



## OLYMPIA YACHT CLUB

August 2019



### Commodore

Captain Mark Welpman  
First Mate Annette Welpman  
*S/V Cygnet/MV Sea Ya!*



Ahoy OYC...

This is my first Beachcomber article as Commodore. First, I wanted to thank the Club for allowing me the honor to represent our Club. It's something that I don't take lightly. I promise to do the best that I can for the club. But I do need all of you to help

me along. I look for input and guidance from PCs and New Members alike. There are a lot of you that have great ideas to help make improvements to our club. I would love to hear what you think we can do to make our Club more welcoming, more open and more transparent. I can't solve a problem if I don't know about it. Often people think we know about something going on and we don't. So, if you ever have a question about what you "think" is going on, please come to me directly so I can either help you solve the issue or at least give you some insight to what we as a club are doing or not doing. Most problems I've seen over the past five years, is due to either misinformation or the rumor mill. While I know that some people like a little drama in their life, I'd like to keep it down as much as possible.

I've had a lot of people this summer ask me what I plan to do as Commodore. As much as I would like to find the solution for world peace, I'll try and work on things much easier to achieve. The three things I'd like to do are quite simple. One: To have current members be more involved in the club. Two: To get new members involved with the club. And the most important thing is, Three: Use our boats more! We are a boating club after all, and we have these very cool things called boats. Let's get out there and use them.

We've noticed a trend that we would like to turn around. People are not attending events like they once did five or six years ago. Members who have been around for a while are now slowly moving away from boating, and are not as involved in the club as they once were. New members are not getting

involved or don't know how to get involved. So, the Bridge and I are going to do what we can to help everyone in the club enjoy all the benefits an OYC Membership has to offer. Starting off by the bridge personally inviting new members to come to OYC Events. We would also invite our long-time members to reach out to new members and help them feel welcome and part of the family. I hear from many of our new members that once they get sworn in, the communication stops and the new members feel that they must figure things out on their own. The Bridge and Board are working on bolstering our New Member Program and Sponsorship Program. So, look for some changes to come. In short, we know there is a problem and we're working on it.

The Bridge by itself cannot put on all the events by ourselves, we need all of you to help. I think sometimes we forget that we're an all-volunteer club. I believe there is a ton of talent out there waiting to be tapped. I know it sounds cliché, but like JFK said (paraphrasing and modifying) Ask not what your club can do for you, but what you can do for the club. We need all of us to make this club work. We are a Yacht Club and not just a marina. We all joined to be part of OYC. Okay, enough of the vision statement. What's going on in August? A lot! August 16th is our annual Hot Rods and Hot Dog BBQ on the Deck. Followed by Dog Days of August Dingy Dash on August 17th. August 23-25 the last Commodore Cruise to Gig Harbor. We have arrangements with Arabella's Landing. If you plan to go, please let me know and call Arabella's and make a reservation. And the grand wrap up of this boating season is our Labor Day Cruise to Island home. August 30th to September 2nd. Don't forget all of you Foofaraw Skippers, Foofaraw is the following Friday September 6th. And lastly with all the things I've just listed, we need lots of help. Please respond to our call for volunteers and more importantly come join us in all these fun Club activities.

Sea Ya on the water!  
Mark & Annette Welpman  
OYC Commodore  
*SV Cygnet/MV Sea Ya!*

**Vice Commodore**

Captain Jesse "Mitch" Mitchell  
First Mate Anne Marie Murdock  
*M/V Release*

**Ahoy OYC!**

I cannot believe that it is already time to submit my first article as your Vice Commodore. The summer is flying by at an incredible speed. It seems that immediately after

the Change of Watch many of us started taking our vacations, cruising in our boats and participating in club events. We've already had the second of the "Big 3" summer cruises and the first in the Commodore's Summer Series. Our Commodore paid dearly for this first cruise, I'm sure the story will make the rounds soon. It was nice to see some new boats on this cruise. By the time the edition of the Beachcomber goes to print we will be finishing up the second in the Commodore's Series.... to McMicken Island. I'm sure we had an epic weekend of Venus Island Floats, Swim Step Happy Hours, Swimming, Gunkholing and more. Along with the cruising we've also been interacting with our community, with our Lakefair partners in particular. I was fortunate enough to be able to host the Lakefair Royal Court to Island Home for an afternoon of fun and relaxation. These young women are nothing less than spectacular, wonderful people that are embarking on a very fun and unique adventure with their Lakefair duties. Speaking of Lakefair, we will be (or were) in the parade, thanks to Patrick Richmond for stepping in to haul part of the bridge along the parade route in his car. I'm sure Rear Commodore Danny and crew put on a great post parade BBQ as well.

After the first two months of summer have ended, there is so much more boating for us. Of course the bridge has the G-14 Cruise-in to Port Orchard and Bremerton but we also have the Hot Dogs and Hot Rods BBQ, the Dog Days Dinghy Dash and 3rd in the Commodore's Series to Gig Harbor. We will be sending an eVite for Gig Harbor as we need to let Arabella's know how many of us will be needing moorage. Anyway, those all happen before the Labor Day Cruise to Island Home.

