



KNOT NEWS

Volume 113, No. 7

Anacortes Yacht Club's 113th Year

July 2004

Notes and Announcements from the Temporary Helm

Bill was with us for the BBQ on June 20. It was great to see him and was his first time out in public for some time. Since then, he took a turn for the worse. I spoke with Dan the other day and they were taking him back to Harborview for surgery. Apparently he is again fighting infection. So keep him and his family in your thoughts and prayers.



Summer is here and in full tilt... what a great place we live! Wonderful people in the community of Anacortes, weather everyone can be jealous of, and water... lots and lots of water! Sailing has been great... races on Wednesdays and cruising on the weekends for me, as I can find the time.

Dave Thomson and crew did a great job of organizing and pulling off the "First Annual All Member AYC BBQ." Great burgers and dogs, beer and wine, music, and a great group of people to visit with. We will try it again next year with a bit more thought and planning as to the day, etc. It'll be fun.

On that day, Keith Rubin and I "officially" renamed our Viva 27 catamaran from "Viva" to "Cat Sass". Many of the attendees to the BBQ, along with my children, Eli and Mariah, and the AYC Conch Blower Band, helped us quell the desires of the gods, Neptune and Aeolus. Mariah even left a bit of blood on the bow for good measure. Thanks to all of you who helped and cheered us on.

Upcoming Events to put on your Calendar:

Friday, July 9th will be \$2 night, but paid for by the Port of Anacortes. Dale Fowler and his crew will be there to give us all an overview of the basin improvements planned, and ask for your input. You are welcome to bring any number of guests. More details will follow via email.

The Anacortes Arts Festival Regatta will be held for the first time on July 31st. This is a combined effort with the annual Arts Festival and AYC to promote the participation of boaters with the Festival. Contact myself or Rita James (293-6211) if you are interested in helping with this event.



As always, if you have ideas to make the Club better, please jump in and help or let me know your idea. Remember... Life is Short... Sail Fast. --Pat Barrett, Vice Commodore/Acting Commodore

Windermere Regatta

The Windermere Regatta was held June 12-13. The sponsors this year were Windermere Real Estate, Wilson Motors - Mercedes Benz, West Yacht Sales and Whidbey Island Bank. On Saturday we got off four races with the first in light air and a bit of a crap shoot, but the next three had 8-12 knots of breeze and little wave action. The level of competition was quite good with a number of high-level racers coming down from Bellingham and Oak Harbor. On Sunday, the first race was in light and variable winds. The second race was announced as twice around, as the wind had filled in

continued on page 2

Windermere Regatta, continued from page 1

nically. However, about two-thirds of the way through the race the wind turned light and the race was short-coursed at the windward mark on the second lap. The Race Committee then announced that the day's racing



*The "A" fleet rounds the leeward mark.
Photo by Dave McMillan*

was over and we all headed back to the club for refreshments and to hear race results.

This year was my turn to be the Windermere chairman as well as Race Committee chair. It was a lot of fun and a bit of work too. It would have been overwhelming but for the efforts of many volunteers who made the experience fun and rewarding. Chuck Mallary ran the races on the water as he did last year, but this year he also did the scoring. He ran an excellent program with intelligent and timely decisions as to moving marks and calling short courses. The weather was not exactly cooperative and Chuck made the best of a difficult situation. John Moody volunteered his boat, *Captain Jack*, as Committee Boat and Jim O'Neill, Carol Miner and Chuck's bride-to-be, Jan Nielsen, all helped with the time-taking and record-keeping. The scoring was done on software created by Steve Kleinbart for AYC. George Hatfield brought his power boat out on Saturday for use as a chase boat; Scott Soes also manned a chase boat and took videos on Saturday. The videos were shown on Saturday evening at the club. Kyle Saum used his power boat as chase boat both Saturday and Sunday. Terry Dorn brought out his fast power boat on Sunday. Dave McMillan came out on chase boats both days and took some very nice photos. I have his photos on a CD and Dave will make prints up for you for a small charge.

