane Sylvester, Geri Kersey, Sally Poorman, Nancy Rogers, Susan Anderson** and several others spent Friday night and Saturday morning setting the tables and decorating the ceiling with some very unique fish! Their enthusiasm was only heightened by the responses of our members on Saturday evening. Great work!

Cori Hanson took pictures of everyone and to be posted on the BYC website. Thanks!

Our appreciation to **Kathy Pace** who put her years of event planning experience to good use, the evening flowed smoothly. The hors d'oeuvres were good and the pre-dinner atmosphere was festive. It appeared to this reporter that everyone was anticipating a fun filled evening.

And FUN we did have!

The MC for the evening, Past Commodore **Joe Coons**, delighted us with little tidbits of history and set the stage for Terry to welcome us to this Annual Ball. Terry's thoughts and comments were both serious and humorous. Terry proceeded to recognize just about everyone in attendance. And then recognized those not previously recognized! (Thanks to Bob Kehoe - FUN!!)

Dinner was served and four different wines were on each table. These wines were chosen specifically for the Ball by **Al & Karen Callery** and **Richard & Carol Veach**, who went on a wine tasting trip to Southeast Washington. Magnificent Wines - Good Choices!

Terry's choice of music was right on! The Bellingham High School Alumni Swing Band regaled us the rest of the evening with great sounds that everybody danced to. It was nice to see the dance floor FULL of couples enjoying themselves dancing to wonderful music.

The evening was festive, the gowns were beautiful, the tuxes black, and the members had a wonderful time. What more could you ask for in Commodore's Ball? Nothing, except another one next year!
--- PC Steve Moore

ROUND THE COUNTY RACE 2007

It seems every year we wish for enough wind to finish each segment of the Round the County Race before the daily time limit and yet not so much wind that carnage ensues. This year, Mother Nature threw a little of both at us. Friday was a blustery day as we made our way to Blakely Island Marina where we built a roaring fire and cooked our steaks and partied as only sailors can do. During the night, the wind howled, banging halyards and generally shaking the boats in their slips.

Saturday morning we awoke to gusty winds and sunshine. The race began at Lydia Shoal with about 15-20 knots of wind blowing from the Southwest. With this year's race traveling counter-clockwise around the islands, spinnakers were set for the start and the smaller boats were able to stay ahead (for a while) of the larger boats. Our good fortune was not to last as there were many "equalizer" holes in the wind to be found as we rounded the Eastern tip of Orcas Island and we soon had a huge cluster of boats complete with a tug pulling a barge traveling right through the middle. Everyone was looking for wind, trying to break away from the group. The wind began to fill again and we ended up with a beat for the rest of the day with most boats able to finish at Roche Harbor within the time limit. Hot showers and dinner were the order of the evening and then...more partying.

Sunday we awoke to gusty 12-15 knot winds with the forecast promising more wind to 30 knots later in the day. The wind was now out of the Southeast, so the first half of the race was a beat in building seas with the wind increasing to 20 knots. This segment saw a lot of upwind headsail changes as the wind continued to build. Stronger winds were in store as we rounded Cattle Point and we were whooping and hollering as we saw 15 knots of boat speed while surfing during a reach on Blackfoot under main and the #3 jib only. We finished at around 1430 in the

afternoon in 30-35 knots of wind and thus had daylight for most of the trip home. Not a lot of boats put up a spinnaker on Sunday afternoon and those that did provided the entertainment with some spectacular death rolls and broaches.

All Bellingham boats made it home safely even as the wind continued to rise. We recorded a peak gust of 48.6 knots on the way across Bellingham Bay where we were now surfing under storm jib only at speeds as high as 11 knots. Several Anacortes boats were not able to make headway through the wind and steep waves while attempting to return home and wisely opted to put in to Bellingham and wait out the storm.

Bellingham Yacht Club was well represented with **Jim Holstine** on *O' Ben Annas* finishing 5th in Division M, **Bob Diehl** on *Diehler* finishing 7th in Division X, **Marlene Bolster** on her *J-36* finishing 8th in Division O, **Jose Bartlett** on *Jamoca* finishing 4th and **Doug Nesbit** on *Yikes* finishing 13th in Division I, and **Mick Corcoran** on *Blackfoot* finishing 2nd and **Eric Yaremko** on *Flying Circus* finishing 10th in Division III. Congratulations to all and thanks to Orcas Island Yacht Club for putting on another great Round the County Race! Thanks also go to our Support Boats who make this regatta enjoyable not only through the pleasure of their company, but by providing a warm, dry haven, hot drinks and food and a bit of sanity! --- *Comm. Terry Tavelli*

PIYA MEETING REPORT...

