



# The Totem Line



*58 years of yachting – 59 years of friendship*

***In this issue: Summer Cruise Report from Heidi Merrifield; Viking Yacht Club Commodore's Ball flyer. Don't forget, potluck and general meeting Sept. 15<sup>th</sup>! Come and welcome our new members.***

### *Upcoming Events*

Sept 15.....General Meeting  
Sept 19....Viking Yacht Club Commodore's Ball  
Sept 26.....Work Party at Clubhouse 9:00 a.m.

### *Leadership*

Commodore.....Joe Simpson  
Vice Commodore.....Mike Holman  
Rear Commodore.....Cathy Betts  
Purser.....Sharon Nell  
Yeoman.....Provi Simpson

## *Commodore's Report*



Ahoy members:

Landlubbers, sailors and seamen alike would agree this has been one fantastic summer! I hope you all have enjoyed it to the fullest. For those of you that enjoyed the cruises put on, Yea! My "commorable," Provi, and myself have been on only two of our organized cruises, but both were just great. The 4th of July in Quartermaster was beyond belief. I have never been so close to "the barge," and besides the company, the fireworks were amazing! A definite repeat for us next year.

The Commodore's Cruise turned out with a great group: Karaoke on the dock, music on the Bremerton side and a feast with a clambake I won't soon forget! It seemed all enjoyed it because some 25 lbs. of clams, crab, prawns, corn and sausage disappeared in the blink of an eye. Wow, it was great!

We celebrate a number of new members this year -- some sworn in at Arabella's, others in Poulsbo, Port Orchard and other spots, so please forgive me if I miss someone. As I said before, we have been somewhat limited to our cruises. My best count is 21 new members! I think there are 3 more couples that have yet to be sworn in but they are on their way in!

Please welcome:

James and Joanne Ross, Ken and Danielle Hester, Mark and Kay Hafterson, Ron Grodin and Lorie Hamiwka, Brian Wood and Debbie Minniti, Pam and Brian Wallace, Allen and Sally Vraspir, Tom and Kerri Swift, Edwin (Ted) Shell and Noreen Jensen, Theresa and Lyle Schneider, and Karen Boedecker...Whew! That it SO AWESOME!!! We will see you all at our general 'pot luck' meeting on September 12th. Meeting at 7:30 as usual with the cocktails and potluck starting around 6:00 to 6:30

Lots to do with nominations on the horizon, rentals to be organized, house and grounds upcoming, oh yes...and fun! Don't miss out!

Our business of business, the board meeting, will be held on September 9<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 PM. As always, the membership is welcome to come and hear just what makes this all happen.

Until then, Dry bilges, fenders in, let the fall begin...

Best Regards,  
Joe Simpson, Commodore

### *Vice Commodore's Report*



Greetings:

I am sure that, like me, most of you are a little sorry when Labor Day comes around. Well, September and October can be great months for cruising, especially in our Northwest waters here on Puget Sound, but still, Labor Day marks the end of summer. Kids and grandkids go back to school and those of us that haven't retired get refocused on work. And schedules seem to get a bit busier. At least that's the way my life goes.

There are a number of items that I want to bring to your attention.

First is our new members. Since the start of 2015 we have had 28 new members join our club. Wow! In any club that is great growth, but for TYC it is exciting. I want to welcome all of you and hope you will get involved in club activities. We are pleased to have each of you as new members.

Second, as all of you know, we started a major refurbishing project on the clubhouse in February. There are still things to do -- seems that it is a never-ending process. Rear Commodore Cathy Betts will be directing a Fall Clean-up on September 26th. There is a lot to do and we need all hands on deck. Check out her column and watch your e-mail.

Third, as Vice-Commodore I am starting the process of organizing and planning for next year. January 2016 is less than 4 months away and we want to get a jump-start on the year. Over the next couple of months there are positions to fill, committees to form, and goals to set. As a part of that process, before the end of September you will receive, as a separate e-mail a survey that I am asking everyone to complete and return to help the Bridge plan club activities for the next year. While I may not be able to reach everyone by phone, I will be attempting to contact all members for their input and to discuss their survey responses. I would especially encourage new members to take this opportunity to get involved and become a vital link in the process of planning the future of TYC.

Finally, we are ordering a new supply of burgees. So, if your burgee is faded, tattered, and worn out let me know so it can be replaced. Burgee prices have increased, and as you might suspect, the club cannot afford to replace them at no cost. Smaller burgees that measure 12 x 18 are \$27.00 and are for "smaller boats." Power boats exceeding 40 feet in length and sail boats exceeding 35 feet are considered "larger boats." Larger burgees measure 14 x 21 and cost \$30.00. New members are given a burgee at initiation. So it's just the older members who need to purchase replacements. And if you have a large boat, you can trade in your current burgee (if it is in "like new" condition) for a large burgee at no cost to you. We simply need to be able to re-use your burgee for someone else, which is why it must be "like new." Please let me know if you need a new burgee, as I want to place our order by September 26th.

Smooth Sailing,  
Mike Holman, Vice Commodore

### *Rear Commodore's Report*

Hope all had a great summer -- now to get back to work. We are having a work party Sept. 26<sup>th</sup> at 9 am. Please bring tools, if you have them. We will have lunch when we are done working.

We are doing well on renting the club -- maybe not as much as last year, but getting new rentals every week. I would like to thank Joe and Provi for helping me with the rentals. It has made my recovery so much easier.

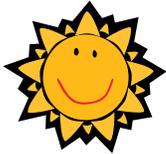
Hope to see all our new members and old at our meeting for September.