See You on the Dinghy!

VC Mitch and Anne Marie  
OYC Rear Commodore  
*MV Release*

**Rear Commodore**

Captain Danny Wrye  
First Mate Jackie Wrye  
*M/V SeaWryes*

**Greetings OYCers!**

This is my first Beachcomber article as your new Rear Commodore! Jackie and I are excited about this opportunity to serve the Olympia Yacht Club and to spend more time on the water and at the docks with all the great boaters in our Club.

For those of you who may not know us well yet, Jackie and I have recently celebrated our 31st anniversary. She was born and grew up in Seattle near Seward Park. I was born and grew up in Tacoma not far from the Tacoma Mall. We have three adult girls. One lives in Tacoma, one in Tumwater, and one in Bellevue. All girls grew up on and around the water. I was introduced to boating by my best friend's Dad who had boats in Tokeland and Westport. My friend and I spent many summers at the ocean fishing and crabbing. That love of the water spilled over for me to fishing boats, kayaks, row boats, and eventually cruising boats. In 2005, Jackie and I got more seriously into cruising with our Bayliner 26.5 ITZ DA LIFE and then our Carver 3227 SEAWRYES (pun on "sea level rise" if you didn't get it!). As of this writing, we are looking to purchase a newer boat. More detail on that next month!

Since our induction as Rear, we have had the fun of organizing OYC's annual Fourth of July cruise to Island Home (July 5-7). It was a great weekend of socializing and food and drink and of course games and fireworks. Thanks to all who came out and thanks to folks who put out a lot of their time and energy to make the weekend special. OYC is a great club of volunteers!

July 20th, Jackie and I also hosted a BBQ at the dock in celebration of Lakefair. Hamburgers and hotdogs and all the fixings plus beer and wine were a great way to end the Lakefair parade and fuel up for Lakefair's fireworks.

Finally, the Bridge has selected a new caterer for our monthly social dinners starting in September. Our new caterer is Masonry Café, Yelm. For those of you who attended last year's Christmas Ball, this is the same caterer who put on that fabulous feast! September's monthly dinner menu will be New York Steak with Blue Cheese Butter, Baked Yukon Potato with Butter, Sour Cream and Chives, Garlic and Olive Oil Roasted Summer Squash, Mushrooms, Tomato and Broccoli, Masonry Sour Dough Bread and Butter Apple and Blueberry Galette with Cinnamon Cream. Yum!

Thank you for the opportunity to serve and represent OYC!

Rear Commodore Danny and Jackie Wrye  
*MV SeaWryes*



## Fleet Captain Power

Captain Craig Brown  
First Mate Deb Brown  
M/V Winsome



**We hope you're having a great summer so far!** Deb and I just got back from our first trip to Europe. We decided that after 24 years of cave diving we should see some other parts of the world. It was awesome!

We joined up with a couple of friends in southern France and rented a 45' boat to explore the Burgundy region via the Saone river and connecting canals.

We picked up the boat in the quaint town of Branges on the river Seille. The rental company was Le Boat. They have rentals of all sizes throughout Europe, and had good reviews. The layout and amenities far exceeded our expectations. Along with the two big staterooms, it had a huge fully equipped galley, was in new condition, and ran beautifully.

After a short shakedown run (we proved to be good boat handlers) including instruction on how get through a manual lock that was typical of the many we would encounter, we said goodbye to our representative and headed off on our seven day, 200 mile journey.

Once reaching the Saone, we tied up at Tournus for the night. A beautiful city with a huge riverfront section of churches and buildings from the 12th century. The next day we cruised north to Chalon-sur-Saone. The beautiful marina there had all the amenities and only \$37 a night.

Great walks through the medieval section of town, fantastic restaurants, museums and shops. It was also the stage 7 finish of the Tour de France which took place a couple of weeks after we were there.

We then spent the next several days cruising down the Canal du Centre, an epicly beautiful 50' to 90' wide waterway that was created in 1790 to connect southern to northern France. We cruised along side small villages, bike paths and vineyards and went through 14 locks. Boy, we got that drill down to a well oiled system! After five hours, we tied up to bollards along the bank with sweeping views of the wine country. For the next two days we rode bicycles that came with the boat to wine tastings, bakeries and historic sites. Truly incredible.

After the same 14 locks later, we continued north on the Saone again to the port Verdun-sur-le-Doubs. This was a charming little town with medieval roots popular with local fishermen. The last day we arrived at the Le Boat dock at St-Jean-de-Losne. A beautiful town with ancient quays and bridges. The next morning we handed in our keys and thanked the Le Boat staff for our perfect boat trip through southern France.

If you've thought about a bare boat river cruise in Europe, you have our very enthusiastic recommendation! The big river cruise lines with hundreds of passengers look great and luxurious, but have to stick to the major (deep and wide) waterways. We were glad to be able to go at our own pace and explore the smaller canals also.

