



KNOT NEWS



Volume 111 No. 10

Anacortes Yacht Club's 111th Year

October 2002

COMMODORE'S COMMENTS

WOW! This last week saw the completion of the lower level of the AYC clubhouse. Many thanks go out to all of those members that helped on this project. The leadership behind the construction was provided by Spencer Swain and Bob Carlson with lots of help from the balance of the building committee – Pam Edwards-Harju, Suzanne Emery, Ron Elliot and Phil Case. Members Bill Bowman and Ron Elliot came in with the favorable bids for construction and wiring. Many other members also volunteered on cleaning out the basement and doing the final clean up. The final act will be the selection of the furnishings and then the enjoyment of the room can begin.

Bill Short Commodore

Election of Directors

Excerpts from Article VI, paragraphs 13 and 14 of the AYC Bylaws. "The election of directors shall be accomplished by the Commodore selecting a nominating committee, subject to approval by the Board of Directors."..... "The nominating committee shall report to the director who will be serving his (her) second year as director in the ensuing year, who shall then present the list of nominations made by the nominating committee to the general membership of the Club at the meeting preceding the annual meeting. The person presenting the nominations then shall call for additional nominations from the general membership."

The members selected for the committee were Wendy Gray, Bruce Backlund and Spencer Swain. The nominees shown in the right hand column will be officially presented to the membership at the **October 25th meeting**. This advance notification of the nominees is to afford sufficient time for those of a different mind to present candidates for nomination from the floor. This also the night of the **Annual Crab Feed** which you will hear more about from Pam.



**Commodore
Pam Edwards-Harju**



**Vice Commodore
Bill Booth**



**Rear Commodore
Pat Barrett**



**Secretary
Brenda Cheaqui**



**Treasurer
Warren Walz**



**Director Position 1
George Way**



**Director Position 2
Fred West**

HOOKED ON COMMODORE'S CRUISE

The Commodore's Cruise to small ports met in Sidney on September 9th. After several trips to West Marine and the grocery store, the group sailed on to Cowichen. Madrisa managed to get hooked up to a crabpot and Pyxis had their jib sheet hook one of their windows and rip it off along the way. Cowichen was full of fishing boats with generators running so the fleet decided to stay at Genoa Bay, especially since Skipper John Moody and Dave Thomson had towed Madrisa into Genoa Bay to disengage the crabpot and Pyxis needed something to repair the window. Grapevine Caf  did their part in providing excellent food and a great setting for the storytelling of the days activities. The next morning, Captain Morgan's B&B provided a wonderful brunch and beautiful setting before we sailed on to Crofton. Rafting together gave the fleet the needed room to stay the night at Crofton. Luckily, a pub was close by to quench our thirst and get the local news. The Bell Burger at the Brass Bell was the hit of the stay at Crofton along with the School Museum and its various carvings. While the fleet headed for Ladysmith, Captain Jack headed homeward to get back for very important birthdays. Ladysmith provided lots of sights and activities around the lumber mill on our way down to the Ladysmith Yacht Club. New docks were being built there but we were able to tie up temporarily while they worked on them anyway. Somewhere along the way we got separated from Sea Star but caught up with them on the way to Lyall Harbour on Saturna Island. The local pub at Lyall Harbour was a perfect end to the cruise with a fun evening of playing darts and watching another beautiful northwest sunset. Those on the cruise were John Moody, Dave Thomson, Bruce and Cynthia Backlund, Wayne Schaub, Steve and Marion Lowe, The Gatley brothers, Bill and Marcia Short and guests from Walla Walla Yacht Club Earl and Linda Yoes.

Bill Short

Welcome Aboard Bob & Dianna Apter

5A Beach Drive, LaConner, WA 98257
Home: 360-466-3327; Work: 360-419-2426
email: bapter@cnw.com, Boat: Syndi-cat

WINE AND CHEESE CRUISE

Get your taste buds cranked up because Saturday and Sunday October 12th and 13th is the Wine and Cheese Cruise to Reid Harbor on Stuart Island. Bring a bottle of your favorite wine, party food and cheese to share Saturday evening at 5:00 PM. Call Bill Short (360) 293-8844 for any additional information.

BOWLING NIGHT

Now is the time to dust off your old bowling ball and join other AYC members in rolling gutter balls for an evening of bowling fun. The first order of the evening is attending the \$2.00 Night at the club from 6-7 PM and then heading for the San Juan Lanes for bowling at 7:30 PM. It is lots of fun and we hope you can make it. If you don't bowl, come anyway and cheer the group on.

FIRST MATES LUNCHEON

Saturday, October 19th at 12 noon the second annual First Mates Luncheon will be held at the AYC clubhouse. The luncheon will be prepared by skillfull Captains and graciously served. A program will follow. For reservations, call 293-5277 and leave a message. Please state that it is for the First Mates Luncheon. Cost: \$7.00. Call Bill Short at 360-293-8844 if you have questions.