How I see things,  
Cathy Betts, Rear Commodore



### *Galley Report*

No Galley Report this month. Please plan to come to the potluck, and bring your favorite dish to share at our general meeting, Sept. 15<sup>th</sup>. Cocktails around 6, dinner about 6:30, meeting to follow.



### *Sunshine Report*

Past commodore Jerry Rudd has been very ill and has been in a rehabilitation home in Federal Way for treatment. He should be going home soon. A further report will be given at the meeting. Send Sunshine information to Louise at [FBurns5105@aol.com](mailto: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 Report– Summer Cruises*

We had one of the best summers on record and great fun and attendance at our cruises. Eleven boats kicked off our first holiday cruise to Poulsbo Memorial Day weekend. We welcomed several new members who were sworn in at the event. Roger and Louise Gallington hosted and provided a variety of activities. Roger took Mike and me to do the mountain bike tracks while others explored town or played games.



Our first anchor out was the blessing of the fleet in Gig Harbor June 5-7. Eight boats rafted together. On Sunday we took dinghies to the car show and the fleet blessing.

The next weekend we headed to Bell Harbor for the First Mates' cruise with 6 boats. Several of us enjoyed listening to Shaggy Sweet perform at the Edgewater on Friday night and went to the Sounders game on Saturday.

July 4th we had the most impressive 18-boat wagon wheel I've seen. It made a fabulous swimming hole. The fireworks at Quartermaster were even more impressive this year and the heatwave continued!



Joe and Provi Simpson outdid themselves hosting the Commodore's cruise to Port Orchard the end of July. Their old fashioned clam bake was out of this world. Festivities included taking the water taxi to Bremerton to hear the band Vaudeville Etiquette and enjoy Cold Stone ice cream. Some of us snuck back early to do the traditional boat decorating (as well as farewell to *Lucky Charm!*) More new members joined at this



event. We are growing nicely! We even got a few to participate in Karaoke!

Although we didn't have an official summer cruise, a high percentage of our members headed to the San Juan's in July and August. Enough so that we ended up cancelling our Bremerton cruise, scheduled in August. Unfortunately, our other August cruise to Penrose was cancelled, too, due to the weather finally turning to rain, high winds, and thunder. Instead, we ended up taking advantage of reciprocal privileges at Tacoma Yacht Club and drove over for a 12th-man event watching the Seahawks beat the Chargers on Saturday night.

Labor Day is approaching and there is still time to join us for events in Olympia. Thursday Fireside (Anthony's) for the Seahawks game. Friday night Al and Sally Vraspir are hosting a hamburger feed on their boat *Graceful Spirit* (bring beverage and a side to share). Saturday you're on your own to explore town and Harbor Day events Let me know if you'd like to dine out with a group? Sunday, we have a special invitation to participate in the tug boat races aboard VJ Suttmeier's parent's 127' tug - which happened to win the past few years.

Boarding will occur between 10-11am with race starting at 1pm. Bring a potluck lunch item and beverage. There is plenty of seating. At 6 pm we're having a BBQ potluck in the picnic area above Swantown. I'm bringing the Karaoke machine again as Virginia Allard missed out last time!



Check out event photos on Facebook!

Heidi Merrifield, Fleet Captain



The Viking Yacht Club has a  
“Sea-R-Us Attitude”  
and would like to invite you to our

*2015 Commodore Ball*

*Honoring*

*Commodore Robert & First Mate/PC Carla Bushnell*

Saturday, September 19<sup>th</sup>, 2015  
6pm – 7pm Cocktail Hour

Presentation of Visiting Commodores

Followed by All You Can Eat Buffet

Cost: \$35 per person or \$70 per couple

At Emerald Queen Convention Center  
5700 Pacific Highway East  
Fife, Washington 98424

RSVP 253 318 9619 to Barb Byrn or Email: [Yakobi51@hotmail.com](mailto:Yakobi51@hotmail.com)

Dress Whites

Rooms available at \$89 + tax per night – call reservations at the Emerald Queen Casino in Fife

*Pictures from Poulsbo Cruise*



## Pictures from Labor Day Olympia Cruise

The trip to Olympia began with some rough water and sprinkles of rain, perhaps dissuading some members from coming down for the festivities of Harbor Days. Good weather prevailed through most of the weekend, though, and for those who came, it was a delightful weekend. We started off with hamburgers provided by Sally and Al Vraspir, but grilled by Ken Hawk, who has a full-sized grill on his boat. Sally and Al hosted us on their boat, *Graceful Spirit*. Saturday morning, we strolled down through the Farmer's Market, sampled some goodies, and toured several of the tugboats that would be participating in the Tug Boat Races on Sunday, as well as a couple of "mini-tugs" designed and built locally. There was a variety of live music in the park near the docks, and lots of vendors set up for shopping. Saturday night, we went out for dinner, and Vice Commodore Mike and Lois joined us. Sunday was the highlight of the weekend, because VJ Suttmeier's parents invited us to go out on their tug boat, the *Galene*, a 127' World War II Tug that saw service up and down the east coast, as well as a trip to England to search for German submarines who were sinking cargo ships. On board were Stan Wood, the last surviving crew member from WWII, who was very friendly and informative about the military history of the tug. Also aboard was Lenny from the reality TV show, "Deadliest Catch." We were in the 3<sup>rd</sup> heat of the race, against two other boats who started out ahead of us, but the *Galene*, although slow to get started with its 7 ½ foot diameter prop, easily sailed past the other two boats, winning the race. Sunday night, we had a great potluck aboard *Graceful Spirit*. We headed back home Monday morning, with a calm sea, although we were running against the tide most of the day.