Finally, everywhere we went on our trip through France which included Provence and Paris, the people were wonderful to us. And the food and wine was fantastic!

We're happy to be home now with our dog Mia, and look forward to boating with you soon. Au Revoir,

Captain Craig Brown  
First Mate Deb Brown  
M/V Winsome



## Fleet Captain Sail

Captain Mike Glowrylow  
First Mate Esther Baker  
S/V Sassy



### Sailing News to Peruse

Our turn as Fleet Captain Sail and First Mate Esther Baker has started out with a lot of activity. First we purchased *Sassy*, a C&C 34+ sailboat, from Glen and Irene Hunter. Then we put *Finally Free!* our Ericson 32-3, up for sale on Facebook, Craigslist.

Within hours of posting the boat for sale we showed it to a couple who ironically had been down to the yacht club 200 dock twice the previous day to look at other boats for sale. They saw our boat and admired it, and when the Craigslist ad posted, they came right back to see it and the next day sent us earnest money. Time will tell when *Finally Free!* is freed up for its next owner. We'll miss it, but two-foot-itis got us.

We want to thank the prior Fleet Captain Sail and First Mate Bill and Kathy Velez for being so helpful in showing us our new duties. We look forward to handling them.

Bill recently returned from the Salish 100 outing where 80-plus small craft made several stops en route from Olympia to Port Townsend. Bill and Mary Campbell served as support boats. I would have liked to see all those smaller boats anchored in Mats Mats Bay. It must have been crowded! Check out the Salish 100 on Facebook for some exciting accounts of single handlers being tossed around by three to five-foot swells. No doubt some were terrified.

Two races that are popular with sailors concluded over the past few months. The first was Swiftsure in May, the race from Victoria down the strait of Juan de Fuca and back. This year's race was a "Driftsure" with little wind. Only 16 boats out of 176 registered finished by the deadline, with our own Joe Downing on *Balder II* being the first and only finisher in his class, taking nearly 43 hours to sail to Neah Bay and back, 101.9 nautical miles. I crewed on *Balder* last year, and thought the nearly 25 hours it took to finish was plenty long. Hats off to Joe and crew, including OYC members Rich Wells, Rick Antles, Dick Binns, plus Grant Tibbetts and Alan Hoffman, for sticking it out.

The other race was the annual Race to Alaska held in June, a two-stage, 750-mile, no motors race from Port Townsend to Ketchikan Alaska. The only Olympia entrant was Team Trickster crewed by South Sound Sailing Society members Greg Rohner, Rafe Beswick, Eric Egge, and Scott Schoch. Their Corsair F-28R Trimaran finished sixth out of the 25 boats that finished. The stage one race, 40 miles from Port Townsend to Victoria, even had three SUP board finishers! It's amazing what some people can do.

Please join us at the next TGIF on September 20.

Fleet Captain Sail Mike Gowrylow  
First Mate Esther Baker  
S/V Sassy



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Long Range Planning, Gene Coakley (temp)	269-2012
Lunch Bunch, vacant	
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Membership, Dennis Royal	459-3064
Moorage Master, Mark Fleischer	253-691-9601
OYC Foundation, Pete Janni	956-1992
Quartermaster, Margaret Snyder	253-219-1876
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Safety Committee,	
Sailing Education Program, Mary Fitzgerald	754-1516
Sunshine Committee, Deb Waldherr	943-1685
Treasurer, Jon Bryant	866-7446
Webmaster, Ron Morsette	790-2002
WIC Representative, Kim Shann	491-3786

**Care Takers:**

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or Tim Ridley cell 253-320-9106 943-9105

[oyccaretaker2017@gmail.com](mailto:oyccaretaker2017@gmail.com)

Island Home: George Whittaker.... (call or text) 688-0059

[oyccaretaker@gmail.com](mailto:oyccaretaker@gmail.com)**Main Station:**

Olympia Yacht Club  
201 Simmons Street NW  
Olympia, WA 98501

**Island Home:**

Olympia Yacht Club  
4921 E. Pickering Road  
Shelton, WA 98584-8889

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

Website: [www.olympiayachtclub.org](http://www.olympiayachtclub.org)

OYC photos:

<https://picasaweb.google.com/109691630233069435061>

OYC Facebook Page:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/olympiayachtclub/>

Associate Memberships:

- Boat U.S group: Olympia Yacht Club  
Group # GA83470Y

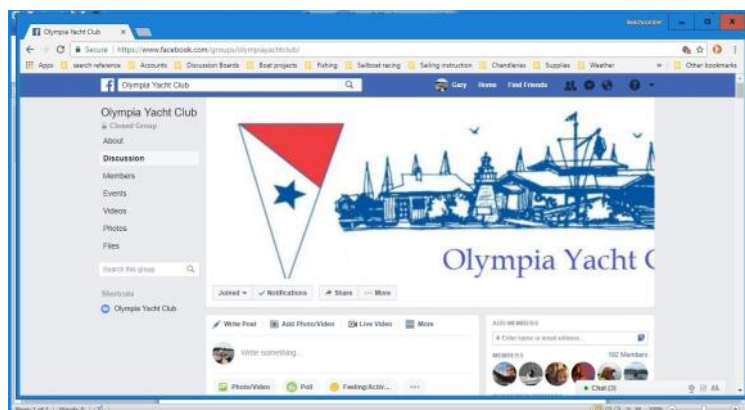
Harbor Patrol.....507-2650

**OYC's Online Presence****Website**

[www.olympiayachtclub.org](http://www.olympiayachtclub.org)

