



# KNOT NEWS

Volume 113, No. 5

Anacortes Yacht Club's 113th Year

May 2004

## From the Rear Commodore

April has been a busy month at the club. With the Friday nights, racing starting in full and the Bruce Backlund Celebration of Life we had a lot going on. First, I want to thank everyone who helped out, especially those who helped with Bruce's celebration. It was really nice to have so many helping. It allowed all of us to be able to join in and be a part of the celebration. Those who helped deserve a big thank you.

I have a few housekeeping notes as well. A situation happened a couple of times during the last year that could have had serious consequences. There's beauty bark spread around the building as part of our landscaping and a portion is under the deck that goes around the front of the building. We have had two fires start in this bark in the last year. The cause of these fires has been cigarettes. It appears that someone has been flipping their cigarette from the deck into the bark. I am asking for your cooperation if you smoke on the deck to be sure and use the butt cans/ashtrays that are out there. It's a small item, but it could be serious to the club if the bark fires really got going.

I guess I am partial to this subject with 38 years of fire fighting in my career. This brings up another thought about fire safety. We are experiencing a very dry year already with large wildfires having occurred. This time last year the NW Region had one fire for 0.1 acres. This year we had 6 for 22+ acres. The islands are traditionally a very dry area and if this trend continues it is going to be even worse. Our care while cruising in them is going to be very important. Maybe now you have a better understanding of the name of our sailboat (*Wildfire*).



With my being at the Friday Night Happy Hours I have had an opportunity to meet many members of the club. We have a lot of new members who do not know us very well. To help us identify the new members we have given them a red background name tag. They are pretty good about wearing them. The rest of us need to follow their example and wear our name tags. It is good way for us to put names and faces together. If you are not coming down on Fridays, you are missing a great opportunity to get together with everyone and have an enjoyable evening. See you there. --Dave Malsed

## Saddlebag Day, May 8

It's that time of year again. The annual Saddlebag Clean-up is on Saturday, May 8. Jennifer and Bill Bowman of *Krystal Ki* are coordinating the event to help cleanup the island in preparation for the coming summer. This year we would like to gather a small flotilla of boats and head over to the island about 10am. We will be leaving 'Q' dock on *Krystal Ki*, a trimaran with plenty of space for anyone wishing to come without their boat.

We will bring large garbage bags with us and will load them back on our boat for removal. We even have plastic gloves for those who need them. Last year's clean-up lasted an hour and a half. Most of the trash we cleaned up was plastic, including shotgun shells that floated ashore from Padilla Bay and other small treasures.

After our short trip we thought it would be fun to arrange a small get together afterwards at the yacht club. Hotdog snack lunch is one idea. We would love to have you join us for this half-day excursion. Bring your Moms and make it a first for your Mother's Day tradition! --Jennifer Bowman

## Garrison Bay Cruise May 29-31

Anchor in beautiful Garrison Bay, which has a constant depth of about 15' throughout. A perfect situation for rafting, which adds to the party environment. Onshore activities include touring the British Camp Historical site, hiking to the old British cemetery and to the top of Young Hill for one of the most spectacular views in the islands.

Also, a dinghy ride and/or a vigorous hike will take you to Roche Harbor Resort. Recommended is a visit to Westcott Bay Reserve Sculpture Park, where you can view over 75 sculptures by prominent Northwest artists on a 19-acre "outdoor museum" overlooking Westcott Bay, across from the Roche Harbor airstrip and cottages. There will be an onshore BBQ cookout Sunday evening at British Camp, beginning at 5pm. The menu will be Westcott Bay oysters and clams, plus anything else you would like to throw on the barbie. Bring a hors d'oeuvre and your own adult beverage.

Please take note that the trip home on Memorial Day, May 31, can be rough due to many boat wakes. If you can stay over until the next day the ride will be much smoother. Questions? Contact Cruise Captains Dave Thomson, 360-293-7900, or Phil Case, (360) 568-4306.

## Headed North this Summer?

A number of AYC boats will be cruising north this summer. Nine boats so far have indicated they will be in the Queen Charlotte Strait area (Port McNeill, Broughton Island) sometime this summer, mostly later July and the month of August. Some might even venture further north to Rivers Inlet, Hakai Pass, Bella Bella.

