



The Totem Line

58 years of yachting – 59 years of friendship



In this issue: Flyers for Swap Meet and Report from Fleet Captain, Heidi Merrifield; and Pictures from Commodore's Ball.

Upcoming Events

Mar 4.....General Meeting
 Mar 21.....Des Moines YC Swap Meet
 March 27-29..Coming Out Cruise to Arabella's
 Landing, Gig Harbor
 April 6.....General Meeting

Leadership

Commodore..... Joe Simpson
 Vice Commodore.....Mike Holman
 Rear Commodore..... Vote April 6
 Purser.....Sharon Nell
 Yeoman..... Provi Simpson

Commodore's Report



Ahoy Totem!

Well, here we are just a few short weeks from what I believe will be a truly amazing cruising season. Every one seems to be in preparation: Haul outs, scrubbing the decks, oil changes and anticipation.

For those of you who missed the Commodore's Ball, you truly missed a great event! Carolyn put together a memorable ball and a great time was had by all. Everyone kicked up their heels dancing to music by the 'Michael Crane Band.' Food? Damn straight--Papa Eddy's catering 'put on the dog' with perfect salmon fillets, rare roast beef and all the trimmings. I did my best to make the rounds and every soul had good things to say. I was blessed by my friends and family joining me for the occasion and was serenaded by my brother-in-law, Johnny, with 'Cool Change' (my favorite song) and our family opera singer, Antoinette, sang 'Hero' to me. Dry eyes? not.

The club was decorated to the nines for the occasion, but so much work was done prior to the Ball, just because she needed some upkeep so that she looked her finest. New paint, rearrangements and fixture upgrades just sharpened her image. From weather stripping to window fogging, lights to ovens; from the Totem pole to a new wall, new honors to our life members were added, and so very much more. The volunteers, bridge and board did amazing things, and I so look forward to your comments if you haven't seen any of the new work to date.

In the interest of not forgetting anyone, I hesitate to name names of the people I would like to thank (*you know who you are*) who gave so much to make this club look as it does, **BUT** in general, Mike, Cathy, Ron, Heidi, Mike, Ray, the Sharon's (yes both), Virginia, Joanne, Provi, Lois and "the carpet angel," to whom I'm not privy, made a 'big dent' in the tasks that were needed. If I missed someone, forgive me (a lot happened I wasn't supposed to know about).

We have the Des Moines swap meet coming up, so get that stuff together for donations, and we have many other events planned so "lets get ready!!!"

On a more sobering note: Vice Commodore Richard Johnson has resigned from his post. I am in receipt of his letter of resignation. He noted a number of reasons for this move but overall it is my belief that it was 'just too much'

considering where his life is going. I wish him well in his future ventures, and hope to see him and Mary in the future, whether on cruises or in a membership. "Once a member, always a member." I will be reviewing our options via the bylaws and inform the membership of the situation in the coming weeks. (This was only found out minutes prior to this issuance of this report, or I would have better information for you.) This is a choice he has made. There are no motivating factors such as health behind this, to my knowledge.

We have new members joining! I believe we have 3 couples who will be joining soon, 1 full membership, and 2 social. YEA!!!

In closing I wish you following seas, a wind at your back and dry stores for your journey.
Best regards,

Joe Simpson, Commodore

Vice Commodore's Report



To Totem Members:

Just about 4 months ago I agreed to serve as the Club's Rear Commodore, and now, due to the resignation of Rich Johnson, I will be serving as your new Vice-Commodore. So, I guess this is both my last report as RC and my first report as VC. In the interest of time I will keep this very short.

Several folks have just, the day before the Commodore's Ball, completed what turned out to be an extensive makeover of the clubhouse's interior. Over the course of three weeks almost 400 man-hours were poured into the project which started out with a budget of \$250 and, due to a number of donations, ended up costing about \$1,600 in materials. All walls were not only painted in a new color scheme but were also repaired and retextured. Artwork and pictures were rearranged to give the club a fresher and updated look. Many long overdue maintenance items were also performed such as the installation of new floor vents, new weather stripping on the exterior doors, some new lighting, etc. My personal thanks go out to Cathy Betts who put in about 150 hours and helped me coordinate activities. Without her energy and help, as well as that of Virginia, Joanna, Provi, Lois, Heidi, Mike, Ray, Ron, and Commodore Joe, the project could not have been completed. And if you couldn't help with the work part, please consider sending a check designated for Clubhouse Renovation to Sharon, our purser. We still have several items that need attention.

