



The Totem Line



58 years of yachting – 59 years of friendship

In this issue: Turkey Cruise Flyer and Totem Christmas Party flyer. Don't forget, Soup Night, followed by General Meeting and Elections, Tuesday, November 3rd! Mike Holman has also promised a presentation on "Preparing your boat for Northwest winters."

<i>Upcoming Events</i>	
Nov. 3....	Soup Night; General Meeting; Elections
Nov. 27-29.....	Turkey Cruise to Des Moines
Dec. 5.....	Special People's Cruise
Dec. 12.....	Totem Christmas Party
Dec. 19.....	Lighted Boat Parade

<i>Leadership</i>	
Commodore.....	Joe Simpson
Vice Commodore.....	Mike Holman
Rear Commodore.....	Cathy Betts
Purser.....	Sharon Nell
Yeoman.....	Provi Simpson

Commodore's Report



Ahoy all:

Commodore Joe here. It is my hope that as Fall arrives, it catches you all reflecting on a great cruise season...Trips taken and times shared, friends not yet met, and optimism for the upcoming new year. I truly miss sharing our times at the club, as well as on cruises. Unfortunately, as you all are aware, I am relegated to my employment responsibilities. Damn, I hate working nights, but re-working Seattle Reproductive Medicine gives me a lot of pride. I've learned to work within guidelines that are nature's cycles, not mine or any man's. Hell, doing this right helps many have the families they so desperately want and have tried for. "Pretty cool" huh? It is heartwarming also

to read and listen to the emails and conversations that come not only from my wife, but from the bridge and board, as well.

Things seem to be moving forward well for the club and as I proofread Provi's meeting minutes, I enjoy (serendipitously) seeing everybody come together. Not a surprise considering our bridge and club, though. Remember, this is your club and when we have needs, it's you, the members, who step up and make this club great.

This is election time so good turnouts are needed! Try to make what meetings you can. That said; I leave you to the conscientious bridge and board members to navigate the next few months. I am available at any time should anyone care to shoot the breeze, since I am now awake and home days, so feel free to "give a call"!

Safe passages...

Joe Simpson, Commodore

Vice Commodore's Report



The following individuals are being placed in nomination by the Board to serve as Bridge officers and trustees for the 2016 calendar year. The annual election of Board members will take place at the General Membership meeting to be held November 3rd, starting at 7:30 PM. Before the election is held there will be an opportunity to make other nominations from the floor. This is pursuant to the TYC Bylaws. Also, you may submit an absentee ballot via mail to the Commodore at the club address. The ballot must be received prior to the call to order on November 3rd.

If you do intend to make a nomination on the floor please secure the permission of the person you are nominating before making the nomination.

The nominees are as follows:

Commodore: Mike Holman (2014)

Vice-Commodore: Kathy Betts (2014)

Rear Commodore: Heidi Merrifield (2013)

Purser: PC Sharon Nell (1977)

Yeoman: Barbara Berntsen (2006)

Trustees:

Position 1: Provi Simpson (2011)

Position 2: Mike Merrifield (2013)

Position 3: Rick Demere (2011)

Position 4: PC Tim Reding (1990)

Position 5: Open (A nominee will be presented)

2016 Fleet Captain will be PC Ron Reding and per the Standing Rules Ron will be a voting member of the Board. Jr. Past Commodore, will be Joe Simpson as the outgoing commodore and, by bylaws is automatically a Board Member

Position 1,3, and 5 are two year terms ending in December 2017

Position 2 and 4 are one year terms ending in December 2016

All Bridge Officer positions are a one year term.

We are attempting to identify and name a new 2015 member to fill position 5. That person must be willing to attend Board meetings which will be held on the last Tuesday of each month except June and July, and the General Membership meeting to be held, as usual, on the first Tuesday of each month except for July and August. Obviously that means a commitment of two meetings per month. If you have an interest please contact Mike Holman at 253-222-4461.

Mike Holman, Vice Commodore

Rear Commodore's Report

The club rentals are going along fine. The building is looking great. Looking forward to the holidays and the cruises that are coming up. Make sure you come join us on the Thanksgiving cruise to Des Moines, November 26-29th, and all the Holiday events: December 5th Special People Cruise; Totem Christmas Party December 12th; and the Lighted Boat Parade on Foss Water Way on December 19th. Make plans to join us.

Cathy Betts, Rear Commodore



Galley Report

Soup Night will be provided at Tuesday's general membership meeting at 6:30 for \$6 per person. The meal will feature specialty soups prepared by members as well as salad, garlic bread, and dessert.



Sunshine Report

No report this month. Send Sunshine information to Louise at FBurns5105@aol.com, or call (253) 845-4326.