This year's racing was very good, but the parties were also excellent! There was a continental breakfast for the Saturday morning Skippers meeting; flank steak dinner with chili, salad and ice cream for dessert for Saturday dinner. Sunday after the races we had chili and hot dogs provided by AYC. Hats and a variety of T-shirts were available for sale. The shirts had the same photo of Bill Booth that is on this year's race packet. There are still a few available as of this date. We took one shirt and had people sign it for presenta-



*"Orsini Sandwich" in light air rounding of
windward mark.
Photo by Dave McMillan*

tion to Bill Booth. There were door prizes awarded on Saturday night and raffle drawings on Sunday night. Door prizes and raffle items were donated as follows; bottle of Mount Gay rum - Walt Meagher; very nice art prints - Jennifer Bowma; Musto sailing gloves & Harken hat - Paul Bergman; count up/count down timer - Radio Shack; 1,500,000 candlepower rechargeable flashlight - West Marine; and T-shirts by Design.

They say that "many hands make the work light" and it is also more fun when there are other folks participating. I would like to take this opportunity to again say thank you to all those who helped make this year's Windermere Regatta a success! Those not mentioned above include the following: Friday evening registration and shirt sales were handled by Mac Madenwald,

continued on page 3

Wendy Gray and Terry and Leslie Dorn. Mac and I took care of the Saturday morning registration and sales. Dave Thomson and his crew took care of Saturday's dinner, which was excellent! The Sunday's after-race hot dogs and chili were prepared by Jennifer Bowman. Warren Walz flew over the race on Saturday and took aerial photos which were shown at the club Saturday evening. T.K Wegg, Terry Dorn, Dave Malsed and others, whose names I forgot, manned the Bar on Saturday evening. Sunday bartending was done by Pam Edwards. Thanks again to all that helped with this great event.--Walt Meagher, Race Chairman

From the Rear Commodore

I was talking with several of the club members this past Thursday and they were all getting ready to leave the next day on the Pub cruise.

Even though Pat and I are not going to be able to go this year, I realized how much fun we have had on the past cruises and are going to miss it this year. I guess we can console ourselves in planning on next year. Summer is already here; I am not in the least bit ready for it, but sure do plan on enjoying it. We will



not be taking any long cruises this summer and will miss it, but watch out cause we will be out on the water as much as possible. Now if the weather will just hold with warm temperatures and good winds.

Some club news that I want to share... If you were not at the all-members BBQ on the May 20, you missed a good time. My thanks to everyone who helped out in putting this together and seeing that everyone had a good time and plenty to eat. We have tried to get the club house cleaned up and looking good this spring. New bark around the grounds, flowers in the pots, and a new tent for outside events. Some things to look for as the summer progresses are steps coming from Cap Sante Marina to the club. They are under way and should be a nice feature for when you park on the marina side. We are also looking into grading and adding rock to the driveway around the building. Your thoughts about what we have done and any ideas about what needs to be done are appreciated; give me a call with them.

The Wednesday night sailboat races have really brought out the racers this year. It is my understanding that they are having a good time with lots of competition on the water. It has brought a small problem with it. It has really put a strain on a few individuals to do all of the bartending. We need some more volunteers, especially from the racers to get there permits and help share the bartending duties. Worse case scenario will be no bar on some of the race nights. I will be working with Walt Meager, our race chair, to try and get more people involved.

As I am getting into my year as Rear Commodore, one of the best things about it is getting to know the members of the club more. We are an all-volunteer outfit and really depend upon everyone to pitch in a little so that we can all enjoy. I want to take a little time to recognize some of these folks who put out that little bit extra, so all of us can have a good time. This month I want to thank Betty Pearce. She has always been ready to step up and help out. She has this ability to pick the busiest nights to be our bartender. Betty does a great job and never complains. You also see her helping out at most every event we have. At the Waterfront Festival boat rides there was Betty helping folks get signed up and to keep the boats on time. Thanks, Betty, for all you are doing to make AYC a great place to have fun.--Dave Malsed, Rear Commodore

Cassiopeia Headed for Maui

As of June 29, *Cassiopeia*, AYC entry in the Vic Maui Race, is leading their division in corrected time. The following is a June 27 email message from Gary Schoenrock.