The newly renovated clubhouse looked terrific for the Commodore's Ball and many visiting folks from other clubs commented on how great it looks. If you haven't seen it, come to our April General meeting and dinner to see the results.

As the new VC I have inherited two new projects. First is getting manpower to man our booth at the Tacoma Boat Show which will take place March 12th thru the 14th at the Tacoma Dome. We still need people, so please let me know if you can take a shift working at the show. Our objective is to secure new members and to promote and secure more rentals of the clubhouse.

The second project is to complete the production and publishing of the Totem Yearbook, which was supposed to be out at the March general membership meeting, but for various reasons will be available by the April general meeting. While that is later than usual there are several items still to be attended to, including membership renewals and advertising renewals. In an effort to save on budget expenses we will attempt to put the yearbook out in color, but distribute it electronically. This way you can store it electronically, or print it out in either color or B&W, or any combination of the three. So, if you haven't renewed your membership this is definitely the time to do so.

Finally, let me say as a relatively new member, that all small clubs and organizations with a low dues structure run

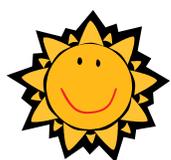
on volunteer manpower. Without the volunteers the club will die. Since we don't want that to happen to Totem, let us all try to find time to volunteer in some fashion to serve the club and its members. April 18th will be our house and grounds cleanup followed by the Spring Social. Despite the club renovation there is still much to do, so please put that date on your calendar and come to both the work party and later that evening the Spring Social.

Mike Holman, Vice Commodore



Galley Report

No Galley Report this month.



Sunshine Report

No Sunshine Report this month. Please call me at 1-253-845-4326 or email me, Louise Burns, at FBurns5105@aol.com if you have any news on club members

Report from Fleet Captain, Heidi Merrifield, (253) 219-8108

Two deadlines this month for upcoming cruise events:

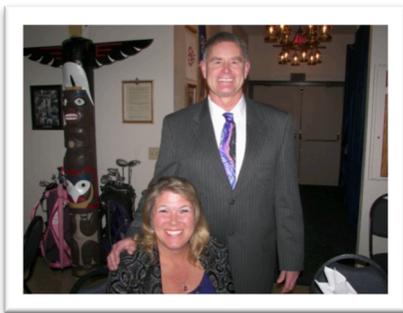
- **March 27-29 Totem's Coming-Out Cruise at Arabella's in Gig Harbor.** The club has set aside 10 slips, however you must call 253-851-1793 the marina by Thurs, Mar 19 to prepay your first night and thus secure your slip. Moorage is \$1/ft (no per boat fee). Rick Demere is the host for this event and the club will be using the Net Shed for Sat Night meal/activities, so there will be a small cost to cover the \$75 rental space as well as offset any provided meals. (See flyer for details.)
- **April 11-12 Daffodil Marine Festival and Parade.** For event details and registration go to www.tacomayachtclub.org and click on the Daffodil logo. Must register online by Fri, March 13 if mooring in the Tacoma Yacht Club basin. Moorage is complimentary, but space is limited so sign up today. Totem will be participating in the music trivia contest on Saturday (let me know if you are interested in joining our six member team) and the daffodil parade on Sunday. TYC has a \$68 meal deal for the weekend.

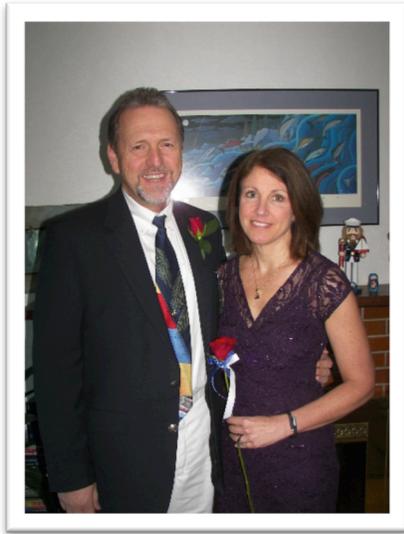
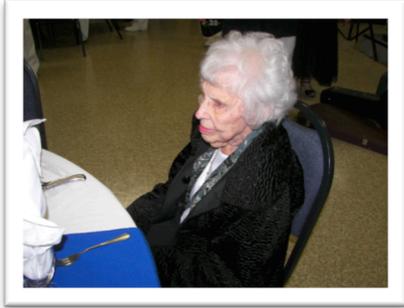
Cruising ramps up in May, sign up soon if you are interested in these activities:

