



OLYMPIA YACHT CLUB

February 2012



Commodore

Commodore Leslie Thompson
Captain Brian Thompson
M/V EcstaSea



Greetings OYC. Well, I guess I can say it is truly winter time in the Northwest. As I write this and look out at the snow falling, with 18 inches on our deck, we are snowed in of sorts.

Please be sure to check on your boats with the snow so that no damage occurs and check on heaters and plugs

since many of you will be needing heat this time of year. If you can, volunteer to help the caretaker in bad weather times of need.

The Bridge has had a busy December and January so far. The first event past is the Apple Cup. FCP Rich and Dianne had a fun event with the football game and the chili and chowder cook-off contest. Along with salads etc. no one went away hungry. The game was great on the big screen. The first weekend of December started the rest of the festivities off with a blast. Brian and I attended the Commodore Ball at Seattle Yacht Club. This is also their Christmas party so the Grand 14 gets pushed into the background on this one. It is always a very formal affair for them. Brian and I still had a great time hanging out with and socializing with our fellow Sharks and at least we didn't get sick this time. The same weekend we held our own special people's cruise here at OYC. Many thanks go out to Curtis Dahlgren and his amazing crew of volunteers, too many to name by name, for the marvelous job with the galley, the Santa voices, skippers and first mates of all the volunteer boats, escorts and everyone else, which also included my daughter Erin and my granddaughter Ashleigh, who played a part in hosting about 120 special guests and their caregivers. This is always a fun and rewarding event. I look forward to it each

year. However, sadly Curtis has indicated he would like to step down from the chair position due to his job responsibilities. I would like someone to step up to the plate and take over. Please contact me or VC Mike if you are interested as he will be Commodore when the next one takes place in 2012.

Immediately following, the next week Chair Colleen Nelson held the annual Parade of Lighted Ships. Thank you for her hard work and to IPC Carol for graciously volunteering her boat to be the site for the hosting of the judges. The total participants was down slightly from years past but the decorations were over the top fantastic. Thank you all for being there. Thanks also to our Santa this year Gary Johnston and his elf Colleen. The kids always enjoy you. Our judges this year were Olympia Mayor Doug Mah, Thurston County Auditor Kim Wyman and her husband, Olympia Police Chief Ronnie Roberts and his wife, and Port of Olympia director Bruce Marshall. The winners for the parade were Grand Illusion - Jerry and Kris Budelman, 1st place - PC Georgia Rae and Dan Martin, 2nd place - Don and Val Cotey, 3rd place - Dave and Cynthia Kettel, and 4th place - PC J and Peg Grady.

The OYC Christmas party followed in December with a beautiful, fun affair with VC Mike and Vonnice in charge. Good job guys! Thanks to IPC Carol for her usual first class job of decorating the club so well for this and the Special Peoples event. Everything looked elegant and festive. Also, she made and presented all the hor'doerves for the event so as to facilitate keeping the costs down for the Bridge on the budget. As it was, we still got busted for going slightly over due to the large turnout of members. Is that not fantastic??? I love to see so many members participate in our events. I hope all had a great time with the wonderful meal and a night of conversation and dancing.

RC Jeff and Debra hosted our New years event at the mainstain. Unfortunately I was not able to stay for the entire evening. Captain Brian had tweaked his back taking down Christmas lights off the roof and did not want to stay out late. He just need-

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Vice Commodore

Captain Mike Contris
First Mate Yvonne Contris
M/V Maya



Wow, Vonnie and I had a wonderful time at the Christmas Party! As always Pellegrino's provided a wonderful dinner, a buffet of Prime Rib and Chicken Béarnaise, with an equally fantastic dessert buffet. And to get us started we enjoyed wonderful hor'doerves from IPC Carol and Commodore Leslie! I've so many to thank, including: IPC Carol Robinson and Commodore Leslie Thompson for help with decorating, setup and the aforementioned hor'doerves; Captain Brian Thompson and granddaughter Ashleigh Thompson, Bob and Maureen Carter and Captain Chuck Eich for setup; Fleet Captain Power Rich and Dianne Hurst, IPC Carol Robinson and Captain Chuck Eich and Maureen Carter for cleanup; and, of course, Catherine Bander and Susie Zuelke for their yeoman bartending services the night of the party. I must also specially thank the commodore for her table setting instructions. I always seem to get the knives turned the wrong way!

RC Jeff and Deb put on a wonderful New Year's Eve party with great food, a comedic performance by Mike 'Wally' Walters, and music by the Jazzberries! About 60 members attended and most stayed until well after midnight, including Vonnie and me (verrrry unusual for us). Great way to see in 2012!

Your bridge had an incredible time at the winter Grand 14 cruise-in on Bainbridge Island! RC Jeff and I presented our roast of Commodore Leslie (autographed DVDs available at a nominal price from the quartermaster), helped prepare various meals for the other attendees and generally represented our club in fine form! And, as the next in my ongoing series of 'So You Want to Be a Bridge Officer' episodes, let me say that these annual cruise-ins with our counterparts in the Grand 14 are a wonderful bonding opportunity, but the winter one is especially meaningful to me because of the commodore roasts. And why might I say that? Could it be evidence of a mean bone in my compact person? Nope, what I really have enjoyed is a chance to put together a humorous tribute to my commodores (because I worked on both PC Carol's and Commodore Leslie's). It was a unique opportunity for me to salute folks who have taught me so much about leading our club and helped me so often to take on the challenge of leading in my own turn. Thanks, Carol and Leslie, for your support for me and your efforts on behalf of our club!