Although there isn't an organized cruise as such, with so many boats in the area, there should be opportunities to get together with fellow AYC members. I am compiling a list of these northerly bound AYC boats that want to share their cruising plan with others in the group. I plan to distribute the information, via e-mail, to those interested. If you are planning on a cruise to this area this summer, please e-mail me with some basic info on your plans. This type of info would be helpful: name(s), boat name, boat type/length, de-

parture date, return date, intended ports of call, cell phone number. --Dick & Cheryl Karney ([svparadox@hotmail.com](mailto:svparadox@hotmail.com))

## Reciprocal Moorage List

The 2004 AYC Reciprocal Moorage list has been posted to the website. Check it out by going to <http://www.anacortesyachtclub.org/cruise.htm>. Note that our Reciprocal Chair, Dick Karney, has added many links to the websites of reciprocating clubs, making it easier than ever to get information. The Reciprocal Book is always available for review at the Clubhouse. --Dave Thomson, Cruise Chair

## April Race Results

Saturday April 3 we ran the Champagne III – around Guemes Island race. It was a light air start and very light breeze, but strong positive tide through Guemes Channel. The wind picked up a bit in Bellingham Channel and pretty much carried the fleet around Guemes to the finish line, but was dying. It was nice weather all day and we did not get rained upon. There was a small potluck meal with the bar open after the race where we could relive the day's excitement, which



was lots of fun! If you stayed home, you missed a great day on the water! Race results are posted on the new message board at the club website. The winners were: A fleet, Chuck Tidrington and crew, *White Lightning*; B fleet Walt Meagher and crew on *Syndicat*; and C fleet, Spencer Swain's *Nellie*.

The 2004 Tulip Regatta was held on April 17 on Fidalgo Bay. This race was sponsored in part by Cap Sante Marine who also provided a chase boat. The wind was light and very shifty and we had to move the start line and course before the first race began. We did get off one decent race with a long course, but the second race had 5 finishers in the "A" fleet, 1 in the "B" and 1 in the "C" fleet. There was a great party and delectable dinner back at the club following the race, and the results were read poorly and inaccurately for a number of reasons. The corrected results are on

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## Great Turnout for Sucia Cruise

For April, the weather came through in grand style. Thursday was July summer T-shirt time with the crews of the four or five boats on the dock basking in the sun most of the afternoon. Friday was a little dicey—well actually it rained steady all morning and we all crossed our fingers hoping for the best. But it cleared off about noon and the rest of the weekend was about as good as it can get. From the reports we heard, everyone had a good time. Nineteen boats showed up for all or part of the weekend, and thirteen of them were rafted at the dock. Here, in rough order of arrival are the participants. I'll ask forbearance ahead of time for errors in boat and people names. You know how things get on the dock in the middle of the afternoon.

*Captain Jack*, John and Martha Moody; *Tortuga*, Dave and Karen Thomson; *Quest*, Clark and Joanne Craig; *Voyageur*, Dick and Laura Smock; *Semper Fi*, Pat and Catherine Bearce; *Amiga*, Chuck and Nancy Lang; *Paradox*, Dick and Cheryl Karney; *B & B*, Bill and Brenda Cheaqui; *Friendship*, Bill and Marcia Short; *Indulgence*, Rick and Pat Andersen; *Con Brio*, Nat and Ann Nord; *Madrisa*, Wayne and Andra Schaub; *Maggie Drum*, Joe and Cindy Barnes; *In the Mood*, Phil and Madelyn Case with guests Donna and Bill; *Harriot J*, Marv and Ginny Klinger; *Wired*, Ron and Debbie Elliot; *Spieler*, Mark Burpo with two grandchildren, Wynette and Daren; and *C-Dory*, Buzz and Lynn Bannister, friends of Joe and Cindy Barnes.



*Ugly Hawaiian Shirts*  
photo from Dave Thomson

Saturday morning the muffins and donuts were eaten in good humor, even though they had been bought

several days earlier. A very enthusiastic Ron Elliot won the Hawaiian shirt contest and Brenda Cheaqui took second. John Moody provided two bottles of his hand-crafted wine that was too good to be called the boobie prizes, so we'll say Madelyn Case and Dianne Emigh were in the third and fourth spots. Thanks to Bill Short for rounding up unique prizes year after year. Phil Case's friends Donna and Bill were selected to be the judges since we thought they might be able to bring an illusion of impartiality, and besides, Donna had recently returned from Hawaii. Bribes were allowed, as well as conferences with the judges. In the end it was anybody's guess as to what worked. Except for Ron Elliot.