“We are 450 miles west of Monterey sailing under asymmetric chute in 21 knots of wind and hitting a high speed of 20.4. Last night we tore the top of our smaller chute completely off and the Craigs spent several hours repairing it. Good thing we brought along a sewing machine. Then we lost our second fractional halyard so we couldn't fly a spinnaker all night. This morning Colt and Charlie made several trips to the top of the mast to repair. *Renegade* meanwhile blew up a chute, but was able to reel it in and once again it's neck and neck. Now we are flying again down in the tradewind. Morale is good, *Cassiopeia*

continued on page 4

Vic Maui, continued from page 3

is a freight train in good wind and we're having the sail of our life. All are sharing the helm with grins on their faces. Food is awesome, all systems working, and all healthy. Gary"

You can follow the race from the official website: <http://www.vicmaui.org/2004>.

Trip to Alaska

This year we get to take the trip north to Alaska vicariously. Our daughter Linda and husband John left in May, and are making good time. Of interest is that the hot springs in Bishop Bay has a new dock, and that there is a good restaurant in Ocean Falls. We will join them in Juneau at the end of July. In the meantime, we are realizing that we are boatless this summer. It has been a long time since we had to say that! No Pub Cruise for us. Dick and Laura Smock

From *M/V Voyager*, 24 Jun 2004, 00:14:01

Dear Friends and Family: I apologize if this is too long. Sorry about that, but we've been busy! We'll be in Ketchikan in a few days.

Well, it's the 23rd of June and we arrived in Prince Rupert, B.C., yesterday, our jumping off port for Ketchikan, Alaska. We have had the most surprisingly sunny trip up here, since I last wrote from Port McNeill. It has been hot - in the 80s, and sunny for the past 10 days, something that sure didn't happen two years ago when we made this trip. Our crossings of Queen Charlotte Strait and sound were pretty uneventful. Low swells with a 1-2 foot chop, and partly cloudy. We stayed in Pruth Bay. There's a little lodge there, out of which they run a fishing and guide business two months a year. We walked across the narrow part of the island to the wide sand beach, which fronts the sound we had just crossed. There was a line of wolf prints leading into the distance, but no wolf in site. We felt very much in the wild at that point. That night it was very windy and we stayed one more day there, waiting for the winds in the big channel to die down. Then we headed for Shearwater, where there is a bar, called a restaurant, so no cooking on the boat that night.

The next morning we went through Gunboat passage, a very narrow place where at one point I stood on the

bow watching for the rocks, and on to Ocean Falls, one of our favorite places. They have moved up to having electricity on the dock since the last time we were there! There is an old falling down paper mill, which we picked our way through, all huge rotting machines and even a testing laboratory with lab books open amidst the rubble. We walked up to the dam, with the big blue lake behind, but didn't see the porcupine this year. Dinner was at Eva's Holy Grill, in the old Catholic church and she made Dungeness Crab Newberg and some fancy frozen egg-white dessert, which I was forced to eat. Her salad dressing was to die for. I can't see how she can make it, but everyone seems to do OK on tourism during the short season, since other than that there are only 30 people in town, and they're snowed in during the winter. We took a day cruise up to the rock where Alexander MacKenzie ended his walking trip across Canada in 1723 (or was it 1722?), years prior to Lewis and Clark's trip. I drove the boat (scary thought) while John went ashore and climbed up to the monument. I could see the carved rock from shore. We continued north after another night in Ocean Falls and stopped in Rescue Bay for the evening. We watched the shore for hours that evening and were rewarded by the sight of a big wolf coming out of the woods around 9:30 PM. It was still light, so we could see him quiet plainly, especially with binoculars. We watched her/him for about half an hour as she/he trotted along the rocky beach and went behind a rock to rest. We didn't see her/him again that night. What an amazing thing, to see a wild wolf, although people up here say, "oh, we see them all the time." The next morning we left Rescue Bay through Jackson Pass. Very narrow, but very pretty.

Continuing, we stopped at Bishop Bay Hot Springs where we stayed two days to swim and bathe in the hot springs and just generally relax. We thought that, being a weekend, it would be crowded, but we had the whole place to ourselves for a good deal of the time, although there were 8 boats on the dock; two rafted to us, the last night we were there. That night there was a local, violent, thunderstorm, crashing lightning and thunder, very close to us, and pounding rain, but not much wind. When we got up the next morning, trees across the bay were smouldering.