Photo by Mike Contris



Photo by Mike Contris

Next JO ball for your junior officers will be at Meydenbauer in Seattle, a formal event, so I'll be in a tux (yeah, the guys have it easiest) and Vonnie will be in whatever she manages to put together after weeks of shopping for just the right look! After that we'll be attending Gig Harbor's JO, dressed for Disco Fever (oh, how I wish I'd kept those platform shoes...)!

Nominations are coming up, especially for the bridge. I know that going thru the bridge can seem an overwhelming commitment, but it has been one of the best decisions that Vonnie and I have made during our time with OYC: we've met wonderful folks, had great fun putting on parties and cruises for all of you in our club, and enjoyed representing our club to the other yacht clubs of Puget Sound. Please, if you're asked to serve our club as a member of the bridge, give it due consideration. Choosing to serve may well be remembered as one of best decisions and experiences of your life!

And, as always, I'm here to help.

VC Mike Contris

352-2414

mikenvonnie@comcast.net

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Reservation Line:

Club Functions & Dinner..... 705-3767

Website: www.olympiayachtclub.org

Associate Memberships:

- Boat U.S group: Olympia Yacht Club
Group # GA83470Y
- Olympia Country & Golf Club—www.olygolfclub.com

Photos for this issue furnished by:
Mike Contris, Barb Bergholz, Lisa Mighetto, Rick Taylor, George Whitaker

Rear Commodore

Captain Jeff Pape
First Mate Debra Pape
M/V *Papa's Dream*



As I write this our power just came back after 4 days, and with it comes internet access. The efforts of Caretaker George and many volunteers once again pulled OYC through a difficult few days. We always seem to come together when the need arises.

Last weekend your Bridge went to the Queen City outstation on Bainbridge Island. Lots of fun and the Commodores' Roast was a blast. Vice Commodore Mike will most likely show the roast at a later meeting.

It seems the bridge is always saying how much fun it is to represent OYC with the Grand 14. I myself wondered when we started if it was just hype to get us to commit. I can honestly say Debra and I have been amazed at just how much fun it is. We have already made lifelong friends and now have many more cruising destinations, where we can visit fellow G14ers.

When we joined OYC we found getting involved with the club changed our boating life for the better. Now, serving on the bridge has done it again. If you decide to go for it in the future, you won't be disappointed.

We will be attending the Meydenbauer JO Ball the same weekend as the joint SS Sailing cruise to Island Home. If you decide to attend, remember this is a great opportunity to show SSSS members how great it would be to join OYC. We have many joint members and we should have many more.

Remember the Sweethearts Cruise has moved to Feb 17, 18, and 19. Always a good time and a chance for us to remind our spouses how lucky they are!

Have fun out there!

Jeff Pape, Rear Commodore
1st Mate Debra



Photo by Mike Contris

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Fleet Captain Sail

Captain Rick Bergholz
First Mate Barb Bergholz
S/V *Inati*



Inati and I have been busy hibernating through the winter. I, wandering around aimlessly, and *Inati*, under her gray tarp. However, that is about to change. I can't believe how busy the schedule is beginning to look. By the time you read this the Eld Inlet race, the McAllister Creek race, and the OYC/SSSS joint cruise will have happened, and we will be on the verge of the Toliva Shoal race.

Under the topic of racing, Gary Pedigo of *Charlemagne*, a consistent quality competitor, has had surgery and we wish him a speedy recovery and good result. Hope to see you on the race course again soon, Gary. Other OYC boats seen out racing are Vintage, D'Lavicea, Flying Circus, Balder and Pandora.



Pandora

As I write this, the living room is full of wet sails. Barb is great about that stuff, and the yard is full of snow. All of us that were on the *Inati* for the Eld Inlet race attended a gusty winds sailing school. The weather textbook I read said that gusts are usually half again the wind speed. Wind 20 knots, equals gusts 30 knots. Eld Inlet and the golf club winds did

not read that text book. Eld Inlet was a wild ride and my crew and myself are much more experienced in gusty conditions now. Anything to get ready for Toliva. Photos are Bob and Beth's Pandora, Terry and Debe's D'Lavicea and two views from *Inati*'s cockpit.



D'Lavicea

Toliva Shoal race is February 11th. Check with your favorite

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TGIF

Thank Goodness it's **Friday!**

Next one is February 24th

5-7 pm at the Main Station

\$5 per person

Pizza, Salad Bar, Iced Cream Sundaes

Beer, Wine, Sodas

Unlimited Camaraderie

No Reservations Required



Fleet Captain Power

Captain Richard Hurst
First Mate Dianne Hurst
M/V *Feisty II*



Next event is the Sweethearts Cruise (Valentine's) coming up on **February 17-19th**. It will be at Island Home.

Friday will be Pot Luck, details pending.

Saturday afternoon will feature the Table Decoration Contest and prizes. If you are new to this, check with someone about this fanatic no-holds-barred, over the top event.

Saturday Dinner will be a Beef and Lobster feast presented by the Smith's and their Culinary Committee.

For your pleasure, music will be provided by the "Teachers" from Shelton.

Breakfast will be provided Sunday.

This is President's Day weekend so Monday is a holiday for many. No specific club functions are planned for those that stay over, but I trust that those that do will improvise. Since we moved the weekend to avoid conflict with the Toliva Shoal race, a complement of sailors is expected. You know who you are!

The price is \$25/person and with the wonderful dinner that is planned, **RESERVATIONS ARE REQUIRED BY MONDAY THE 13TH ON THE OYC RESERVATION LINE ONLY!**

Rich Hurst FCP
Dianne Hurst First Mate



Past Commodore

IPC Carol Robinson
Captain Chuck Eich



Winter thaw greetings!

