



KNOT NEWS

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Anacortes Yacht Club's 112th Year

October 2003

From the Helm

Hi... I hope you all enjoyed the Salmon Barbecue and guest speaker, Dan Stahl, the Executive Director of the Port of Anacortes. What a great tradition we have, Salmon in September and Crab in October. Definitely something to look forward to.



Just to give you all an idea of the program for the October General Meeting.... Well, it will be PAM and the Mystery Program. That is pretty much all I am going to say about it. I know that you will all want to come and enjoy the Crab Dinner, so I thought I would add some amazing pizzazz to the evening. You just never know what will happen; but I did tell the Vice Commodore that I would not embarrass myself or anyone else. So please everyone sign up and help make the evening just plain fun.

Keep in mind that officer nominations will be finalized at the October 24 General Meeting, with the elections of new officers on Saturday, November 22, 2003. If you have a desire to hold an office or nominate someone, please contact George Way, Bill Bowman or Roger Wright. They are all listed in your roster.

At the recent Board Meeting two new members were approved, Chuck and Nancy Lang, and Associate Member Jan Larson. It was a great pleasure to welcome them to the Club at the Salmon Dinner.

We have a new Membership Chairperson; her name is Barbara Ritts. We had several people who indicated interest in the position and Barbara was voted on by the Board of Directors. She is replacing Dave Thomson who has had the position for many years. He's done a simply outstanding job, making new mem-

bers feel welcome, giving them the ins and outs of the yacht club. Sometimes the words THANK YOU are not enough. Dave, you are appreciated and admired for what you have done.

The end of August, I had the pleasure to cruising to Victoria, BC. We visited several members of the Anacortes Yacht Club on their boats and enjoyed seeing them at various places in town. Any one who has not cruised with the club, please check out the schedule next year – they really seem to have a great time and enjoy each other's company. It is time well spent.

Well, it's the 27th of August, the temperature is in the high 70s, and after sailing all day gives one a chance to reflect on just how very lucky we are to live in the wonderful area. It is truly a gift. All that work and sunshine has worn me out so I will simply say....

Until next month, Cheers ☺, Pam

From the Tiller

Along with our neat late season racing and other club events, we have a 2-Buck Night on Friday, October 10 to be hosted by Steve and Sheila Tomas. The menu



will be announced ASAP by email. The October General Meeting on October 24th will feature our Annual Crabfeed and a program arranged by our Commodore. Many thanks to new member Laura Hennesey for volunteering to sign in our guests at the Salmon Feed and to Rod Bell for his expert preparation of the salmon. Also thanks to Dan Stahl for his presentation regarding the Pier 1 and Cap

Sante Boat Haven projects. The marina project is especially impressive and may well have an significant impact on downtown Anacortes. --Bill Booth, Vice-Commodore.

From the Rear of the Bus....

As Rear Commodore, it is my responsibility to keep the bar running in the green and make sure our crew of bartenders are taking care of the patrons. This fine group of people has been doing a great job. I haven't been working behind the bar too much this summer because they are always there when needed. A special thanks to Chuck Mallary... not only is he a regular on Race nights... with thirsty obnoxious sailors waiting for him at the door when he arrives after sailing



*Cat Sass Coming at You
Photo from Pat Barrett*

his own boat each Wednesday, but when I did not get scheduling done for late July and early August... he made sure the holes were filled with himself or others.

Part of the issue with time dedicated to my RC duties has been my recent ownership and racing of Cat Sass. My boat partner, Keith Rubin and I purchased this "Viva 27" catamaran this past spring and brought her up on trailer from Newport, California the end of May and we have been having great fun since. She is 27'8" long and 18' across and we admit the accommodations are a bit sparse. There are no other sailing vessels like Cat Sass in this part of country so when we went to the multi-hull rater, we had to take what he gave us... a PHRF rating of -25 (that is minus!). We have to sail REAL fast to sail to that rating... but given winds of 10+ we can do it! The Windermere Regatta was the first time on the water for us and the first race. We struggled a bit, but had sooooo much fun! We had 5 phenomenal days at Oak Harbor Race Week in late July and had the opportunity to sail with other

multi-hulls for the first time. We found we could compete in winds above 10 knots.

On September 1 we brought her back from Bellingham and the Pitch Regatta... on a reach in 15+ knots of breeze we hit 20 knots plus. We sail her like a dingy as we have no instruments, but now and again we have time to get the GPS out to get a grasp on speed. In early July on an ebb tide we were 4 hours from Victoria harbor entrance to Cap Sante and probably averaged 14-15 knots over the bottom.

