



# KNOT NEWS

Volume 114, No. 3 Anacortes Yacht Club's 114th Year

March, 2005

## Notes and Announcements from the Helm.



Since I didn't get my writings to Dave on time last month, hence no message, I'd best get something to you all in this edition. It's been interesting this past few months as many boats are out of the water with various winter maintenance issues. For us on Cat Sass, Keith in particular, has been working hard on

a new dagger board and new secret weapons to be installed. Unfortunately we weren't on the water for the Foul Weather Race. This is our year to begin to really see how we can sail the boat. One piece at a time...

Speaking of Foul Weather Race... see Walt's report in this issue. Once again, Chris and Kathy Sherman of the Scott Milo Gallery sponsored this annual race. As always it was great to have the "cruisers" join us at Fisherman's Bay for a bit of fun, food and festivities.

Dani Fisher of Bow was kind enough to speak to us this past month at the Club. Her presentation of her climb of Denali and goal to be the youngest human to climb the tallest peaks of all 7 continents was great. Dani is but 20 years old and sometime in May she hopes to make the final summit, the big one, Mount Everest. She leaves to begin this expedition on March 26<sup>th</sup>. You can get periodic updates on her website at [www.daniellefisher.net](http://www.daniellefisher.net).

I think of some of the issues we as a Club must deal with each year and it made me look back and read something I wrote almost a year ago. It still bodes true for me as an individual.

*"...I am a member because I have a passion. The passion is the water. Racing is just a way for me to be there. We are a Yacht Club so I would guess that most of you, as members, also have a passion for the water, so I believe we should be encouraging others to participate in water based activities. We have the resources and the passion to do it and I for one am doing what I can. Not as an officer of AYC, but as a member of the boating community. The bottom line, folks, is that if boating is your passion then I personally think we need to show it by helping others to develop the same. Boating and our passion for the water is the heart of our organization and it is what will keep us thriving in the years ahead... The term passion, and its adverb passionately, often express a very strong predilection for any pursuit, or object of taste — a kind of enthusiastic fondness for anything. —Cogan"*

Lets all take that passion and look around to find a way to get others on the water who have not been there before. Give them the gift that at some point you were given and just have fun while you're out there!

### Commodore's Ball

The Commodore's Ball was held this year during a very fine and beautiful snowstorm on Saturday evening the 15<sup>th</sup> of January. Because of this small challenge we had a lighter than usual turnout but those that made it had a great time. Our Commodore, Bill Booth, was not able to make it but left this message for all:

*"I was very honored to be elected Commodore of our Club. I was very disappointed that I could not participate. I thank you all so much for your cards*

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### Commodore's message continued...

*and visits. We would also like to thank you for the construction of the ramp at the house. It works very well. In particular I would like to thank Vice Commodore Pat Barrett for handling my duties throughout the year. And thank you for your prayers and gifts. Pat... now you have the ball... run."* – Past Commodore 2004, Bill Booth

Traditionally the Commodore's Ball is a time to honor the outgoing Commodore. This year, since Bill was not able to be there the majority of the time, it was appropriate to honor his spirit, his zest and passion for sailing and being on the water. With his absence I could have been overwhelmed with duties and responsibilities. As I have said so many times before there were many to step in. In particular the IDGABTT Society was there whenever asked. Therefore this year's "Commodore Award" was presented to that crew and a GIANT thank you from me. You're a great group of people and deserve much more. It was the IDGABTT Society and various members of such that were instrumental in getting Bill's ramp installed. It was the IDGABTT Society and various members of such that worked towards many improvements in and around the Club. There are many people who help in many ways at the Anacortes Yacht Club and this group of people seems to always be part of the good things going on. Thanks folks - you know who you are. Cheers!

The "Inspiration Award" went to Chuck and Nancy Lang. They were new to the Club in 2003. Maybe I was a bit influenced by the fact that every time I see Nancy she gives me a hug but they are great fun and bring a sense of laughter, kindness and a can do attitude that we can all look up to and emulate. You're great folks, Chuck and Nancy. I'm honored to know you.

As always, if you have ideas to make the Club better, please jump in and help or let me know your ideas.

"I find television very educating. Every time somebody turns on the set, I go into the other room and read a book" – Groucho Marx - It's winter...

read a book, work on the boat... hell... work on my boat for me. Just shoot your TV and if you have one on your boat? Gads!

Remember, life is short, sail fast, and count your blessings daily.

Pat Barrett

AYC Commodore

### Vice Commodore's message

Things are going along pretty good for me as the Vice Commodore. On February 11th we had a \$2 night with lots of members there and I must admit an OK spaghetti feed. This was followed by our general meeting on February 25th. We had a full house to hear Dani Fisher's presentation and saw slides of her climb of Mount McKinley in Alaska.



Now here is a young lady who has one of the most ambitious goals around. She has set out to climb the highest mountain on all seven continents. Mount Everest is her final climb. I can almost associate with this one as I saw Mount Everest from an airplane while flying from Calcutta to Delhi, India. Dani is leaving in March to do this climb which will take about 60 days. As she explained it, most of the time is spent getting use to the high elevations. I know we need all types of interests to keep this world of ours going but give me my sailboat. It is cold enough on the boat and I don't have to sleep in a small tent with four other people snoring and trying to get warm and dry. When you think about it she is just 20 years old and done something that only a handful of people will ever do. Quite an accomplishment.