I have a couple of items to mention. First, we are still Looking for recruits for two board positions, Secretary, Fleet Captains Power and Sail, and Rear Commodore. If you are curious about any duties and the time involved please, contact me or any bridge officer. All job descriptions are available in your OYC yearbook.

Secondly, dock talk stories change as they are relayed from one person to another. So, I thought I would tell you a story straight from the horse's mouth: Chuck and I had plans to go to warm sunny AZ the week of snow. Mother Nature changed our plans. Chuck was shoveling 6+ inches from our boat at 4am that Wednesday, until I told him we needed to leave for Sea Tac. After three cancelled flights, we decided to drive back home on Thursday afternoon. Chuck fired up the 20kw gen set because a breaker popped and it was 42° in our boat. After

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Board of Trustees

Walt Scheffter, Chair
M/V Rob Roy



The New Year begins with the Board adopting the 2012 budget, without change, as recommended by the Budget and Finance Committee. Our capital projects are continuing to proceed through the permitting stages.

The Board has approved two new rules relating to Island Home which are in effect now. One rule sets the daily limit for clams at 40 per boat not to exceed ten pounds in the shell. Minimum size is 1 ½ inches and this includes Littleneck, Manila and Butter clams. The daily limit for oysters is 18 per boat and minimum size is 2 ½ inches measured across the longest distance of the shell. Shells must be returned to the beach at the same tide height where harvested.

The second adopted rule states "Moorage at Island Home at any one time will be limited to 16 days, and boats shall be occupied by an OYC member overnight." Please note both of these rules as they are in effect as of now but may not be in your yearbooks or in the published rule books. Both of these rule changes will also be posted on the bulletin board at the Island Home clubhouse.

I would like to devote the rest of this month's column to shining a light on our OYC committee chairs who have served this past year and who will continue to do so until June. In some cases, perhaps most, our present committee chairs will continue in their positions past June. In other cases their terms will end and new chairs will be appointed.

The responsibilities placed on a committee chair to keep their committee focused and serving the needs of the Club is substantial. Without these chairs the club would not function. Likewise of course, each committee accomplishes its tasks through the input and work of all of its members.

Many committee chairs put hundreds of hours into their committee work, not only at the committee level and Board meetings, but also in working with the public. Many Committee chairs work with outside contractors, permitting agencies, governmental agencies and the general public in performing their roles for OYC. These outside contacts can consume hundreds of hours of work and commitment in a year, all on the chairs' own time, and in most cases during the weekdays and during working hours.

It is only because of the commitment and dedication invested by these chairs that our club functions. Much of what the Board does depends upon the work and recommendations of the committees. I would therefore like to express my thanks and appreciation and that of the Board of Trustees of OYC to each and every committee chair of OYC and assure each of you that your work and commitment does not go unrecognized.

I would also like to recognize the past chair persons of OYC committees who are no longer in those positions and thank them for their work and the foundation they helped to lay for our club.

Walt Scheffter, Board Chair

(Continued from page 1)

ed to rest. I did manage to see the Space Needle fireworks. I have been told that the comedy night was a big success. Thank you Jeff and Debra and your committee for a job well done.

This past weekend the Flag Officers attended the Grand 14 Officers cruise in at Queen City YC outstation at Winslow, on Bainbridge Island. What a fun event this is for the officers. This is the time that the VC's and RC's prepare a roast of the Commodores. After a breakfast on Saturday prepared by the junior officers, the Commodores decorate their tables and then are kicked out of the club until later in the evening. The junior officers then decorated the club for us. VC Mike and Jeff borrowed a trident spear from Gary Waldher and attached Sharks to it as a rotisserie over candle flames on cupcakes. What a fun surprise all done with lots of humor. Of course the Sharks retaliated with bites out of the cakes!! We then had a wonderful meal followed by the program of roasting of the Commodores. We laughed at each and every one of them. They were all very creative. Mike and Jeff did a first class job showing off my feet with no shoes and of course my Miller Lite. I hope to be able to show it to all of you soon. Sunday ended the event with another breakfast. This is one of the weekends all of the 3 classes get to bond together and have a blast. I truly will miss these events when I become PC and they become fewer. This is one of the best parts of going through the chairs, meeting new people and establishing new lifelong friendships, and having fun without the stresses of our own clubs problems.



Photo by Mike Contris

The Bridge has many events planned for February. Please try to attend. A great deal of effort is put into each event and our reward is to see you attending and having a good time. Be there or be Square!!! I look forward to seeing you all at an event or on the docks. Pray for a quick end to La Nina. The snow can quit anytime for me. Sun and spring sound much better.

You are the best club in the Sound. Keep up the great work.

Happy Winter!!!!!!!!!!!!

Commodore Les Thompson

M/V EcstaSea

Anchoresses

Catherine Schefter, President



At the January dinner meeting we honored Private 1st Class Paul DeTray, a Purple Heart recipient and grandson of Paul and Phyllis DeTray. While hospitalized in Afghanistan, he was a recipient of an American Heroes Quilt

which, as you know was our charity for the 2011 Anchorettes quilt raffle.

Sue Nebeker, the founder of American Hero Quilts, was our guest at the dinner meeting to accept the donation raised by the quilt raffle. She spoke and thanked all OYC members for our generosity and explained the program in some detail. At the same time our member, Donna Gibler, presented to the charity additional quilts that Donna had finished.