- **May 1-3 Seattle Yacht Club's Opening Day.** Reserve slip by Thurs, Apr 16. Go to www.seattleyachtclub.org and click on Opening Day logo. Moorage is complimentary but space is limited.
- **May 15-17 Boy Scouts Work Party at Blake Island Marina.** We need several more boats to transport scouts from troop 172 in Sumner for their annual work party. Totem provides transportation from our marinas on Friday (scouts take the day off, so you can leave as early as you like). We provide their meals for lunch and dinner on Saturday. I will coordinate boats and scouts. Moorage is free.
- **May 22-25 Memorial Day Weekend at Port of Poulsbo Marina.** Heidi coordinates moorage for Totem boats, so sign-up soon and I'll assign your slip. We have 22 slips set aside for our club and the activity float for group meals. Slips are \$0.90/ft (min 30'). The marina charges a \$5 per boat fee which will need to be paid to Totem prior to the event. Roger and Louise Gallington are hosts and will put together a flyer soon with meals, activities and costs.
- **June 5-7 Blessing of the Fleet Anchor Out in Gig Harbor.** Free event. Let Heidi know if you are interested in hosting (i.e. organizing a group snack or meal).
- **June 12-14 First Mates Bell Harbor Marina in Seattle.** Totem has reserved 10 slips, but attendees need to secure moorage by Fri, May 29 by calling [206-615-3952](tel:206-615-3952) to prepay first night \$1.35/ft. The marina charges a \$5 per boat fee which will need to be paid to Totem prior to the event. Let me know if you are interested in hosting this event.

Totem will again be participating in the Des Moines Yacht Club Swap Meet on Mar 21. Last year our club realized some substantial income from this activity, and we want to repeat that this year. This is a good chance to get rid of some of those marine goodies that are still serviceable and you've been wanting to do something with, but they just keep taking up space. Please see flyer in this issue, and give Ron or Cathy a call to find out more.

Pictures from the 2015 Commodore's Ball







Totem YC will have two booths at the



16th Annual Indoor & Outdoor

Des Moines Yacht Club

Marine Swap Meet

Saturday March 21, 2015

9:00 am to 3:00 pm

The largest Indoor Marine Swap Meet in the Northwest

Buy / Sell / Swap / Browse

Marine Equipment, Accessories, Electronics, Tools,
Boats, Trailers, Dinghies, Books, etc.

DMYC 22737 Marine View Drive I-5 Exit 149 to Des Moines



This will be a fund-raiser for Totem YC. If you have any marine or nautical items in serviceable condition you would care to donate, we will do our best to sell them with the proceeds going to Totem. Articles that do not sell may be returned to donor. To arrange delivery or pick-up or if you have any questions or would like to help out, contact Ron Reding r_reding@comcast.net or Cathy Betts cathybetts37@yahoo.com or 253-503-0089.

And be sure to stop by the Swap Meet at Des Moines YC on
March 21.

TOTEM YACHT CLUB

Coming Out Cruise March 27-29 Arabella's Marina

Let's get the club's fleet dusted off, shined up and ready to kick off a fun New season of cruising!



Friday

- Happy Hour starts when you get there
 - Dinner on your own

Saturday

- Continental breakfast, coffee, juice and mimosas 9:00am
 - 1:00pm Blessing of the fleet
 - Bike ride, so if you want to ride bring a bike
 - Happy hour 5:00pm
 - Pot Luck, bring your favorite dish to share, 6:30pm
- After dinner if you would like to dance Mike will supply the music

Sunday

- Continental breakfast, coffee, juice and mimosas
 - Leave at your own pace

\$10.00 a person out of that \$75.00 goes to rent the Net Shed for Saturday night
You need to reserve your slip with Arabella's by March 19th, 253-851-1793
Hail Totem on channel 68, 15 minutes before your arrival