We stayed in Khutze Inlet and then Klewnugget, east inlet, after that, and then headed for Prince Rupert,

continued on page 5

Alaska, continued from page 4

and the Prince Rupert Rowing and Yacht Club docks. On the way here we had four Pacific Whiteside Dolphins weaving back and forth in front of the bow for almost 20 minutes. They are just mesmerizing to watch - stark black and white flashes, hitting the surface to breathe, splashing me, and then under and then flashing back and forth in front of each other, right in front of what I perceive to be the "fast-moving" boat (8-9 knots). One of them would turn on its side and just appear suspended right in front of the boat, inches from the bow, looking up, as we sped along! Then they disappeared as quickly as they had come. We had fog for about an hour and only spotted the cruise ship and the freighter on the radar. There is a family of eagles living right here in the trees above the harbor and we wake in the morning to the sound of their screeching. Cody stays inside unless I'm with him, so as not to be an eagle meal. Two years ago we saw them fighting for food on top of a fishing boat.

Well, I guess this has been long enough for you all. We miss you and we'll keep in touch.

Love, Linda, John and Cody

P.S. Mom and Dad, I piloted the boat away from the dock and out of the harbor in Shearwater.

Future Cruises Planned

In answer to several inquiries and requests, yes, there will be a South Sound Cruise this year. I have posted a tentative (but close to final) itinerary on the AYC website.

<http://www.anacortesyachtclub.org/upcoming%20cruises.htm>

As always, contact me with questions, for any additional information, and to let me know you want to join in. Please note that this cruise works well for up to four or five boats, maximum, since several of the stops have limited moorage.

I am still in need of a Cruise Captain for the annual cruise to Victoria over Labor Day weekend, September 4 - 6. This is a loosely structured cruise requiring minimal oversight from the Captain. A brief description of the event at the AYC website:

<http://www.anacortesyachtclub.org/upcoming%20cruises.htm>

Dave Thomson, Cruise Chair, 293-7900, eltortuga@comcast.net

Dogs and Dinner

The AYC Board has received complaints from members regarding pets being present while food is being served. The Skagit County Health Department emphasizes that Washington State Code forbids the presence of live animals in an establishment serving food, except for legitimate guide or service animals. Please be courteous in this regard.

Boat US Affiliation for AYC

In June the Board of Directors for the Anacortes Yacht Club approved a Cooperating Group Agreement with Boat US. As you may know, Boat US stands for the **Boat Owner's Association of The United States**. It has been in existence for almost 40 years and has over 500,000 members nationwide. Boat US is a voice for recreational boating on Capitol Hill and also provides insurance, towing services and, of course, operates Boat US stores throughout the country. The latter are now part of West Marine. If you are a member, be sure to note on the renewal form that you are a member of AYC since it will provide a 50% discount on the annual membership fee. Our obligations in this agreement are only to provide Boat US literature to members (on the table next to the entrance to the Club) and to publish this notice in our newsletter. --George Hatfield, Boat US Liaison for AYC

Email and Other Changes

For all address changes (including telephone and email), contact Dave Thomson, 360-293-7900, eltortuga@comcast.net, or drop a note to the address shown in the Roster.

Knot News Contributions

The deadline for the August issue is Saturday, July 24. Please send an article, photos and other items of interest to George Hatfield, Editor, at gphatfield2@comcast.net.

Anacortes Yacht Club July Activities

Summer Fun I Race, Wednesday, July 7

AYC Bar Opens Friday, July 9 at 5:30 pm

Two Buck Night, Friday July 9, 5:30 pm

Summer Fun II Race, Wednesday, July 14

AYC Bar Opens Friday, July 16 at 5:30 pm

AYC Bar Opens Friday, July 23 at 5:30 pm

Two Buck Night, Friday July 23, 5:30 pm

Board Meeting, Tuesday, July 27, 7 pm

Summer Fun III Race, Wednesday, July 28

AYC Bar Opens Friday, July 30 at 5:30 pm

No General Meeting in July

Photos from the AYC Picnic and renaming ceremony of Cat Sass