The Anchorettes and the Island Home Committee shared the cost of purchasing new furniture for Island Home. We are asking OYC members to donate books and movies to the Island Clubhouse as we are assisting the Island Home committee in changing out the present collection. If you have donated a book or movie to the Island clubhouse in the past and want it back please contact me at 491-2313. If we can locate it we will gladly return it. All books and movies not returned upon request will be offered for free to our members at the next dinner meeting.

Also a reminder, the Anchorettes will be holding a silent auction at the March dinner meeting. If you have items you would like to donate for this event please contact Julie Gronley at 866-3974.

Catherine Schefter, President

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having dinner etc, Chuck and Macy did their normal last walk around 10ish pm. I realized that the walk was taking longer than usual. I got my coat on and right then Macy jumped into the cockpit, barking, but no Chuck! I scrambled out to the dock and then I could hear Chuck's faint cry for help. He was in the water between a boathouse and the dock, hanging on for dear life. Running down the dock, I called George and beat on Steve & Bridget's door. Steve & I could not pull him up out of the water. When George arrived the three of us got him out. We had a hard time convincing him to let go of the piling ring. He was pretty much out of it by then.

It seems there was someone that called 911 from the boardwalk near the Oyster House who had heard Chuck's cry for help earlier. The fire trucks and medics were there by the time we pulled him onto the dock. Chuck had on good clothes and other type shoes along with his long wool coat. Except for the coat, all his new clothes were cut off. Medics took him to St Pete's where he received tunnel heat restoration for body temp and then X-rays. He had dislocated his left shoulder, so they proceeded to give him drugs so they could maneuver it back in. About 3:30 am I brought him home. Some painkillers and rest, he should be good.

Chuck told me later that Macy stayed with him until he told her to go to the boat for mommy and she did. We are so blessed to have such an awesome dog.

The 300 dock past Rick Panowicz's boathouse is a sloping dock. You always feel you are walking uphill and if it's slick you need caulk boots. Maybe some flotation to level that dock would create a safer scenario. Remember that this is our fourth winter on the docks at OYC. After literally thousands of times up/down these docks, things can happen!

Take care and be safe...
IPC Carol
Romancing the C's

Thank you, Steve and George, for your help.

Womens' Interclub Council

Kim Shann, Representative



There will not be any WIC luncheons in February. Our next luncheon for our OYC ladies will be March 15, 2012, at Meydenbauer Bay Yacht Club. More info in the next Beachcomber.

Quartermaster

Linda Bryant, Chair



Linda Bryant 360 866-7446
Patti Phillips 360 786-8399

Sunshine Committee

Barbara Naronick-Neuhauser, Chair



Gary Pedigo was hospitalized at St. Peter Hospital. A donation was sent in his name to St. Peter Foundation. **Dorrie Carr's** father passed, and a card was sent to Dorrie. **Carol Perkins-Clinton's** mother passed, and a card was sent to Carol. **Ester Baker's** father passed. An address was not available, but our condolences to Ester and her family.

I appreciate members' calls when these events happen. Always feel free to leave a message. 943-5708
Thank you. Barbara.

Nautical Notes

from out there.....



Armchair Boating

Winter is a great time to sit in a comfy chair by the fire, reading salty tales. Here are a few of our lesser known favorites:

The Boat Who Wouldn't Float by Farley Mowat

Anyone who has had the experience of fixing up an old boat will sympathize with Mowat's misadventures on a stubborn schooner. Full of riotous events and lively characters including Newfoundland fisherman, Basque smugglers and a triumphant sail into Montreal's Expo '67.

Airborne by William F. Buckley

This is a witty and often laugh-out-loud story of an Atlantic crossing made by Buckley with family and friends on a 60 foot sailboat. Also included are many colorful anecdotes about Buckley's offshore racing career.

Loki and Loon by Gifford B. Pinchot

The two great passions of Pinchot's life were sailing and his remarkable wife Sally who shares their adventures offshore racing and cruising. From the Chesapeake Bay to Tahiti, this book covers over 30 years of "a love affair with the sea".

The Magic of the Swathways by Maurice Griffiths

This group of essays, first published in 1932, follows Griffiths' exploration of the creeks and estuaries of the East Coast of England. As a yacht designer and editor of *Yachting Monthly*, he admired the virtues of what he called "simple craft" and the solitude of these quiet places.

Bob & Beth Connolly
S/V Pandora

Out Cruising.....



Bob and Linda Hargreaves on *Bright Angel*, currently in the Sea of Cortez (we think).

Bob and Linda Hargreaves
www.saibrightangel.com



Junior Sailing Program

Rick Antles, Chair



Members:

Due to a scheduling conflict, OYC Junior Program meeting was on Wed Jan 18th at 6:30 instead of the normal Tuesday.

Also, in the corner of the OYC mainstation fireplace/sitting area, a box has been placed for donations to the OYC Jr. Program/Toliva Shoal Race raffle.

Any questions feel free to contact me.

Rick Antles
JR Program Chair
360-701-8800
rantles@comcast.net

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skipper for a ride. Some of you are planning to help with the committee boats and in the kitchen. Thanks a bunch to you. If you haven't already registered for the race, then sign up at <http://www.sssseries.org> and find the Toliva Shoal Race entry form and follow directions. Online entry forms must be in by Feb. 8th. Come by the main station Feb. 10th for a fine dinner of baron of beef with all the fixings for \$10. Breakfast will be served the next morning for \$5 with all proceeds from both meals going to the Junior Sailing Program.