**Facebook Page**

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/olympiayachtclub/>



“Things alter for the worse spontaneously, if they be not altered for the better designedly”

.....Francis Bacon

The Beachcomber is published by the Olympia Yacht Club each month during the year (except July) and distributed by postal mail and email to the membership and associates.

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**Photos in this issue:**  
Rich Hurst, Mike Contris





## Board of Trustees

Bob VanSchoorl, Chair

M/V Amstel Maru



At least half the Board of Trustees will be out on their boats or traveling via other means on July 12th. Since this means we would not have a quorum, the July BOT meeting was been cancelled. The next scheduled meeting is August 14th.

If there is any business that needs urgent attention by the Board prior to August, please email me at [kevbev\\_boatfun@nventure.com](mailto:kevbev_boatfun@nventure.com) or call me at (503) 504-5252.

Enjoy the summer and boat safely,  
Kevin Kennedy  
OYC Board of Trustees



# WE NEED YOU!

## Committee Chairs Wanted

### Help keep OYC magnificent!

**Contact**  
**Bob Van Schoorl**  
**360-789-8810**

## Membership Changes

Dennis Royal, Membership Committee Chair  
Andrea Sehmel, BOT Secretary

### New Members:

### Welcome aboard!

Dr. Terry Hess  
Robert Meyers  
Matt Gray  
Marnee Watson  
Greg Venvertloh & Corea Haak  
Dale Bamford & Joanne Lacy  
Lenora Tanaka

### Demit:

Mike & Pam Reeves

## TGIF/BBQ on Deck

Thank Goodness it's **Friday!**

Good food  
Good times  
Good music



**next one is September 20**  
Drinks and Socializing 5:30 pm  
Pizza etc..... 6 pm

**\$6/person**

No reservations required

**Quartermaster**

Margaret Snyder &amp; Judy Ball, Co-Chairs

**Island Home**

Earl Hughes, Chair



Greetings from the Broughtons!

The Quartermaster opens at the a September dinner meeting. We have lots of clothing in stock as well as a new collection of hats. We also have blankets, wine carriers, backpacks, bags, etched wine glasses, and bottle and can koozies.



Margaret and Judy

We just replaced the club house and pump house roofs. It was the original roof. As with all roofing jobs after you remove the shingles you find problems. We did. A big thank you goes out to OYC member Michael Johnston and his crew for doing a great job.

Speaking of thank you's, Steven and Kathleen Sabine took good care of the Island while George and Diane took some vacation time. While there they fixed a bad window sill and repainted the caretakers house. THANK YOU.

As always thank you George for making Island home so welcoming.



See you at the Island.

Earl Hughes  
MV *Lady Bee II*  
360-352-3748  
[ehughes416@comcast.net](mailto:ehughes416@comcast.net)

**Sunshine Committee**

Deb Walldherr, Chair



Please be sure to text or call me regarding any member or members who should receive a card from the club.

I can be reached at 360-561-1947, a call or text would be great.

**2019 Moorage Inspections**

Inspections for the 2019 program have been completed but there are some noted deficiencies that have not been corrected or possibly just not reported as corrected. So if your inspection resulted in deficiencies please call or email me or the inspector who checked your moorage for a re-inspection if required. At the Sep BOT meeting I will report the results and possibly make recommendations for fines to those with deficiencies still outstanding.

Thanks to everyone that scheduled their inspections in a timely manner to complete this semi-annual program. This program continues to make the OYC Marina a SAFE and SECURE facility while also assisting with our Clean Marina Environmental status. Hopefully everyone has had a great cruising summer to date with fall cruising ahead. Best wishes to everyone for the rest of 2019.

Bob Wolf, Chair Inspection Program  
360-402-3408  
[wgslwrlw1@hotmail.com](mailto:wgslwrlw1@hotmail.com)

**Clubhouse**

Debe Andersen, Chair

Greetings from the Clubhouse Chair. I hope everyone is enjoying their summer and getting plenty of use on their boats.

The clubhouse committee is looking for someone to step up and help with the linens. This would involve taking the linens, after the dinner meetings, up to the cleaners on the west side....usually pick them up on Thursday so you don't have to attend the dinner meetings. Then pick them up a few days later and return them to the clubhouse. CSP hours are available. We are always looking for people who want to be part of the Clubhouse Committee .....contact me if you are interested.

