

## Commodore's Column, December 2009

Congratulations are to be extended to your newly elected board of directors:

- Commodore Ed Kennedy
- Vice Commodore Phil Case
- Rear Commodore Mac Madenwald
- Treasurer Charles Webb
- Secretary Bonnie Gilmore
- Position I Vince Sellen
- Position II Kevin Welch
- Position III Spencer Swain

The final three positions will be filled by the immediate past Commodore (me), the cruise chair and the race chair, which are to be selected by the newly-elected board. The new board and directors will assume their positions when the clock strikes midnight December 31, ushering in the new year.

Linda Walz is working effectively to get your roster to you in a timely manner; photographs are being taken at the clubhouse on various Friday evenings, advertisements have been sought, and members are sending in their annual dues as requested. All are urged to remit their dues immediately and to have their photo taken for inclusion in the roster. The race committee and the cruise committee have each put together a schedule for inclusion.

This year we opened the clubhouse on Friday November 6 on the eve of Orcas Island YC's 'Round the County' sailboat race. Many, if not most out-of-the-area boats are delivered to Anacortes on that day in anticipation of the short transit the following morning to the starting line outside of Obstruction Pass. The sailors attended in numbers not anticipated! We may have seen 200 people during the evening, socializing and even dancing to a live band. Your club benefited monetarily from this event and many people are to be commended for their last-minute planning; we especially thank Stephanie Schwenk.

It was brought to my attention that as of September 15, 2009, all boaters are required to have a Pleasure Craft Operator Card in order to operate a powered watercraft in Canada. This applies to nonresidents who plan to boat in Canada for 45 consecutive days or if the boat that they are operating is registered or licensed in Canada. More information can be found at:

[http://www.tc.gc.ca/marinesafety/debs/obs/quick/quick\\_visitor.htm](http://www.tc.gc.ca/marinesafety/debs/obs/quick/quick_visitor.htm)

The new men's bathroom has been completed. Final costs, including permits, fees, engineering, design, contract, and taxes was nearly \$46,000. I wish that I didn't have to report it, but there were cost overruns... due to the fact that we needed to replace the old drywall with plywood for a sheer wall as well as accommodating the city's reluctance to permit waterless urinals, as the plans had designed. However, now we anticipate that the relatively inexpensive expansion of the exterior deck to accommodate more attending members can be addressed.

Your club is in excellent financial health. Your board decided to not raise our annual dues, keeping them at the low cost of \$150. Much of the reason is because of the volunteers who keep this club operating. Nevertheless, I am quite proud of what we accomplished this past year:

- New clubhouse roof
- Clubhouse repaint and redecoration
- New men's bathroom
- Permanent marks for racers
- Acquisition of a 'dinghy' dock
- Relocation of beverage cooler compressor to an outside location
- 16 new members

This will be my last Commodore's letter as my term will be complete on December 31. I am confident in our new office-holders. It has been an honor to serve as your Commodore and I have worked hard to make your membership in AYC more beneficial. I thank you for your help.