The OYC/SSSS cruise has already happened (if this reaches you after Jan 29th). I know there are people who see this as giving away the farm. I attend some of the board meetings and can't help but notice that the club is getting more demits than memberships. I know that at the end of the SSSS cruise there won't be people breaking the doors down to get into the club. Making the decision to join a yacht club is a big decision. We have to show our prospective members our assets, quality activities, and good people and keep showing that face in order to attract new members. I urge you to be patient and I urge you to think of other ways to attract membership. Is there a power boat organization we should also invite?

TGIF will be on Friday, February 24, with all the usual food, drink and camaraderie. We hope to see you there. Still only \$5, the same price it was when it started many years ago.

When it's gusty, "One hand for the ship and one for you."
Rick, Barb and Annie Bergholz, FCS
S/V Inati

Main Station Caretaker

George Whittaker



It is the middle of January; the weather is very unpredictable right now. We have not received any snow or serious freeze so far this winter. [Editor—see “The rest of the story”] Today is one of three Friday the 13th we have this year and of course the “DOOM IS LOOMING” from all the predictions about the end of this year, being the END!!! All this doesn’t change a thing, Life is precious and fleeting, live every day to its fullest and try and be kind to everyone.

On to business, during the winter months everyone needs to be extra careful on the docks. The decking gets slippery, frosty and in some places, slimy. All this leads to possible falls and injuries. So, be careful and wear proper shoes on the docks.

Jim Sheerer has been working on the dock carts, replacing wheels so they don’t wobble and maintaining them for everyone to conveniently move supplies around the docks. Unfortunately, he was unable to find some of the carts because they are in peoples boathouses. They are supposed to be returned to one of TWO places, the main entry dock and “A MAXIMUM OF 10 CARTS” at the corner of 500 and 600 dock. If you want a dock cart in your boat-house, please buy your own; otherwise return them for your fellow members to use.

Let’s go over dock safety. The main docks are not to be blocked by anything. I find hoses, skiffs, gas cans and lots of personal items that impede and lay on the main dock. Please keep the main dock clear. Pick your hoses up and stow them, make sure your dinghies are secured and not hanging over the main dock. Please store gas cans in your boat or boathouse; they are not to be lying on the dock. This is a fire code issue as explained by the fire inspections. If we get snow all this “STUFF” will be covered and either become a trip hazard to those cleaning off the dock or become “FISH FOOD” as it gets pushed off the dock with snow. Believe me! If I am shoveling snow and I trip over someone’s “STUFF” and end up in the water, YOU WILL HEAR FROM ME!!!

Finally, CSP hours. I told everyone last year, through the Beachcomber, that there are very few CSP jobs available after winter cleanup in September and October through Me. It never fails, in December people come to me begging for CSP hours because they haven’t got any in. For this year, if you haven’t got your hours in by October, I would suggest that you get signed up for set up and cleanup for clubhouse events. In March and April, depending on the weather, we will start getting busy with landscaping and getting the facility prepared for opening day. I look forward to working with Members making OYC a place we can all be proud of.

Thank you all for your kindness and patience!

Whittaker

OYC Caretaker

oyccaretaker@gmail.com 360 280-5757

The rest of the story.....

January 13th.....

”.....We have not received any snow or serious freeze so far this winter.....”

Then, a series of timely warnings and updates from George by email

January 16th.....

“.....This is an "ALERT WARNING" to all members warning of weather conditions and snow problems currently at OYC



.....The weather is predicted to get worse.....”

January 18th.....

“.....The snow is here! We have accumulated over 8" already. DON'T CALL TO SEE IF WE NEED HELP!



BRING SNOW SHOVELS!.....”

January 19th.....

“.....Currently at OYC it is raining and 31 degrees. Most boat-house roofs are clear. Most of the boats still have snow and ice build up. I did not see any immediate emergency conditions, we have not lost power. The roads are icy and the docks are icy and very slick. With the rain, deicer/salt gets washed off and wasted.....”

Thank you George, for the initial alert and all the updates during our snow ordeal.

.....and thank you for your dedication to the safety of OYC members and their vessels. We appreciate you!

Safety Committee

Richard Erwin, Chair



Yes its winter, we have had more snow and not a lot of cruising. However with the Seattle Boat Show in progress, it time to start planning the 2012 boating season. This includes Boating Safety. Check out your vessel's safety equipment and vessel requirements in preparation for this year's 2012 Vessel Safety Inspections. The date for the OYC Safety Inspection will be announced in the next Beachcomber.

RECALL. If you missed the Jan 1012 RECALL Beachcomber article on the ORION hand launch signals. It applies to older Orion XLT and 12 gauge signals made with orange ABS plastic. If in doubt, check online to see if your signal launcher is included. Their email is customerservice@orionsignals.com, Subject "Signal Replacement".

CAUTION. A note on all those handheld, hand ignited orange smoke and flare signals. When ignited, they have a small amount of hot molten material drip from the signal as they burn. That's right, you need to hold it over the water. The drippings will damage the surface your vessel. If you're in an inflatable tender, it could be disastrous. Some boaters cut a 2 or 3 foot piece of PVC of the signal diameter (they vary in size) so you can keep the drippings a safe distance from you and your vessel.

FIRST AID KIT & PRESCRIPTIONS. Yep, we are getting older. It's a good idea to develop a pre-cruise check list of all first aid and prescription medications. Make sure to include all new or changes in prescriptions. Check old packaging and seals of product along with condition and expiration dates. Moisture on vessels jeopardizes the integrity of first aid and medical items.