Saturday November 17th representatives from Seattle south to Victoria BC north joined together at the BYC for the Fall PIYA meeting. This is a sailing organization which encourages and fosters the development of sailboat racing across both the U.S. Pacific Northwest & B.C. Canada. PIYA assists in coordination of USSA area H & E racing activities to include area elimination events leading toward national U.S. Sailing Championships. They resolve racing protest appeals, provide race judging support & support the major area racing. PIYA maintains a standard set of safe sailboat racing by establishing equipment standards for various category's of sailboat racing. PIYA also provides sail numbers to PHRF boats of member clubs.

At the fall meeting changes in the category certificates were discussed and modifications made. Some of the big issues at the meeting were life line sizes & radar reflectors. Pay close attention to the certificates next year as we are currently updating for the 2008 season. You can download the certificates from the web page at www.ussailing.net/piya. On this site you can also link up to the racing schedules of clubs from Portland to B.C.

This year was the election of officers. I will be, for the next 2 years, the Vice Commodore with Chuck Ramsey Commodore and Jan Visser as Executive Secretary. I am also on the safety committee which works to keep the safety certificates up to date with the current designs and materials used in boat building.

Any questions or concerns can be direct to me and I will bring them to the committee for discussion. --- *PC Marlene Bolster, PIYA Vice Commodore*

NAME BADGES... DO YOU HAVE YOURS?

The Club would like all members to own (and wear!) their name badges at all Club functions. If

you do not yet have one, and are interested, please send an e-mail to Roberta McCord (saltychuck@aol.com). Thank you!

CAPTAIN HOMIE'S LOG...

I had another summer of boating, full of adventures and happenings!

This was Homie's year for boat issues. I've been fortunate over the years, and not had too many problems, but this was the year that Murphy decided to pay me a few visits. First, the circulating pump on the engine went out, then the memory battery in my chart-plotter, then an alternator and regulator. But the last issue happened with a guest aboard: the Vacu-flush toilet broke! Looking toward the future, in 2004 I had bought a toilet seat that fits on a five-gallon bucket, thinking someday this might come in handy, and it did; enough said.

Patty joined me in Vancouver May 23 and we got to enjoy that warm spell in late May up in Desolation Sound. Imagine being the only Boat anchored in Prideaux Haven, but that's what getting an early start provides! We cruised with **Sam Darbous** *S/V Alluvium* and another friend from the West Vancouver YC. Sam parted company with us after Prideaux Haven and went on up to Alaska. Now he's down in San Francisco where he'll be staying the winter. His plan is to go down to Mexico, then, who knows? He still flies the BYC burgee, and that can pay big dividends for reciprocals, he says.

Well, we continued on up to The Broughtons and had a great time. Patty jumped ship June 26th at Port McNeill, as she had some stuff to do with The Girls this summer, and I continued on up to Bella Bella/Shearwater area to hook up with friends that were up fishing. That's my new thing, trying to learn how to fish. I really did meet some nice folks along the way this summer, and learned a bit more about how to catch the critters. I'm looking forward to seeing them all again next summer.

Crabbing and prawning was quite good this year. Up at Ocean Falls a fella got a crab that was 11 inches! That's a Big Crab!!! The Store at Shearwater is much better than it was, and to do laundry there is still the most expensive place to be found --- we try getting that done at Alert Bay. I met some Locals at Alert Bay, and I'm looking forward to seeing them again next summer and doing some Halibut fishing in that area.

While anchored out at Port McNeill I did real well crabbing. Just put your pots out where everybody else does and you'll do fine. Also the Laudromat has free Internet.

On my return late July, I stopped by Duncanby Landing as Bob Hale wrote it up as being quite nice. At \$1.50/ft and \$30/nite/30amp, and the store not open, the place didn't appeal to "economy-minded" Capt. Homie, so I anchored in Goose Bay, and rowed ashore to see the old cannery. A group of firemen and policemen from Burnaby, BC bought the place four years ago and are fixing it up. They're not sure what they're going to do with it, and with 26 owners trying to agree on anything, it looks to be a bit of a challenge, eh? We did find a few new anchorages, but most of the time we spent at our Old Favorites. Patty joined me again in

Nanaimo August 10th and jumped ship September 10th at Friday Harbor. **Gary and Cheryl Parsons**, *M/V Dragonfly* joined up in late August in the Gulf Islands and we cruised together for five or six weeks. You can do that with certain folks, and they are great boaters.