Also, if you are interested in renting the clubhouse, contact me. There are rental agreements at the clubhouse as well as the current calendar. Please don't add anything to the calendar without contacting me. Our next meeting is August 5<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 PM in the clubhouse, come and give your input. Until then we will see you on the water.

Debe Andersen  
Clubhouse Chair  
360-459-2650 [debeandersen@gmail.com](mailto:debeandersen@gmail.com)



## Main Station

Bill Hamaker and Jim Howatson, Co-chairs



The Main Station Committee is looking for Committee Members. Committee members should have an interest in keeping our Main Station in great shape and be available to coordinate and assist with projects and repairs. If you are interested please submit an e-mail to either Bill or Jim indicating your interest. The Committee plans to meet monthly on the Thursday following the Dinner Meeting, at 6:00 P.M. in the Club House.

Please report any problems that you believe need to be addressed to one of us or to [oyccaretaker2017@gmail.com](mailto:oyccaretaker2017@gmail.com).

### Current Projects:

- Internet /wifi upgrade
- Storage yard security fence installation
- Boardwalk repair/replacement
- Security sub-committee
- Front step railing replacement
- Ice machine cleaning and maintenance

### Future Projects:

- Finger pier construction

### CSP Hours available:

Barnacle removal from pilings. There are long handled scrapers in the pump shed - Boathouse 312. During a lower tide use the scrapers to remove the barnacles and mussels from our pilings. Keep track of your hours and submit on the OYC CSP forms via the Main Station Committee Chair mailbox in the main office. Please return the scraper when you are finished.

We had a theft of a dingy during the overnight hours of July 14/15. The dingy was taken from the area of the Sailing Clubs docks. It was secured to the dock with a locked cable that was apparently cut by the suspect(s) who entered our facility from the waterside. While looking for the stolen dingy Caretaker Robert learned that there have been numerous dingy thefts throughout the area including Boston Harbor. Please be on the lookout for suspicious activity.

Our Main Station Caretaker, Robert, has been doing a great job. When you see him on the dock let him know how much we appreciate his hard work.

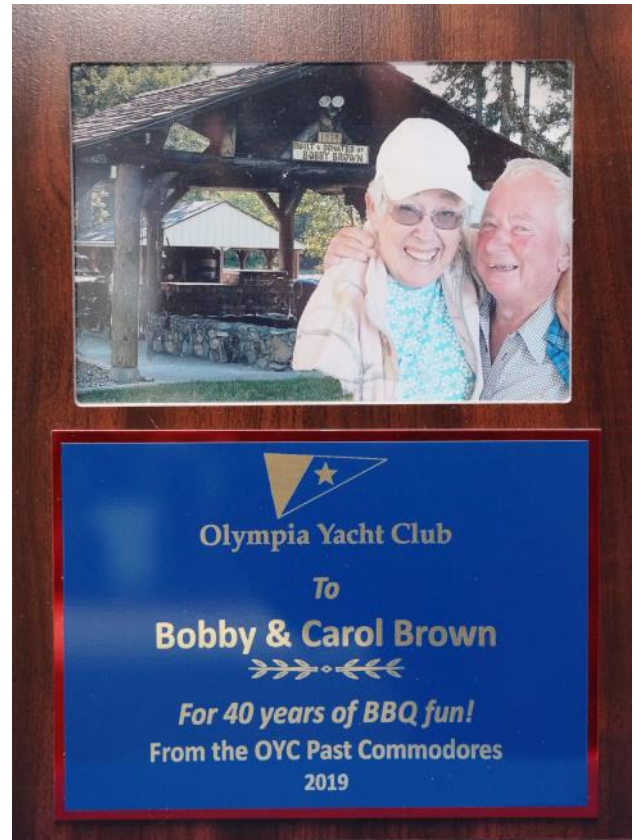
### Main Station Co-Chairs

Bill Hamaker  
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Jim Howatson  
M/V *Grace*  
253 318-0547

[jrhowatson@gmail.com](mailto:jrhowatson@gmail.com)



Presented to Bobby and Carol Brown at the Memorial Day Cruise....Mike Contris



Lakefair Court Cruise to Island Home

.....Rich Hurst



# Change of Watch

Mike Contris







## Memorial Day

Meg Snyder



## Fleet Surgeon

Richard Hurst, M.D. ("Rich")



### TMI

Once again the news, local, and medical, is giving us *Too Much Information*. Now, it is the same sunscreen I keep yammering to you to apply liberally and often in case the sun actually reappears this year. Turns out, to nobodies' surprise, that it is actually absorbed easily through the skin and so various chemical sounding stuff is being circulated around our holy temples. Each time you apply it, the level goes up, and it takes several days for half of what you absorb to go away. In other words, if you are out in the sun and liberally apply sunscreen over a large number of days, your blood levels of the stuff reaches very high levels compared to what the FDA considers a trivial amount.

Technically, sunscreens are over-the-counter medicines to the FDA and they came out before anyone thought to check on potential toxicity from the ingredients. The FDA is only now asking industry to check on the toxicity of these chemicals. Tune in later.