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS. There are *minimum* size and types of fire extinguishers based on your vessel sizes. When thinking of a fire on board, who wants to have the **MINIMUM REQUIRED** available? The key word to remember is **MINIMUM**. HOW LONG WILL DIFFERENT SIZES FIRE EXTINGUISHERS LAST before they are depleted, (empty) and no longer useful?

SIZE	TIME
2 ½ Pound	10 to 15 seconds
5 Pound	20 to 30 seconds
10 Pound	60 to 70 seconds

WHO WANTS TO PROTECT YOUR VESSEL AND CREW WITH THE MINIMUM REQUIREMENT?

Also, DO NOT FORGET your home fire extinguishers. Service them NOW. They are easy to forget about.



Fleet Surgeon

Richard Hurst, M.D ("Rich")



The CPR & Automatic Defibrillator course was enthusiastically taught by our own Ron Wertz who is an EMT for South Bay Fire. A full class of OYC members graduated and are now ready to perform if the need arises.

If you missed this class and are interested in another in the spring, let me know. If there is enough interest we'll try to schedule another. This class if also offered by most fire stations so you can inquire with them for the available dates.

Thanks again to Ron.

Rich Hurst
Fleet Surgeon
rehurst@comcast.net

Island Home

George Smith, Chair



Thank you so very much to the Anchorettes for the generous donation of a set of new furniture for the Island. It looks wonderful! With the help of Gary Gronley, Gary Ball and the generous use of Dan Martin's trailer, we were able to get all the new furniture to the Island in one trip. I also want to thank caretaker Jerry for all his help on his day off!

The Island Home Committee has scheduled the spring clean-up for April 14 & 15. The committee has many projects for the weekend which include cutting down and splitting a tree, building a fence, digging another French drain, and working on the docks. With enough help during this weekend, we will hopefully be able to kick back and enjoy the Island this spring and summer!! Please call me to volunteer for the clean-up. Lunch will be served on Saturday.

See you on the water or at the Island!

P/C George Smith 360-704-8383

Yearbook

Steve Clark and Beth Branshaw
harmonysbest10@gmail.com



A Message from Your Yearbook Chairs:

The yearbooks are here. If you have not received yours yet, you will find it at Main Station. Look for the boxes by the fireplace. They are in alphabetical order. Please make sure you get yours!

If you do not have a picture in the Member Directory or would like to change your picture: We have set up an email address specifically to collect yearbook information at harmonysbest10@gmail.com so send any change of address/e-mail, pictures, or phone numbers to this address. We also need pictures of club activities sent in!

Thanks! Steve and Beth

The History Corner

Lisa Mighetto, OYC Historian



Fluky winds, salty spray, wicked currents, bracing cold, and lots of camaraderie – February is time for the annual Toliva Shoal Race. The OYC has co-sponsored this race for four decades, partnering with the South Sound Sailing Society. A recent interview with George and Betty Hansen, original members of the South Sound Sailing Society, provided some context as to how this partnership emerged in the early 1970s.

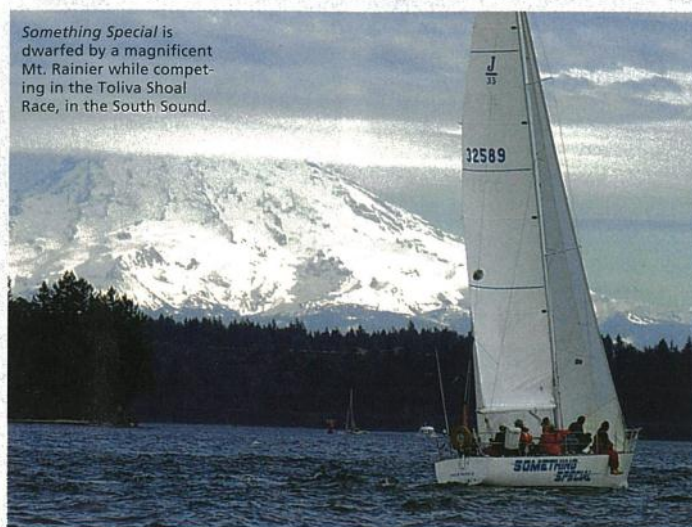
As explained in previous "History Corners," many early OYC commodores were sail boaters and the OYC once supported a vigorous sailboat racing program (see "The History Corner," Nov. 2010). During the 1940s and 1950s, the size and number of recreational power boats greatly increased at the OYC, perhaps in part as a result of post-World War II prosperity. By the 1960s, according to George Hansen, the OYC (of which he was not a member) was "pretty heavily oriented to powerboats." He and his wife Betty were among the few sailors on Budd Inlet – and spotting another sailboat was rare. "If you saw another sail on the water you'd sail over there just to say hello," he recalled.

Things began to change in the late 1960s. At that time an ad in Sea magazine called for a gathering of "sailors in the Olympia area interested in racing sailboats." George and Betty responded and began participating in an informal racing program that included "four or five boats." According to George, the "big [sail]boats were 28 feet at that time." This small racing program grew into the South Sound Sailing Society, founded in 1971.

Soon the new society was engaged in the Toliva Shoal Race, the third in the Southern Sound series of races, which begin in December and run through March (the others are sponsored by the Three Tree Point, Gig Harbor, and Tacoma Yacht Clubs). By 1972 the OYC had become a co-sponsor of the Toliva Shoal Race - and the OYC annuals in the 1970s and 1980s devoted pages to describing the race and its social activities, indicating its importance (see "The History Corner," Feb. 2011). This event has attracted racers from all over Puget Sound, increasing the visibility and enhancing the reputation of the OYC.