Area Fuel Prices <http://fineedge.com/fuelsurvey.html> Updated 8/29/15

Current wind direction and speed conditions in Puget Sound:

<http://i90.atmos.washington.edu/ferry/Ferryjs/mainframe1.htm>

Webcams showing current coastal water conditions:

<http://www.northwestwebcams.com/washington-web-cams.shtm#coastal>

Fleet Captain's Report

The Port Orchard Halloween Cruise on Oct 9-11 was another fun event even though only 5 boats attended. The musical ended up being cancelled, but we enjoyed spending time together, decorating for Halloween, as well as watching the Seahawks game on the dock on Sunday with Des Moines Yacht Club.

Our final holiday weekend cruise of the year is the Turkey cruise to Des Marina Nov 27-29. Virginia and Tom Allard are hosts and busy planning for a fun filled weekend. So far 8 boats have signed up. Des Moines has a heated, covered shelter, so if you are unable to come by boat, consider joining us Saturday afternoon for hot dogs and the potluck that night.

I attended the preliminary planning meeting this week for the Tacoma Park's Department's Holiday Cruise for People with Disabilities which will take place at Foss Sea Port on Dec 5. Dock Street Marina will be providing free moorage to participating boats who bring a donation of a Toys 4 Tots gift (two gifts = two nights moorage) Friday and Saturday nights. This is a fun way to interact with others participating in the cruise. Day Island, Fircrest, Tacoma and Totem Yacht Clubs are all supplying boats for the event as well as Tacoma's Marine patrol unit. The officer who attended the meeting reiterated the importance of spreading the word on boating safety to small boats as that is where they are seeing the most incidents such as the fatal accident after the 4th of July fireworks in Commencement Bay this past summer.

2016 Cruise planning is already underway. A quick call to marinas let us know the urgency of securing great space for our events. This year's line-up includes: Dock Street Marina for the coming out cruise in March, Poulsbo for Memorial Day Weekend, Port Orchard for the Commodore's Cruise, Bell Harbor Marina the end of July, Des Moines

mid-Aug for Kid's cruise, Labor Day Weekend at Arabella's Landing in Gig Harbor, Halloween at Port Orchard and Turkey Cruise at Des Moines. These marinas are popular choices for folks attending this year's cruises and will provide space for our club to continue to grow. We'll still have anchor outs for the Blessing of the Fleet in Gig Harbor in June and in Quartermaster for the 4th of July holiday, as well as Penrose the end of August.

*New to Boating? (From Nor'westing Magazine, August 2000) by Jeff Buege
(A little humor during these dreary rainy days....although it strikes a little close to home for some of us.)*

Being new to boating is virtually impossible to conceal. It's simply inevitable that a beginner's inexperience will display itself, often spectacularly, in words and actions. When talking to seasoned boaters, a rookie's vocabulary will usually betray him first. Boating has a language all unto itself, and for every word or phrase you memorize out of "Bob's Big Book of Boating Babble" there will be three new unfamiliar terms thrown your way. You can hope all you want that nobody will notice as you stumble your way through a conversation about boating, but the reality is that new boaters are generally as apparent as dandruff on a black suit. Heaven help you when the old salts, who were on to you the minute you arrived at the marina, decide to start having fun at your expense. As you're pulling away from the dock, someone will volunteer that "it sounds as though your bilge is activating After a long pause, you politely respond, "Thanks"... you then agonize over whether you should call in a mayday and abandon ship or start watching the marine store ads for a sale on bilge rebuild kits. Rest assured your decision will be the wrong one, much to everyone's delight... You still eventually need to operate your boat, and competence at the helm is incredibly difficult to fake. Even if you can "talk the talk", it takes experience to "walk the walk". Novices tend to "knock the dock". Being new to boating is a more serious proposition than being new to most things. If a new golfer screws up, for example, he loses a golf ball. If a new gardener screws up, the petunias need to be replaced. If a new boater screws up, \$100,000 worth of fiberglass is rearranged. . . . don't take offense when someone gets short-tempered with (you) - they're just looking out for their (own) investment. Someone once suggested (based on observation, no doubt) that (a rookie) should carry a big orange banner aboard their boat that says "NEW BOATER" especially at critical times, such as maneuvering in the locks. Odds are in your favor that everyone recognizes you as a rookie (anyway) from the way your boat is coming in fast and sideways, or from the look of absolute terror in your eyes, in addition to your (in)ability at the helm (to manage your boat).

