
January 2022 Totem Change of Watch1 message

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**Totem Line**

Volume 69 | Issue 1.5 | January 2022

2022 Change of Watch

At Totem's general membership meeting in January every (non-COVID) year, we "change the watch" from the previous year's officers to new officers. This year's ceremony was led by outgoing Commodore, Kris Huber. Before surrendering his command, Commodore Kris acknowledged members who were active in the club and supported him during his tenure as Commodore. Kris shared that when he began as Commodore, Tim Reding offered some sage advice: Never forget that everyone in the club is a volunteer. Kris thanked those who

volunteered their time to Totem YC.

Certificates of appreciation were presented to:

- Board members Andy Costner, Linda Harms, Roger Lander, Al Vraspir and Sally Vraspir
- Fleet Captain Linda Landers
- Rental Manager Jenny Kenyon
- Reciprocal Manager Rick Boskovich
- Sunshine Patty Chastain

Plaques were presented to the following, who didn't just volunteer, they volunteered a lot of their time for a long time commitment:

- Rick Demere, Purser
- Matt Ales, Yeoman
- Linda Landers, Fleet Captain
- Mike Holman, Rear Commodore
- Randy Kenyon, Vice Commodore
- Debbie Ales, Jr. Past Commodore

Commodore Kris then switched to acknowledging stand-out members.



Andy and Jenn Fernando received the award for **New Members of the**

Year. They joined in 2021 and attended several cruises. Andy stepped up to join our Board for 2022 - 23, bringing the perspective of new members and a smaller but awesome boat.



Barb Berntsen and her 13'-Boston Whaler received the **Boat of the Year Award** for making the journey to Kingston, Olympia and multiple other destinations. Of note, Barb piloted the Whaler to Kingston, knowing there would be a small craft advisory for her trip home. She took appropriate precautions and club members with larger boats followed her in case the weather and waves became too much. But Badass Barb made it home safely! Kris challenged the rest of the members to take on that challenge.



Ron and Cathy Reding received the **Boating Family of the Year** award. This award means more than just going to cruises -- it's about helping others. Ron is always a steady voice on the other end of the radio. They are both there to help boats secure to the dock or head home safely. Kris shared the story of the first time he & Lisa joined a Totem cruise in Swantown, Olympia, arriving in the dark:

- Ron: I have a visual on you.
- Kris: Great!
- Ron: The only problem is you're going to run ashore. Turn to your port.



Jenny Kenyon received the **Member of the Year** award for her work as Rental Manager (aka Janitor :-), Totem Line Editor, Bylaws Chairperson, and Membership Directory lead. Jenny makes herself available to support the club every time she can.



Matt Ales received the prestigious **Commodore's Award**. Whenever Kris had a question or needed to talk through an idea or concern, Matt made himself available -- for anything and everything!

To Kris, Randy, Mike, Matt, Rick, Debbie and the Board, Totem Members thank you for standing an extra watch to navigate our club though the first years of the pandemic.



After the celebrations for all, Kris swore in Randy Kenyon as Commodore. Randy accepted and asked Kris if he was ready to be relieved. Kris said "YES" and his shoulders dropped 6-inches. In appreciation for Kris' extended time as Commodore, Randy presented Kris with a gift: a Vikings NFL jersey (his home town) personalized to "Commodore 21".



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