What lures racers to Toliva? A review of race reports in 48° North during the last decade revealed some suggestions. Several participants claimed that the South Sound offers challenging conditions not typically found in other areas. "The Toliva Shoal Race ... is never for the fair-weather sailor nor the faint of heart," observed one sailor in 2003, who noted the strong currents, eerie whirlpools, large tide differentials, and unpredictable winds that characterize the South Sound. "But for those racers courageous enough to venture to the southern-most reaches of the South Sound ... it's a unique Puget Sound racing experience." As she explained, "ultimately, the South Sound is, for those racers more used to the predictable currents and convergence zone of the Center Sound, a worthy adversary. And for those who call the South Sound home, it's a major-league event that attracts rock stars and top-notch boats to their home waters." [Race report in 48° North, March 2003]

Other racers have been attracted by the beauty of the South Sound: "The Toliva Shoal race is always a nice excuse to visit the South Sound," explained one participant in 2004. "Here in the Northwest we get in the habit of leaving the marina and heading north, forgetting that a big chunk of beautiful cruising ground lies nestled in the 'bottom' of Puget Sound." [Race report in 48° North, March 2004]

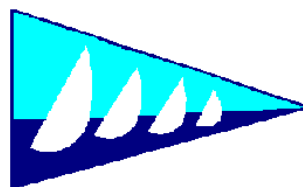


Something Special is dwarfed by a magnificent Mt. Rainier while competing in the Toliva Shoal Race, in the South Sound.

But Toliva is more than a sailboat race - it is a social experience enjoyed by sailors and power boaters. Most racers mentioned how much they appreciated the pre-race dinner and breakfast, post-race beer and soup, and great conversation at the OYC clubhouse. "It's a friendly group," noted one race report. "The dedicated volunteers of Olympia Yacht Club and South Sound Sailing Society are probably the best reasons to deliver your boat eight hours to Olympia and participate in the Toliva Shoal race. The coordinators are incredibly helpful and make sure your stay is enjoyable." [Race report in 48° North, March 2007]

This year's event takes place February 10-11. If you are interested in attending the social events - and power boaters are welcome - please contact Frank Mighetto at 360.481.8073.

Photograph: from Lisa Mighetto's article on the Toliva Shoal race (focusing on the rewards of volunteering) that appeared in Pacific Yachting in October 2008.



How do you want to start the New Year? A commitment to exercise, weight loss, being a better person? **OR**, how about spending time with your friends and people that love boating?

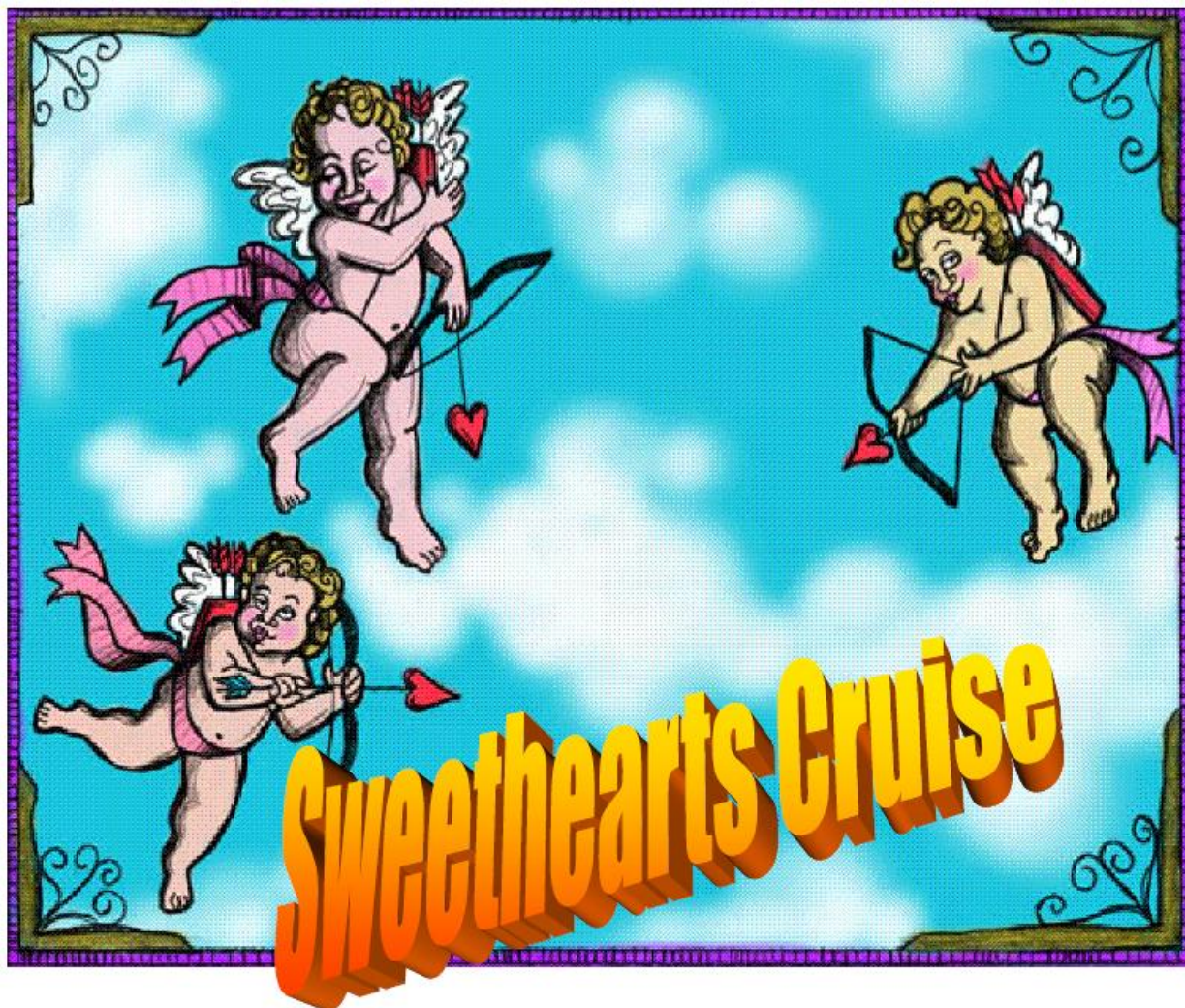
You are cordially invited to
A Winter Open House
Friday, January 27 - 29, 2011
OYC Island Home

