

## Commodore's Column, February 2010

February started our racing and cruising season. 5 AYC racers entered the Shaw Island winter classic Feb. 14, sponsored by Orcas Island YC. Our **Stephanie Schwenk** in Wild Rumpus stayed aboard to win first place, class A. The next event was the AYC Girts Rekevics Memorial Foul Weather Race / Cruise on the 27<sup>th</sup>. Fifteen boats raced with good wind and 4 boats cruised to Friday Harbor arriving before noon with smiles and a thirst. The awards party & dinner at the Downrigger saw **Bart Maupin** from BYC take home the trophy again. Congratulations Bart, & many thanks to **Staci & Jim Bottles** for arranging the event. We were also given the first candidate for the Rubber Ducky award when Past Commodore Jerry went for a swim.

The AYC audio-visual system got a workout and did well for the dedicated group watching Internet live feed of the 33<sup>rd</sup> America's Cup races held at Valencia, Spain. The nine hours time difference meant that the races were scheduled to start at about 1 AM local time. There were still over 40 people at the clubhouse to watch, many of them from Core Builders, the Anacortes group that built BMW Oracle. Both boats are high tech to the extreme, but BMW/O with its rigid wing-sail was the clear victor. Imagine getting nearly 30 knots boat speed out of 6 knots wind speed. Anyway, the Auld Mug has returned to the USA and will possibly come to Anacortes on tour about the time of our Tulip Cup Regatta. We have hopes of seeing it at AYC Clubhouse.

The annual Audit Committee, **Dick Britton, Norm Havercroft & Spencer Swain** submitted their report. It contains recommendations for security, archiving and authorizations that are being considered.

The 2010 Roster was completed and made available at the clubhouse for pickup. Many thanks to **Linda Walz** and her roster committee for doing outstanding jobs.

A new membership application form for junior members was adopted. Fees were approved but are under review and will probably soon change. If they are lowered, refunds for existing junior members will be considered.

Dinghy Dock repairs and safety improvements were started by **Spencer Swain**. A protocol for use and management of the dinghy dock was prepared by **Stephanie Schwenk** & approved and is being implemented. It will be posted on the AYC web site.

Major repairs were completed on the Chase Boat with **Chuck Rust** organizing work parties, **Brian Sundholm** providing fiberglass expertise, and **Kevin Welch** providing shelter for the work. Bottom paint to be applied in March will see the boat in better shape than it has been for some time.

Approved new members include one Junior, four Preferred and one Associate:

**Elise King**

Elise is a junior member that is active on the high school sailing team. She has been sailing for 4 years and is looking forward to day cruising and racing.

**Doug Long and Mar Jean Knokey**

Doug and Mar Jean own a Morgan Cortez 39 named Carric. They came to Anacortes in 1999 for a visit and decided this was the place to settle down and enjoy the local sailing opportunities. They

are looking forward to overnight cruising and want to get involved in the club galley and bar operations.

**Calvin and Joan Mickelson**

Cal and Joan have lived in Anacortes for 8 years and have been avid sailors for many years having chartered around the country and in the Caribbean. They currently sail Dove, their Catalina 22 and are looking forward to overnight cruising and day racing.

**Bill and Darith Langjahr**

Bill and Darith come to us from the Port Ludlow Yacht Club. They have been around boats since early childhood and currently sail their Willard 40 Pilothouse. Among their many interests, they enjoy decorating for special events.

**Ian Sloan and Joy Brown**

Ian has been a part of the local boating industry having started a rigging business in 2007 representing UK Halsey. He currently races his J/27 and is looking forward to participating in club races.

**Greg McCroskey**

Greg joined as an Associate Member. He has lived in Anacortes for the past 8 years and has been boating for 30 years. He now has a 505 and has never raced but is looking forward to learning. Look for Greg out on the course on Wednesday nights.

Social events at the Clubhouse included the membership meeting Feb. 12, where only 42 members made reservations but a lot more arrived at mealtime. The program for the evening was a well attended Birthday Party for **Stephanie Schwenk**, complete with band. For 3 buck night volunteer chefs **Mellie Kennedy & Madelyn Case** prepared a great Sancocho meal and member **Stan Stewart**, Country Balladeer, provided live music after dinner. Superbowl Sunday had a group of football enthusiast members enjoy the AV system at the Clubhouse with potluck snacks to watch the Saints beat-up the Colts. The Clubhouse was also used for one wedding and four sessions of classes for Ham Radio licensing.

Plans for March include four distance races, one two-day cruise, one general meeting one 3-buck night, two open bar social Fridays, one Board Meeting, eighteen training class sessions and one barbecue. There will probably also be meetings of the Small Boat Center Committee, and Sea Scouts.

If you have ideas that will make your club better be sure to pass them on to another Board member or me. If you haven't yet become an active volunteer at the club, contact the chair of the appropriate committee. If you want to discuss something appropriate on the forum, help yourself.

Have Fun,

Ed Kennedy  
Commodore