We welcome anyone who wants to sail her with us to give us a holler. We'll find a spot for you. Odds are you have never gone this fast in a sailboat. Chris Sherman, the owner of *Son of Raven* (Corsair F31) says... "once you go mutli-hull, you'll never go back"... I must agree and I know Keith does as well, as he has been waiting about 25 years to get back to catamaran sailing. As Keith says, you cannot have this much fun on the water unless you have no clothes on. So if you see a couple of guys and their crew, screaming by you in 15-20 knots of breeze going to weather flying thru the waves with big giant smiles on their faces... it is us, just having fun!

Pat Barrett, Rear Commodore, AYC

Cruise to Reid Harbor Set for October

The last on-water cruise of the year targets Stuart Island's Reid Harbor on the October 11 and 12. Come and join us before the early fall nights make socializing difficult. There will be a wine and cheese gathering at 4:30 PM on Saturday – bring your favorite beverage and a cheese plate or dish to share.

For those who have not been there, Reid harbor is on the south side of Stuart Island. The harbor is large, well protected, has several floats, and many buoys. Onshore, there is a State Park and easy hiking to the Lighthouse at Turn point. Watch your chart, as there are shallows on either side of the entrance. Note too that the float attached to shore at the park is quite shallow, and not recommended for deeper draft boats – especially as low tide on Saturday night is approaching a zero tide. The cruise captain will monitor channel 72.

Hope to see you there. Questions? Please contact: Cruise Captain Roger Wright, 360-588-1753, rlwright@att.net

Blakely Island Race/Cruise This Weekend

If you are interested in racing your fellow cruisers from Anacortes to Blakely Island to see if the wind blows, the beer flows and the party goes, then you should show up for the final Anacortes Yacht Club Race/Cruise outing for 2003. The race/cruise is scheduled for October 4-5. Last year several cruiser and racers turned out and had a great Saturday race, a fun party and a nice cruise back. Power Cruisers are welcome to join the outing and party. Call Norma at the marina for moorage (360 375-6121).

If you are interested, please call Phil Case, Cruise Chairman (360-568-4306 or mpcase@earthlink.net) or Fred West, Race Committee (360-929-1726 or fred@voyageryachts.com).

November Land Cruise to Port Angeles

First note that the dates have been changed to Friday November 14 - Sunday November 16. The destination is Port Angeles: Red Lion Hotel, 221 North Lincoln, 360-452-9215. Rooms with two single beds, street side \$80.10, view side \$89.10. The hotel is in the heart of town, has a restaurant/cafe, and outside hot tub. If enough people are going, we might be able to swing a group rate, so do make reservations as soon as possible.

Directions... Take the Keystone/Port Townsend ferry. Approximate driving time from Port Townsend to Port Angeles is 1 1/2 hrs. Some places to stop in route include the John Wayne Marina shortly before Sequim. There are two golf courses in Sequim. Dungeness Spit is a must if you haven't seen it before. There are several wineries in route and we have brochures if you are interested. The 3 Crabs Restaurant is very well known, the food is good, and although it is a bit pricy, the on the water location is great. Its a good place to stop for lunch in route.

Things to see and do in Port Angeles... First visit the visitors center about a block from the hotel. You can also walk and view the Nor'Wester Rotary Murals. Saturday has two different "farmer's markets." There are numerous antique shops, a Walking Art Tour, a Fine Arts Center and Sculpture Park. Port Angeles has a great waterfront trail to walk or you can rent a

bike. The Feiro Marine Life Center is open noon to 4 pm on weekends. Weather permitting, Hurricane Ridge is a great place to visit. We found two great short hikes and there are many more.

We need to have an accurate head count for those that wish to participate in a 1pm Friday tour and presentation by the USCG at the Ediz Spit Station in Port Angeles. Since 911, security dictates that we give them a list of names of those attending and you will need a piece of identification.

We have also scheduled an historic walking tour of Port Angeles for Saturday at 1pm. They also need a head count of those that are interested. Part of the tour is underground and the price is \$5. Also, Curt Horne (our drinking class instructor) has offered to do a driving WW 2 tour of the area if there are some that are interested. If you plan to attend the AYC Land Cruise of Port Angeles, please call Helene or Maury Fink, 293-3814 or send us an e-mail mhfink@comcast.net.

Octoberfest Races October 25

The annual Octoberfest will be held Saturday, October 25, on Fidelgo Bay. Wind permitting, I plan on running as many races as possible between the 9 am start and 3:30 pm. These will not be your regular courses! You know with me in charge these races will be fun and different. Everyone will have to pay close attention. A dinner at the Club will follow at 4pm with the presentation of awards following. *Wired* will be the committee boat this year. Give me a call if you have any questions. I'm sure it will prove to be an interesting and fun-filled day. --Ron Elliott, 360-299-1152.