For \$10 per person (children under 12 are free), join us for:

- Potluck Appetizers on Friday evening at 6pm.
- ‘Getting-to-know-each-other activities’: walks, movies and music throughout the weekend.
- Happy hour at 5ish and a potluck at 6:00pm on Saturday evening
- Eye openers at 9ish and a special breakfast at 9:30ish prepared for you on Sunday.

We have two people to assist you:

1. If you have questions about the event, please contact Myra Downing at 584-6886 or MyraWDowning@aol.com.
2. To assist us in our planning, please RSVP Barb Bergholz at 360- 866-4230 or mtnforest1@comcast.net.



February 17-19th at Island Home

Featuring

Friday Pot Luck

Saturday Table Decoration contest

Beef & Lobster

Live Music

Sunday Breakfast

\$25

Reservations required by Feb 13th
on the OYC reservation line



Fourth Annual OYC P_{oker} T_{ournament}

Location: Island Home

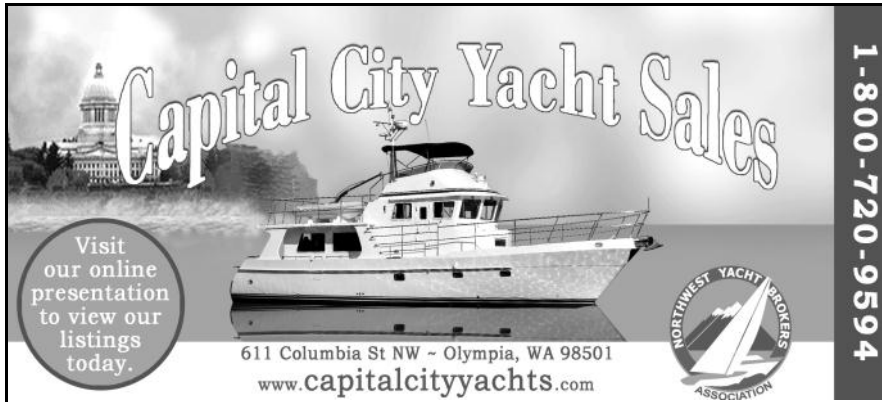
When: March 3; practice session 10:30am-11am (poker)/ 12pm start

Cost: \$25.00 buy-in for the primary Texas Hold-Em game. Cash prizes will be awarded based on the number of participants. Prizes will be awarded for first thru fifth place. Registration and chip dispersment will be Saturday morning. Additional side games are encouraged at the discretion of players.

What to Bring: This is a NO host gathering. So, bring your money, food/snacks for the weekend and your good humor. A selection of local brew and hot chili will be provided.

****To advance RSVP or for additional questions telephone Gary Waldherr (360-481-1708) or Christopher Heistand (360-786-6993).**





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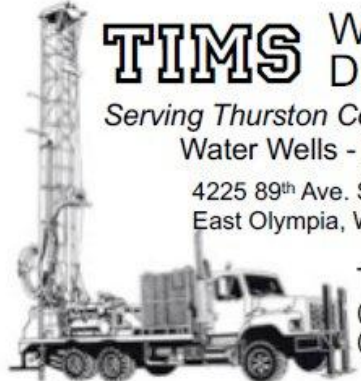
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Calendar of Activities

January 25	Membership Committee meeting, 5:30 pm
January 25	Clubhouse Committee meeting, 6:30 pm
January 26	Anchoresses meeting, 6:00 pm
January 27-29	OYC/SSSS Joint Cruise, 6:00 pm
February 1	Membership P/C dinner meeting, 6:00 pm
February 6	Bridge meeting, 6:00pm
February 6	Mainstation Committee meeting, 6:00 pm
February 6	Island Home Committee meeting, 7:00 pm
February 8	Board of Trustees meeting, 6:00 pm
February 10-12	Toliva Shoal race
February 14	SSSS meeting, 6:30
February 16	Anchoresses meeting, 6:00 pm
February 17-19	Sweetheart Cruise
February 20	Power Squadron, 6:30 pm
February 21	Junior Sailing Program Meeting, 6:30 pm
February 24	TGIF, 5:00 pm
February 29	Membership Committee meeting, 5:30 pm
February 29	Clubhouse Committee meeting, 6:30 pm
March 3	Poker Tournament at Island Home
March 5	Island Home Committee meeting, 7:00 pm
March 7	Membership Dinner Meeting, 6:00 pm

February Membership Meeting February 1, 2012

Membership Meeting dinners are **\$22.00** per person with reservations. If not on the reservation list, dinner is **\$27.00**.

Reservations are required if you are not on the permanent list.

CALL 360 705-3767

Social Hour: 6:00 P.M.

Dinner: 7:00 P.M.

Meeting: 8:00 P.M.



Photos by Rick Taylor