We have some busy times ahead of us. On March 5th the Oak Harbor Yacht Club is doing a cruise to Anacortes and we are hosting a dinner for them at the club. I will be out of town but for

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### Vice Commodore's message continued...

those of you that are here, it should be a good event to meet our neighbors to the south. March 11th is the next \$2 night. Phil and Madeline Case are hosting this event which will be a soup night. Rod and Phylis Bell's granddaughter, Jennifer, volunteered to make one of the soups. We had her over to our house last Saturday as she wanted to make the soup but thought it might be too spicy for her grandparents. She was probably right but it was good soup and I recommend that you give it a try on the 11th. If you want to bring a soup contact Phil or Madeline so they know.

March 25th is our next General meeting. The menu is not set as of yet but I will try and get something that will be good. Our program is being provided by our US Customs office. There are some changes in procedures if we go out of the country and with the summer cruising season coming upon us fast I thought it might be of interest. They will be going over both land and water methods of travel between different countries. Personally, I would like to see a duty free store when we cross with our boat but I don't think this is one of the points they will be addressing.

I have most of the programs lined up through June when we have a recess in our general meetings for the summer. The \$2 nights will go all year on the second Friday so we guys can still get our better half out for a reasonable dinner without breaking the bank. If you would like to coordinate one of the \$2 nights PLEASE CONTACT ME!! The same holds true for the general meetings. I am more than willing to share the fun and it is not that much work.

No matter what, get that boat ready, for the season is almost here. The shake down cruise is April 9th and 10th. That is just a month away.

See you at the club this month at our dinners and happy sailing.

AYC Vice Commodore  
Dave Malsed

**March 25th is our next General Meeting.**

### Address, e-mail, or other changes

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

Thanks

Dave Thomson

### **Maggie Drum Update**

By Bill Larson

We snapped the attached photo of Joe & Cindy Barnes when they visited us at our hotel on our vacation trip to Zihuatanejo, Mexico last week (02/26/05). They are having a fine time just hanging out on the west coast of Mexico this winter and are probably in Puerto Villarta by now.

They are in touch with the world by email and have a web site to document their travels. Their addresses follow:

The Barnes' website is:

<http://www.freewebs.com/maggiedrum/index.htm>

Their email address is:

[maggiedrum@hotmail.com](mailto:maggiedrum@hotmail.com)



## Racing scene

### **Foul Weather Race Anything But Foul**

By Walt Meagher

Anacortes Yacht Club's inaugural race of the 2005 racing season was held on February 26, 2005. This year's weather was anything but foul! The sun shined brightly, it was unseasonable warm but the wind was light and scarce. The tide was very strong from north to south across Rosario Strait so many boats were sucked down almost to Bird Rocks and it was difficult, if not impossible, to escape the collision. Once past that hurdle we were able to get into Thatcher Pass where the tide was still against us but not as strong. There was good wind from Thatcher up to Upright Head where it went flat again. Two boats had to start their engines to avoid the incoming Ferry traffic at Lopez. The rest just sat until it became clear that it would not be possible to make the finish before the cutoff time. While we waited at Upright we were joined by members of the Royal Victoria Yacht Club who were also out racing that day.

Only 2 boats finished. First place went to Slingshot - Ed Kennedy and second place went to Son of Raven - Chris Sherman.

There was a very nice dinner at the Galley consisting of Sockeye Salmon with pesto sauce, Greek pasta salad and an appetizer of carrot soup. There was also an informal barbeque back at the Lopez Islander out on the lawn.

The day was beautiful - it was a great time. THANKS AGAIN TO CHRIS SHERMAN FOR HIS SPONSORSHIP!!



*Left to right: Son of Raven and Slingshot neck and neck in Thatcher Pass. Photo by Janet Martin*



*Left to right: Handy Man, Miles II Go, and Krystal Ki racing on a beautiful February day in Rosario Strait against strong current and little wind. Photo by Janet Martin*



*Son of Raven becalmed in Rosario Strait. Photo by Janet Martin*

### **Just How Far Does the *Knot News* Reach?**

By George Hatfield

A while back I advertised an Astra III B sextant that I bought back in my Power Squadron days... probably about 10 years ago. I haven't used it in years and thought about selling it. I had some space that needed to be filled for an issue of the *Knot News*, so I placed a small ad for the sextant. I didn't get any response, but then I wasn't surprised. It takes a real purist to want a sextant in the age \$99 GPS units. This was several months ago. Last week I got an email from a guy in New Jersey that wanted to know if I still had the sextant for sale. I asked where he heard about it and he said he did a Google search on the Astra III B and got a hit for an issue of our newsletter on the AYC website. Now isn't that amazing! The power of the internet is demonstrated again. An ad in the *Knot News* now has a world-wide distribution! By the way, I sold the sextant to him.