After coming back to the States in early September, Gary and I came over to the Bellingham area and harvested some crab for him to take back to Rouge River, Ore. Even though Patty can't eat Crab, she can sure cook 'em, and we had some pretty spectacular meals. I still can't believe I actually lost 10 pounds this summer! Now the trick will be to keep it off.

If you can lay your hands on the August issue of Pacific Yachting, you'll have an even better understanding of what I was up against last summer. I've since found a new appreciation for Slack Current Predictions...

In order to get up to the Broughtons, you have to go thru at least one strong tidal-flow. But they all have slack current times, and I'm now a believer in hitting it at slack current! Last summer I was 1.5 hours late at Dent Rapids on a Spring Flood, heading south (not a good situation). As I was going thru, I got hit by a whirlpool that slammed my rudder hard to port and stuck the steering gear in that position, then I get caught in a big whirlpool that started spinning me around and I was still without steerage. Well, I figured it will just shoot me thru the rapids. Not!!! I got caught in a back-eddy. So now I was really "up to my ass in alligators and trying to figure out how to drain the swamp", as they say. After about two or three minutes of trying to just keep from hitting the shore, lots of forward and reverse, another whirlpool hit the rudder and knocked it loose.

I had to throw the shorts away that I was wearing, and for almost two weeks not a day went by that I didn't have a thought of what a horrific experience I had experienced.

Sooo, I learned my lesson: No more "Shooting the Rapids" for Captain Homie. It was a good thing that Mrs. Homie wasn't there to witness the event...

Now, in November, I have boat projects to do during the winter, and lots of crabbing until the end of the year, and figuring out how to get *Caroline* rigged for fishing next summer at St. Johns Bay up by Bella Bella and Shearwater.

I did meet a few BYC Boats this summer, and if I had my boat cards handy I'd be able to give them some ink. Maybe next time! And I was able to do a bit of recruiting for the Club during my travels. I'll be looking for you at the Boat Show. Fair Winds, Capt. Homie & Patty *Frank Richardson, Captain Homie, is the BYC's cruising reciprocal fanatic aboard his single-prop 42' Hardin Trawler, Caroline, with his wife, Patti aboard much of the time. His missives arrive mysteriously from time to time from capt.homie@pocketmail.com*

FRIDAYS AT FIVE AT THE BYC...

Have fun with other BYC members and host a Friday's at Five. Always held the 1st and 3rd Fridays, it's a great way to have the Theme Party you always wanted to do. Who can forget the recent themes of the 1950s, or the Quatro de Mayo? And the Food themes! Fantastic! Be creative. Contact **Steve Moore** at 671-3464 or by e-mail at steve@mooreandcompany.com. Want to do one but don't know what's involved? Call me and I'll help you. ---Steve Moore

AN EDITORIAL...

Have you noticed how our Club just keeps getting better? In the "FUN" department, I note that the Commodore's Ball may have been the best in many years with lovely decorations, good food, and a wonderful band. I'm glad I've been going to the gym to get fit: Judy and I danced more than in years! And then there was the Tom & Jerry Party: Not only were the drinks still the greatest (and free!), the food provided by the Club was excellent.

Credit goes to all our volunteers in this "all-Volunteer" Club. Thank You!

--- Joe Coons

RBAW REPORT



The BYC is a supporting member of the Recreational Boating Association of Washington [as every individual member should be as well...Ed] and member BJ Ursin represents us at its meetings, and files the following report...

Mandatory Boater Education Card To date State Parks has issued over 8000 Boater Education Cards. *Don't forget:* All boaters 20 years and younger will be required to have a boater's education card with them when

operating a motor driven vessel (sail boat, power boat, jet ski) propelled by a motor of 15 horsepower or greater starting January 1, 2008.

Enhanced Washington State Drivers License Washington State is studying issuing an enhanced automobile drivers license that will be used in lieu of a passport. It is a national pilot program, and the plan is to extend the license to include boaters crossing the border. RBAW has a delegate at the State Department of Licensing, and we'll keep all Washington boaters informed of progress.