Some boats are just branded as "starter boats". Sometimes this is even mentioned in the "Boat For Sale" ad, which surprises me. That's pretty much admitting "it's not going to hurt this boat to slam it into a few more pilings", or "it's easy to see that a boater of your caliber shouldn't consider anything made since the Truman administration". Of course, a first-time boat shopper doesn't know any better and may even think that "starter boat" is a selling feature and not a warning sign. Owning a buoyancy-challenged old boat is admittedly a weak indicator that someone is new on the water. Some experienced boaters are happy with their starter boats and pose no risk whatsoever. In contrast, through inheritance or other such dumb luck, some people start out with a 60' top-of-the-line Status Master 2000. These boaters are scary!!... They have every appearance of being an extension of someone's nautical accomplishments, but could as easily be a floating insurance claim just waiting to be filed. While it's true that a pristine yacht in the hands of a newbie doesn't stay pristine for very long, a yacht without gouges or scratches is not necessarily a safe yacht. Keep in mind that somebody's got to be the first! . . Perhaps the most dangerous boating rookie is the person who is in denial. The relative newcomer to boating who thinks he knows it all is one of the greatest threats afloat... "Ask yourself, has this ever happened to you?" (1)-Someone asks you to toss him or her a line, and you do. Even though it's not tied to anything. (2)-You cruise across the Strait of Juan de Fuca with your fenders out. (3)-You actually get a laugh out of the agent when calling for a quote on marine insurance.

It's Turkey Cruise Time!



Totem Yacht Club Cruise Nov 27-29

Moorage \$20, plus \$0.75 per foot over 31'

Friday:

Dinner on your own, or can arrange a group dinner in town (24 restaurants)

Saturday:

PRIZES

Lunch: Hot dogs, potato salad, beans (provided)

Happy Hour: 4:30pm

Dinner: Potluck 6:00pm

RAFFLE



Bring your favorite board games to play and items to decorate your boat for the holidays. We'll have the heated party cabana all weekend with a TV to watch the football games.

Enjoy a relaxing fun weekend kick off to the holiday season.

Hosted by Tom & Virginia Allard

Home (206) 824-8211 – Virginia (206) 948-4766 – Tom (206) 979-6360



22307 Dock Ave S. Des Moines, WA 98198

Hail "Totem Yacht Club" on channel 68 - 15 minutes prior to arrival.

Christmas Party



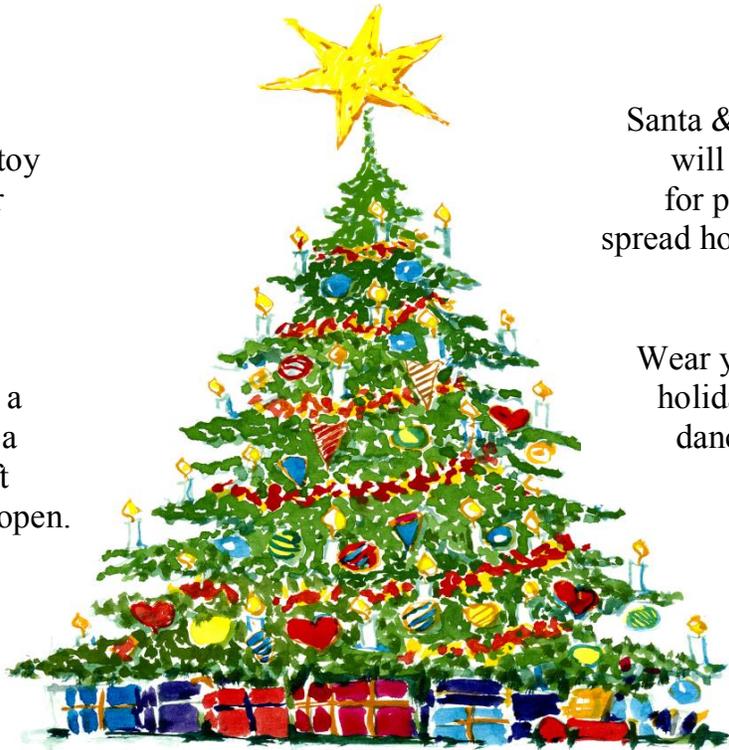
**Totem Yacht Club
Dec 12, 2015
6:30 – 10:30 pm**

**Heavy Appetizers
provided by 2015/2016 Officers and Board**

BYOB

Bring an unwrapped toy donation for Toys 4 Tots or YWCA.

If you bring a child, bring a wrapped gift for them to open.



Santa & Mrs. Claus will be available for photos and to spread holiday cheer!

Wear your favorite holiday attire and dance to Mike's music mix!

Coordinator for event: Heidi Merrifield 253-219-8108
heidicmike@comcast.net

Pictures from the Port Orchard Halloween Cruise