October Events

Blakely Island Race/Cruise October 4-5

\$2 Night, October 10, 6pm

Reid Harbor Cruise, October 11-12

General Meeting/Crab Feed, October 24, 6pm

Octoberfest Race Day, October 25

Labor Day Cruise to Victoria

Labor day weekend at Victoria BC included lots of sun and fun. In addition to the shopping and restaurants we were treated to amazing street sights, a Blues Bash and classic wooden boat show. From Thursday on the weather was sunny and warm with enough wind to power those who wanted it or needed it. *Sea Star* arrived at the Customs dock behind Jerry and Kris Baker with their kids, JD and Jenny on *Kristina*; Ken and Betsy Cave on *Dragon Tale* were already moored on B dock. Phil and Madelyn Case arrived at midnight on *In the Mood* and spent the night at the Customs dock. Dave and Karen Thomson with their San Diego friends, Kim and Jeff, on *Tortuga*; Bill and Marsha Short on *Friendship*; Bill and Brenda Cheaqui on *B & B*; Brad and Barbara Blymyer on *DeVidal* all arrived on Friday. Friday evening's dock party was on B dock by *Tortuga*, included Commodore Pam Harju, Wayne Hesselgrave, and Mike and Pam Burke.

Saturday started with boat cat Bailey from *Sea Star* objecting to the very personal nose of an unleashed Border collie and flipping over the tie rail of the dock into the drink. Bailey's keeper offered a limb and paid dearly in scratches and bites for the privilege. Karen Thomson produced the Epsom salts for soaking the bite and Dr. Baker supplied antibiotics to fight the infection. Bailey still likes most dogs. Saturday's dock party was held on the *Sea Star* with most of the above listed folks, twenty in all, enjoying drinks and hors'd'oeuvres prior to scattering for dinner. On Sunday Dick and Cheryl Karney rode their bikes down from the Royal Vic Yacht Club where they had left *Paradox*. All in all this was a successful cruise with a good turnout. --Bruce Backlund

New Rating for *White Lightning*

Fred Abelman has changed my base boat rating from 84 to a 92. This coupled with a smaller headsail and smaller spinnaker have changed my rating to a 98. Since there will be a few raised eyebrows when they see a new number for my boat, I thought it would be helpful to put this in the *Knot News* so I only have to explain it once. I would strongly encourage anyone racing in PHRF to take the time to learn the handbook and compute their boats performance and allowable sail areas. It is not that hard and I am more than willing to help anyone with any questions. The biggest shock to me in doing this was finding out that my spin-

naker pole was too long (by about 3 inches) and because of this my undersized spinnaker (by 140 sqft) received a neutral rating. I cut 3" off my spinnaker pole and got 3 seconds back. Over a 15' pole that seemed a easy solution. --Chuck Tidington, *White Lightning*

Starpath Navigation Class

Starpath, a school for boaters located in Seattle, is teaching a pretty advanced courses on navigation, weather, radar and collision avoidance. David Burch, the administrator, says that they would be willing to have a class in Anacortes or Bellingham if they could get enough enrollees. It sounds like 10-15 would be enough. I have not taken any of their classes, but I do have their instructional software and it is quite good. The celestial navigation class offers a good deal more than textbook celestial navigation. They have a session at the planetarium and an on the water sextant practice session. This is an open ocean navigation course. You can find out more by going to www.starpath.com. I would like to take this course and if there is enough local interest we may be able to get them to come to us as opposed to driving through Seattle traffic! I would also be interested in their weather course. Please get back to me if you might be interested in this program. --Walt Meagher

New Members

Preferred Members Charles and Nancy Lang, 3610 West 2nd Street, Anacortes, WA 98221, 360-293-5786, boat: Amiga, 31' Pacific Seacraft

Associate Member Jan Larson, 2020 Meadows Lane, Anacortes, WA 98221, 360-299-9848. Jan is an experienced sailor who is interested in crewing. Give her a call.

AYC Website Address Changed

On October 1, the Club's web address will become www.anacortesyachtclub.org. All Club members should bookmark this address and visit it regularly to keep informed of Club activities. --Dave Thomson, Webmaster

Contributions to the *Knot News*

Please send articles, photos and other items of interest to AYC members to George Hatfield, Editor, email gphatfield2@comcast.net. The deadline for the November issue is October 24.