Boat Blue Coalition and NMMA - (US) H.R. 2550 & S. 2067 RBAW is continuing to work with the National Boating Federation (NBF) and the Boat Blue Coalition to support these two bills which would exempt recreational boats from commercial boat requirements requiring discharge permits for *any* water discharges from their boats such as bilge water, deck runoffs, cooling water, gray water, and others.

2008 Legislative Session RBAW has been meeting with Washington State officials in Olympia to consider options for new legislation for the upcoming Legislative session that starts in January. This legislation would include increasing the funding to the Boater Activity Account by diverting more of our boater excise tax in that direction.

The RBAW extends to all readers and boaters a happy and safe Holiday Season.

CAPTAIN'S COURSE SCHEDULED

The United States Maritime Academy has a OUPV/Master's course scheduled for the 2008 academic year. It will be held January 7 - February 27, 2008, Monday, Tuesday, & Wednesday, Evenings, 1730-2130, at the Club.

The cost of the course is \$1200 for both licenses and the classroom books and chart, and BYC Members get a 20% discount!. Spring courses have filled in the past, but you can hold a spot with a

reservation. Call or send me an email, I'd be happy to help you answer any licensing questions.

Captain Richard J. Rodriguez, United States Maritime Academy

CaptRodriguez@gmail.com www.usmaritime.us telephone 360.531.0698

THIS MONTH'S CALENDARS

DECEMBER Business, Social & Cruising			
12/7, 12/21	Fri	Fridays at Five	Steve Moore, 201-8999
12/8	Sat	Lighted Boat Parade	Michele Hurst, 671-5797
12/18	Tues	Past Commodores Dinner	Bud Peterson 733-6868
12/20	Thurs	Board Meeting	6PM at Club. Al Callery 676-0784
12/31	Mon	New Year's Eve Party	Dick Johnson, 739-6690
DECEMBER Sailing Races & Events			
12/8	Sat	Lighted Boat Parade	Michele Hurst, 671-5797

JANUARY Business, Social & Cruising			
1/4, 1/18	Fri	Fridays at Five	Steve Moore, 201-8999
1/17	Thurs	Board Meeting	6PM at Club. Terry Tavelli 305-2452
1/26	Sat	Boat Show Excursion 8:30	Jodi Erickson, 738-9647
JANUARY Sailing Races & Events			

THIS MONTH'S FEATURED ADVERTISERS

Our Member **GARY BAKER** has become one of Bellingham's most successful Realtors as he works with the folks at Coldwell Banker Miller-Arnason Real Estate. When you add his skills to their resources, you have a winning combination of personal integrity and market knowledge. When working for sellers, Gary helps get top dollar for your home, while when representing you as a buyer he helps you find a home that fit your needs, taste, and budget. Face it: Buying or selling a home is a project that requires professional advice! Get it from Gary Baker. Call 360-441-5683.

Russell Deptuch of **YACHT-TEC MARINE SERVICES** continues to be the choice of many boaters when they want reliable vessel repair and installation work. Russ and his crew can be counted upon for *quality* work, and his experience with all boat systems from the bilge to the mast-top means the job will be done *right*. Of course, his first business was sailboat rigging, so sailors always call upon Yacht-Tec for this, but he serves all boaters with a wide variety of skills employed with integrity and efficiency. Call Russ at 380-5426 for service or quotes!

2007-2008 BYC Officers and Board

Commodore *Terry Tavelli*; Vice Commodore *Terry Robertson*; Rear Commodore *Pete Foti*; Fleet Captain *Michele Hurst*; Past Commodore *Al Callery*; Secretary *Jane Sylvester*. Trustees, 1st Year: Troy Curran, Wayne Kelsoe, Randy Nulle and Jerry Writer. Trustees, 2nd Year: Michele Bodke, Geoff Chamness, Steve Kersey and Carol Veach.

Past Commodores – IOBG

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

The BYC Jib Sheet

December Editor: *Joe Coons*. Editors: *Loraine Boland, Joe Coons, Pam Heward*

Regular Contributors: *Al Callery, Terry Tavelli, Terry Robertson, Ken Malseed, Dick Johnson, Steve Moore, Michele Bodtke, Dick Grimshaw, Michele Hurst, Bob Kehoe, Bud Peterson, Frank Richardson, Steve Ross, Dave Steffan, BJ Ursin*

Bellingham Yacht Club

2625 S. Harbor Loop
Bellingham WA 98225

The BYC *Jib Sheet*

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