*AYC Fleet and BBQ at Sucia Island*  
photo from Dave Thomson

The bonfire, ceremoniously started with kindling provided by Bob Carlson, burned brightly for several hours for the enjoyment of all. Many miles of hiking were completed by many participants. Many pages of books were read, many hours of conversation and quiet time were enjoyed by all, but especially enjoyable were the hours of good old-fashioned social interaction in a spot so conducive to good times. Sucia is truly a wonderful place to spend time. --Dick Smock and John Moody, Cruise Captains

## New Items in Anacortes Library

Here is a small item that may be of interest. The Anacortes Library now has the magazine *Good Old Boat* in its collection. This is a great publication in my view, because it deals with most of the sailboats our members own. Also, they have *Practical Sailor* and *Wooden Boat*. --Spencer Swain

## April Race Results cont

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the AYC website. The winners in each group were: A fleet, *Blackfoot* (Corcoran); B fleet *Inferno* (Orsini); C fleet *Puffin* (Fink).

On Saturday April 24 we ran the Champagne IV – the up to Post Point and back race. It was a downwind start with a light and variable breeze, but positive tide most of the day. The weather was nice all day and no rain. It was interesting because there were many strategic options and many of them were explored by various racers. The lead changed many times during the race depending on the strategic success at guessing tide and wind changes. Complete race results are on the Cub web site, but here are the first place winners: A fleet, *Alakazam* (Bergman); B fleet *Syndicat* (Meagher).

Check the AYC website and the race packet for the May schedule. Remember the Wednesday night races start the first week in May. --Walt Meagher, Race Chair



*Radioflyer and Julia on a downwind run during the Tulip Cup, photo from Vic Childs*

## Anacortes Sailing Club

In late February, the Anacortes Sailing Club began its seventh season with announcements with organizational meetings. Seventeen young sailors from the 8<sup>th</sup> through the 12<sup>th</sup> grade turned out. By early March, the dormant Lido 14s had been cleaned, checked and put to sea in practices which are every Tuesday and Thursday afternoons from 3:00 to 5:30 pm.

The Club participated in the annual kickoff regatta on the March 13 at Sail Sand Point on the north end of the old Sand Point Naval Air Station grounds on Lake Washington. Eighty students from 7 clubs attended and our sailors gained experience in team as well as fleet racing. The boats used there were Vanguard 15s and Club 420s. The wind was, as usual, very light. We are fortunate to sail on Fidalgo Bay which often has a good breeze for sailing dinghies.

The Anacortes Sailing Club is a volunteer organization constituted as a 501c3 and struggles each year to gather the funds for everything from boats to travel costs. Each year the Anacortes Yacht Club has given ASC a huge support in covering the annual insurance premium and providing membership to the young sailors who participate in this program. Volunteers to help provide transportation vehicles to the regattas, and even some spare coaching time on Tuesdays and Thursdays would be appreciated. Contact Steve Orsini, 293 1141, or Fred Abelman, 293-9444, or Gray Hawken, 293-8223 for details or questions.

## May Dinner Meeting

On Friday, May 28, at 6:30pm dinner will be served at the Club, prepared by Bill Short and his crew. The menu consists of a salad bar, as well as a roll and butter, string beans with mushroom sauce, savory meat loaf, brownie sundae and coffee. All for the low price of \$10. To make reservations please contact Bill Short at [mshort@telcomplus.net](mailto:mshort@telcomplus.net) or call 293-8844 and leave a message. -- Bill Short

## Knot News Contributions

The deadline for the June issue is Saturday, May 29. Please send an article, photos and other items of interest to George Hatfield, Editor, at [gphatfield2@comcast.net](mailto:gphatfield2@comcast.net).

# **Anacortes Yacht Club**

## **May Activities**

**May 5, Corinthian I Race, 6pm, see race packet for details**

**May 8, Saddlebag Island Cleanup and Cruise, Captains Bill & Jennifer Bowman, 360-299-3766, 10:00am Q Dock**

**May 12, Corinthian II Race, 6pm, see race packet for details**

**May 15, Hein Bank Race, see race packet for details**

**May 19, Corinthian III Race, 6pm, see race packet for details**

**May 22-23, Waterfront Festival, Free Rides on AYC Boats, Membership Chair Barbara Ritts, 360-293-3369**

**May 25, Board Meeting, 7pm, Vice-Commodore Pat Barrett, 360-293-9377**

**May 28, General Meeting, Clubhouse, 5:30pm**

**May 29-31, Garrison Bay Cruise, Cruise Captains Dave Thomson, 360-293-7900 and Phil Case, (360) 568-4306**

**May 29-30, Swiftsure Race**