Toxicity is a relative term. Water, probably the safest thing you can put in your body, in extreme amounts can kill you. Sarin in eeny tiny amounts will too. Sunscreen is somewhere in between.

Lifeguards on the California beaches probably use more sunscreen in a season than we do in our lifetimes. They are neither all dying of cancer nor turning into incredible hulks (hulks yes, incredible no). If we do nothing to keep the sun's rays out, we surely know all about the skin cancers and wrinkles that will be in our future.

So, doctor, what should I do?

Safest choice is to cover up. Long sleeve shirts and floppy hats and sunglasses will keep us as pale as possible– the new best healthy look. If you must expose your skin such as when you go swimming, do slather up and maybe you will look like a California lifeguard someday (wrinkly skin). Just don't become an anti-vaxer and not apply sunscreens. Zinc and titanium creams may be OK if you don't mind being really white. Bottom line – protect your skin – no do-overs allowed.

## Reciprocal Moorage

Gary Gronley, Chair



### Liability Insurance at Reciprocal Yacht Clubs

Here is a message from Maple Bay Yacht Club:

From: Anne Clarke  
<clubmanager@yachtdestinations.org>  
To: Gary Gronley <gronley\_ga@comcast.net>  
Date: May 30, 2019 at 1:44 PM  
Subject: Olympia Yacht Club - A Message  
From the Maple Bay Yacht Club

\* URGENT \*

Please be advised that visiting boaters are required to have \$2 million liability coverage. Proof of insurance WILL BE REQUIRED upon registration with Maple Bay Yacht Club office or dockmaster. Please feel free to distribute this notice to members of your yacht club. Many thanks.

Anne Clarke  
Reciprocal Chair, MBYC

Gary Gronley  
Reciprocal Chair

[Ed. We also heard that Nanaimo Yacht Club requires proof of \$1,000,000 liability insurance]

## Club Service Program

PC Les Thompson, Chair



Greetings all, and happy summer to all of you. Hope you are getting in some boating even with the iffy weather.

We are half way through the year already, hard to believe. I have posted the hours that I have through July 1st. Please check and let me know if there are any problems. There are still many opportunities to get hours in this year. The Bridge has several social events that always can use help. Feel free to contact any of them to get started.

The next update and report will be posted at the end of the 3rd quarter in September. Enjoy your boat time this summer. See you on the docks or at an event.

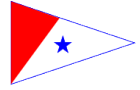
PC Les Thompson  
CSP guru  
MV/*EcstaSea*





## Sailing Education Program

Mary Fitzgerald, Chair



Our summer sailing classes for children started a week late due to schools making up for snow days this past winter, so our season is a week short this year. But our enrollment has been high and obviously, from the wonderful smiles, everyone is having a good time despite our seemingly cold and rainy June and first couple weeks of July. Our adult classes have been full as well, with many students asking about the OYC memberships available if they purchase their first boat. That is always good to hear, it seems our adult classes are making a splash this year after last year's lower enrollment.

Our High School spring sailing season was busy with the month of May full of attendance at two national regattas. Our team won the NW Fleet championship and the NW Team championship which allowed them to compete in Seattle and Maine at these two national events. The OYC-sponsored Olympia High School Team finished 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> in the nation respectfully. In those two events. That is 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> IN THE NATION! Our teams are currently rated best in the NW so our program has grown not just in numbers of the past 3 years, but in experience and in competitiveness as well. We have our coach Sarah Hanavan to thank for this and as a coach she is being noticed on a national level as well.

We also had two sailors compete in a 420 regatta this past weekend in San Francisco. This was a brand new event for these two sailors using trapeze harness on the boats and sailing in 20 knot winds big seas and huge outgoing tides which actually helped them pass up – according to witnesses – at least 20+ boats in one race.

As in years past we are instructing kids as young as 6, and so far this year my oldest adult student has been 76 years of age. Sailing and boating in general is a multigenerational sport and endeavor that can be shared in a family for generations. Thanks for your patience with kids. We do our best to keep their enthusiasm in check and clean up after them, but if you ever have any concerns at all about our program, our summer employees or anything else please let me know.

Our biggest black eye this summer has been from borrowing a tender from Pete and Tina Petrukitas to use when two of the motors on our chase boats broke down AT THE

SAME TIME. We strive to keep our kids safe on the water, so I asked for help in providing an extra boat from my committee members. Pete and Tina volunteered their little RIB. My co-chair Fern Z and I moved it over to the program's Easy Port docks on Sunday afternoon and locked it up with a heavy duty cable and padlock only to have it stolen by the next morning. Robert, our caretaker and Jim H, the main station chair have put in countless hours trying to figure out how this was done so it can be prevented. I think at this writing they have been able to figure the timeline of the theft, but no one has been caught.

So, if you ever see anyone in the fareways just putt-putt-ing around at any time of the day or night, and you don't recognize them, it may be prudent to start putting our smart phones to use taking photos of the looky lous...not that they are all thieves, but just so we don't have more instances of theft or attempted theft. It may help.

