



KNOT NEWS

Volume 113, No. 3

Anacortes Yacht Club's 113th Year

March 2004

Notes from the Temporary Helm

So today is Friday, February 27, and I write for both Bill and myself. As most of you know, Bill is still in the hospital at Harborview recovering from surgery and the complications thereof. It's been almost a month now and we are looking forward to him coming home and back to the helm. In my conversation with Pat yesterday, he had a couple more surgeries to "fix a leak" and deal with the start of an infection, but feel they got it under control. It is going to be a long battle for him to regain strength and be back at it, but I have faith. He's kind of an ornery ol' cuss... so I can relate... look for him back on the helm in a short while.



*Bill at the helm
of Flying Cloud*

Cards and letters can still be sent to him at Harborview. He is not answering emails so this is the best way to communicate with him. However... be aware... his "legal" name is Constant... so if you don't put that in the address it may come back to you. Some of the mailroom people haven't got that one figured out yet.

Bill (Constant) Booth
Harborview Medical Center
325 9th Avenue (MS359738)
Seattle, WA 98104

In the meantime, Pam Edwards is helping a great deal by stepping back into the helm position for much of the administrative duties and I appreciate it!

Challenges of Vice Commodore this year seem to be how to put on a General Meeting that gets folks together for a bit of fun, fellowship and good food. As a Racer, I'm asking all you "real sailors" to come and be part of the crowd. Over the past couple of years I have gotten to know the "cruisers" a bit better... and they're really not a bad crowd. In fact, I took a ride on a powerboat recently and... ok... I confess... I enjoyed it.

Today's General Meeting will be catered by "Adrift" so the food will be excellent! A brief program by Captain Richard J. Rodriguez, of the United States Maritime Academy and his education programs will be provided. He is teaching a class at the Club over the next few months for the "100 Ton Near Coastal Masters Course."

I am considering next month a "Chili Cookoff and Feed." Your input on this would be appreciated. Great prizes will be awarded for the best chili and I'll need judges. Fair warning... few make a better pot of chili than I... and I do have influence... but it could be great fun.

Jennifer and Bill Bowman provided this month's \$2 Night food and organization. It was spaghetti and meatballs and delicious! Thank you Jennifer, Bill and Zach for your efforts. It will be a hard one to beat but I need a volunteer or volunteers for the April \$2 night. Please let me know if you'd like to help here.

Thanks to all for your support and help and good laughs. It helps to make this job fun and interesting. Will Rogers once said "*We are all here for a spell; get all the good laughs you can.*" As always, if you have ideas to make the Club better, please let me know.

Remember... Life is Short... Sail Fast/Ski Fast! Pat Barrett --Vice Commodore

From Dave...

Pat and I had the pleasure to be able to have a few days and travel to some warmer areas during February. Outside of boating and cruising here in the NW it has to be one of the best ways to recharge your personal batteries of life. While I know most of you are shedding alligator tears for us, someone has to support the economy of Hawaii.

Besides being a great time it has also reminded us about how wonderful the members of the AYC are. Running of the bar operations and the building are a part of my duties with AYC and this needed to continue during our absence. I want to thank all of the folks that were more than willing to step forward and pitch in to keep everything running smoothly. Thanks to everyone for all your help!



A few housekeeping things... I am trying to get an alcohol servers training class for those that want to get their permit renewed or need to get one. Look for more information in next month's *Knot News*. Also, we have several people that are going to be renting the club in the next couple of months. These will not be interfering with our activities, but be aware of the use.

Please let me know if you have any ideas or requests about the building or what we are serving at the bar. I have had a couple suggestions already and most are easy for me to incorporate into our operations. Spring is almost here and I am ready to hit the waves and do a little sailing. Sure hope you are as well. Dave Malsed -- Rear Commodore.