Blakely Island Race Cruise

The last overnight race/cruise to Blakely Island Marina is next weekend, and the racing fleet has extended an invitation to the cruisers to come out and sail this last event with them. The cruisers will have their own start after the normal fleets starts, and sail to Blakely Island leaving the Cone Islands to the port. The first start is at 9:00 AM between the red nun and the Shell oil dock. The finish line is 360 degrees magnetic from the mark on Spindle Rock. The tide turns at 9:35 so the decision about the course is up to you, but we all will be welcome at the end. This is described as a fun outing by all, so come out and play. If you are going please let Willey Gravley know at willie@ncia.com. If you just want information call me at 360-568-4306 or mpcase@earthlink.net . Phil Case, Cruise Chairman

Rescue at Sea, September 9, 2002

We were returning to Anacortes on Voyageur, our Grand Banks 42, at the end of our four month cruise to Alaska; we being Laura and Dick Smock, Linda and John Seely and their little dog, Cody when the incident began. The weather had been bad for several days prior to our departure from Refuge Cove and many boats were still holed up waiting for better weather, but we went out, heading for Westview/Powell River. As we rounded Sarah Point we heard "Mayday, Mayday, this is the sailboat Raven and



I have a fire on board." Seconds later, the Canadian Coast Guard (Comox) also issued a Mayday. Raven (a 36' sailboat with its sails up) was located just outside Cortez Bay on Cortez Island, about 3 miles from our position with one person on board. At the time of the Mayday, we spotted her trailing a stream of wispy smoke in the distance. We immediately responded to the Coast Guard that were on our way to render assistance. Our estimated arrival time to the burning vessel was about 15 minutes. Enroute, we heard Raven's Captain telling the Coast Guard that he had put out the fire but it had flared up again and he could not go below decks because of dense smoke. The Coast Guard advised him to take a hand held radio and get into his dingy. As we sped towards Raven, Dick and Linda donned life jackets in preparation for going outside to help. There were 3' to 4' seas at the time. When we arrived, Raven was completely engulfed in flames; even the sails were on fire. Moments later the mast collapsed from the heat and wrapped itself around the side of the hull and along the surface of the water. Another boat (a 13' Boston Whaler from Cortez Bay) also appeared on the scene,

responding to the Mayday. They radioed us to say that the Raven's dingy was upside down in the water with no one on board. It was a sobering moment when we spotted that red dingy. We agreed that the Whaler would search the East side of the burning boat while we would search the West side. Laura and Linda went up to the flybridge to man the depth sounder since the one at the helm wasn't always reliable. Linda spotted Raven's Captain, Garry, some 300' upwind of his boat. It's amazing how small someone is when in the water! We pulled Voyageur upwind (to create a lee for Garry). As we went by, he said to Laura, "Please don't leave." He had been in the 52 degree water for about 15 to 20 minutes and was wearing sweat pants and foul weather gear. He had on a yellow slicker and a harness type PFD. Without that yellow color, I don't know if we would have spotted him (as an aside, we are convinced that yellow shows up much better than red or blue, for those of you picking out foul weather gear). Garry grabbed the edge of the swim platform and as he slowly climbed up the ladder, Dick and Linda pulled him first onto the swim platform and then onto the stern of the boat. Not an easy task since the boat was wallowing in the heavy seas. Once Garry was safely aboard, Dick and Linda made sure he was OK and kept him talking. He was lucid and not too terribly cold; not hypothermic. We knew that the Coast Guard had an ambulance waiting at the Seattle Yacht Club (SYC) dock in Cortez Bay. The SYC has several "outstations" where they have complete facilities for members only. We took Garry to the dock and the paramedics and the manager of the SYC outstation took over. After a hot bath and cleaned and dried clothes, he was physically as good as new, but a much sadder man. Garry was from Shilshole Marina and had lived aboard Raven. He lost everything he owned in the fire (Raven sank approximately 10 minutes after we picked him up). He was on his way to Campbell River to pick up a friend when the fire broke out. The night before he had changed the fuel filter in his gasoline engine (Atomic 4). The staff and members of the SYC invited us to stay over night and to join them at their potluck dinner that evening. They were very gracious, and we were grateful. All in all it was an adventure that we will not soon forget. **John Seely**

AYC October Schedule

Fri, Oct 4	Open Bar
Sat, Oct 5	Blakley Island Race/Cruise
Fri, Oct 11	Open Bar, \$2.00 Night, Bowling
Sat, Oct 12	Clark Island Race
Sat, Oct 12	Reid Harbor Wine & Cheese Cruise
Sun, Oct 13	Lido Race
Fri, Oct 18	Open Bar
Sat, Oct 19	First Mates Luncheon 12 Noon
Tue, Oct 22	Board Meeting
Fri, Oct 25	Open Bar, AYC Dinner
Sat, Oct 26	Sailors October Fest, Awards,
Sun, Oct 27	Cruising Club, Pot Luck, Program