Fall is right around the corner, so we will be doing several projects to get ready for the rain. One project I mentioned earlier in the spring was sewing canvas covers for the two big chase boats. John Sherman purchased the fabric for us and so we will be putting together a sewing event in late August or early September. Several members have contacted me to help and I will be contacting you in August to figure out dates to do this.

Another project will be replacing one more sheet of plywood in the boathouse floor and repainting the entire floor. This can be done on any weekend as there are no weekend classes at this time. So, if you need CSP hours let me know and we will get paint, etc. ready for you.

I will have a list of other projects for our next newsletter so stay tuned for more opportunities to help out. Fair winds to all, rag baggers and stinkpotters alike. Enjoy the sun, it looks like it has finally arrived.

Mary Fitzgerald  
Sailing Education Program Co-Chair  
SV *Clara McDougal*  
360-250-1230  
[olymfitz@hotmail.com](mailto:olymfitz@hotmail.com)





**Foofaraw**  
Chris Cheney, Chair



### 57th Annual FOOFARAW

Mark your calendar for September 6th, 2019 for this great event. We need boats and volunteers for shoreside duties. Obviously you earn CSP hours, but in addition it is fun and fulfilling.

Every year requires a new sign up, even if you have done the event for many years. Unfortunately we had some internal problems and did not do a good job of confirming important information, relying instead on past times data. So this year we are starting from scratch, with a new keeper of data, Alice Coakley has joined the team and will be in charge of the master list in spreadsheet form. If you think you will be able to do the daylong cruise on Sept. 6th, please send your name, boat name, slip or house number, length overall (add any appendages to the stated length, like swim step, bowsprit, cannons that overhang, etc.), how many passengers you would like to take not including the Captain and First Mate, and how many you could take if we get jammed up, and cell number. Also if you have any special requests, like port side tie, etc.

Things get crazy as we close in on the big day, so if you think you might have a problem making the trip, give us a heads up ASAP. It can be a mad scramble as we get last minute cancellations. In recent years we have had about 45 boats and carried something over 400 folks out to IH, arranged for food and beverages, the preparation and serving thereof. Then bringing it all together logistically on site on time. It is a big job accomplished by our OYC members, but most will say, "well worth it."

Meanwhile our partners, the Thurston Chamber of Commerce, send out the invitations and compile the RSVPs, they also work closely with our sponsors that make this event possible. There are glitches every year; we attempt to analyze what to do differently so they don't repeat. We have done a great job resolving some problems and complaints by implementing changes in recent times. but the most vexing for our skippers has been how many passengers they actually get compared to what they are prepared for. Try as we might, no resolution has been found--that works. The number of guests and their names that come in from the different branches and units via RSVP, which our Chamber crew then assigns to given boats, seems to all go to hell the morning we are going to head out. We've had buses break down, people get lost, soldiers getting a last minute assignment, or whatever. Our clubhouse is a complete zoo starting about 0715, literally several hundred people come in, visit, and get coffee and their boat assignments. And then we all depart at 0800 or close thereto. The timeframe is so short and we don't usually know someone is not coming, until we are leaving; there is no time to make changes.

The FOOFARAW committee is a seasoned and incredibly dedicated group of members. Many that are not on the committee have a long history of superbly supporting and making the event happen. These are kitchen and cooking crew, docking bosses, beer and wine servers, etc. PC Bob 'OBIE Won' Job served as chair for 24 years, before passing the torch to me in recent times. Bob is very dedicated and loves the event. He still does as much as he can whilst dealing with an ailing spouse that is an all consuming task. Cindy "THE FORCE" Smith has headed up the arrangements for the food and beverages, the crew and tried to keep me straight (an impossible job). I don't know how many years she has actually been doing this, I'm sure not the whole 57 years, since she is barely that old herself, and I was still in grade school, so I have no clue, but its been a long time. Her half century other half PC George has been quite involved for a long time and is always there to save the day. Rick and Patti Taylor are the dockmasters, they really have made this come together with their planning and skill to get 45 boats in and docked in under an hour generally. Their performance has allowed the show to go on in a manner that allows all the guests to participate and enjoy the day. As you can tell, I have the least important job, but get all the Glory.

Our club has had a large turnover of members in recent years, and the new members have been a saving grace. So many have retired from boating or passed away that the old crew for many years no longer exists. When I joined in 2007 I had to beg for months to be able to go, (and wait for moorage for three years) without much encouragement, until there was a last minute cancellation. New boat drivers for FOOFARAW was unheard of because the core crew was solid and dedicated. The times they've been a chang'in, so please even if you are brand new please consider joining us. For all who wish to participate, our email is [oycfoofaraw@gmail.com](mailto:oycfoofaraw@gmail.com). Please provide the information asked for near the top of this page.