Tacoma Land Cruise, March 13

Join AYC for a tour and lunch at the Glass Museum, Tacoma Yacht Club and the Washington Natural History Museum, March 13, 2004, starting at 10:30 am. Driving directions: head south on Interstate 5 through Seattle, 33 miles south of Seattle at the Tacoma City Center, Exit #133, go right toward the City, exit to the right off at 21st street. Turn left on 21st short block to Pacific Avenue. Turn right on Pacific past the

Washington Natural History Museum to 21st street, turn right on 21st and go under freeway to Hard Street, turn right and go to the Museum of Glass. Park under the museum and take the elevator to the entry level or the roof and walk down to the entry. There are several displays of art glass on the roof and the bridge of glass is something to see. Meet at the Entry Café at 10:30 am; we have a tour set up to see the outside exhibit (weather permitting) as well as part of the inside exhibit.



Image from Museum of Glass website

At around 12:30-1:00 pm we have lunch planned at the Tacoma Yacht Club in the main dining room. If we have over 20 people we are required to move to a private room, so please advise us if you plan on coming and have not informed us. After lunch we are planning on touring the Washington Natural History Museum. This museum is quite good and the Lewis and Clark exhibit is supposed to be very good.

The evening is on your own or will be planned as the day develops. Some people are planning on staying overnight in Tacoma; there are several motels and hotels very close-- Sheraton Hotel downtown, La Quinta and Ramada close to the Tacoma Dome, plus the Econo Lodge, Extended Stay, and Best Western just 1 mile from Tacoma in Fife.

We have 17 people that have committed to attend. If you come late and want to join the group at the Tacoma Yacht Club, it is located just East of the Point Defiance Ferry Terminal around the boat basin. Please call Phillip or Madelyn Case if you have any questions or comments. 360-568-4306 or e-mail mpcase@earthlink.net.

Shakedown Cruise 2004

Mark your calendar – the annual shakedown cruise to Friday Harbor will take place on the weekend of 17/18 April. Air out the boat, pack the cat, toss some food aboard (or is it the other way around?), and burn off the old fuel by joining us for the weekend. Friday Harbor is offering AYC members discounted moorage to encourage your attendance.

This year we have the new Friday Harbor “Party Barge” booked as a base of operations. The Cruise Captain challenges one and all to a skill and stamina testing competition on Saturday afternoon. We will of course schedule a get-together late Saturday afternoon to award prizes, count noses, greet old friends and welcome new faces. Sunday morning coffee will be available on the “barge” for those wishing company for breakfast.

On a more serious note, the shakedown cruise date has been selected with an eye to favorable currents for the slower cruising boats. This is also a good opportunity for new cruisers to come out for a short cruise to a destination with good facilities, interesting shops, and a good selection of eating establishments. Land cruisers are welcome. I encourage anyone with questions, needing navigation information, or looking for a “buddy” boat to contact the Cruise Captain, Roger Wright, at 360-588-1753, or online at rlwright@att.net. I challenge you all to make this year’s shakedown cruise the best attended ever!

February General Meeting

The February General Meeting was held on Friday, February 27. It was a very good meeting with good attendance, great food catered by the local Restaurant Adrift and an informative program provided by Captain Richard Rodriguez from the US Maritime Academy. He gave an overview of the captains license course the USMA plans to provide in Anacortes, starting March 29. The course will be taught at the AYC. If you have any questions about the course, please contact Captain Rodriguez at rrodriguez@escapees.com or call 360-531-0698. He also gave some useful information about how to orient North on a chart plotter, the use of GPS coordinates (i.e., why they should not be used) and ColRegs. Did you know we follow International Rules in Puget Sound? John and Brandy Phillips were also introduced as new members. Great evening. Plan to attend next month on March 26.



*Captain Rodriguez
USMA*

Race Season Starts



*Foul Weather Race Start
photo by Warren Walz, with Dick Britton
providing “close air support”*

The Foul Weather Race to Fisherman’s Bay on Lopez started Saturday, February 28 in Guemes Channel. Winds were light to moderate most of the weekend. A summary of the race results will appear in the April issue of the *Knot News*. There will be two races in March. Tri Straits I on March 6 and Champagne I on March 13. See the AYC website for details.

New Members

New members are Brandy and John Phillips. They are one of the new co-owners of Syndi-Cat. Their address is 4816 Harbor View in Anacortes, 360 588-8005.



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 April 2004 issue is Friday, March 26.

AYC March Events

\$2 Night, March 12, 5:30pm

Tacoma Land Cruise, March 12, 10:30am

General Meeting, March 26, bar opens 5:30pm