Chris

.....remember [oycfoofaraw@gmail.com](mailto:oycfoofaraw@gmail.com)

**As of this printing of the Beachcomber, signups for this year's Foofaraw are very low. Please consider volunteering your boat for this very worthwhile event**

# Swiftsure Diary

by Joe Downing

This is the story of the sailboat *Balder 2* in the 76<sup>th</sup> Swiftsure/Cape Flattery sailboat race, May 25<sup>th</sup>-27<sup>th</sup>, starting off of Victoria, Canada and going northeast to Neah Bay, and back to Victoria, a distance of 102 miles. We won our division, and I owe it all to the crew: Rick “McGyver” Antles, Rich “Strong and Steady” Wells, Alan “McGyver Jr.” Hoffman, Dick “Analyse this” Binns, and Grant “Mr. Focus” Tibbetts. Almost all members of South Sound Sailing Society or Olympia Yacht Club.

Start: Saturday, 9:10 a.m. wind so light, there was a postponement flag, waiting for first fleet to clear the line. What commenced was increasing wind, and rain (heavy rain... a rain gear test!), for first 8 hours of race. Next 8 hours was slow but steady advancement to Neah Bay. Skipper made a tuna casserole for the crew, but a couple of crew were too seasick to eat it, in the rolly – polly seas.

We ran two shifts for the overnight sailing, each having a 2 hour stint and a 3 hour. Next 7 hours was spent climbing up the American coast, toward the mark. We rounded the mark boat at 8:15 a.m. Sunday morning, 4<sup>th</sup> in a fleet of 13 boats. Then began the mental calculations. Let’s see: the time limit is 6 a.m. Monday morning.... At current rate of advancement of 2 nautical miles per hour, that would take us another 24 hours get to the finish line. Should we forget Victoria, and just pull into Port Angeles, where a crew’s car was parked? Then 3 could get a ride home, and 3 could bring *Balder 2* back to Olympia. On the other hand, it was a totally gorgeous Sunday morning, as we pleasantly short-tacked the American shore in order to stay out of opposing current. We could continue to sail, just pretending we were out for a daysail!

After 4 hours of short tacking, and with the tide changing to our favor, we headed out for the middle of the Strait, sometimes advancing, sometimes not. Now it is 2 p.m. Sunday. Slowly the wind shifts south, and increases in intensity. We were soon clicking along at 6 knots under big genoa sail and main, mostly heading for our next significant waypoint, Race Passage. About 5 p.m., the wind went light, and we were struggling again. I said to the crew: the ONLY way we can finish this race is if the typical westerly comes in, and we can sail straight to Race Passage under spin-  
(Continued on page 14)



*(Continued from page 13)*

naker. It was right around sunset when that came to pass: 5 knots of wind from the west. We quickly set the spinnaker with light air sheets (lines), and enjoyed the downwind run. Now it is close to midnight, the current had changed, and we opted to sail outside of Race Passage for safety. The wind built to 15 knots. The scariest part of the race, for me, was sailing past the blinking green buoy, knowing that just inside there was a deathly shallow, rock bottom. I breathed a tired sigh of relief when we got past Race Passage, and made the 60 degree turn to Port for Victoria, a mere 9 miles away.

The wind continued to build on this final leg of the race. We saw 20.4 knots true wind speed. It was a wild ride. Those of you that know the Ericson 38 sailboat know it has a big spinnaker, and things get crazy while flying it in a very fresh breeze. Oh, did I mention that we still had light air sheets attached to it? We were all pumped knowing that this long, long, race was nearly done, and we could be over the finish line by 1:30 or 2:00 a.m. But this plan came crashing down as the wind quickly subsided, and went to zero a mere 1.04 miles from the finish! We floated aimlessly, trying everything in the book to make the boat go, including genoa up, then down, and even trying to sail under main alone, with the theory that with so little wind, the two sails interfered with each other. No competition that we could see was behind us, so this race was ours to win, or drop out. At 3 a.m., with a second night of depleted sleep, many of the crew were spent. Crewmember Rick Antles, suddenly gave us a Winston Churchill style speech of not giving up, giving our all, and we did not come all this way to quit. We were all inspired. Finally, a few knots of wind came up. We raised the genoa, and started tacking to the finish. Just before our last tack, the wind was dying again and I said "we gotta go before the wind dies again. So, we tacked over for our last run to the finish. Trouble was, we could only just catch the landward end of the line... a little shack with two blinking yellow lights. As we approached, the wind died. We saw a tiny cove surrounded by rocks. We had to sail (drift) into this cove, right up to the rocks, in order for our 38 feet to be fully over the line. The finishing judges, just 100 feet away, stood there watching us. Once we fully crossed the line, I immediately started the engine and backed out of the cove. This race will stand as one of the most momentous events in our racing careers.

Summary: highest percentage ever of boats dropping out: 141! That left only 15 finishers. We had 10 sail changes..., misjudged water supply and ran tank dry mid-day Sunday...and the crew had 4 Swiftsure veterans, and two newbies.....

Just a great time...a real endurance test!

See you there next year!!





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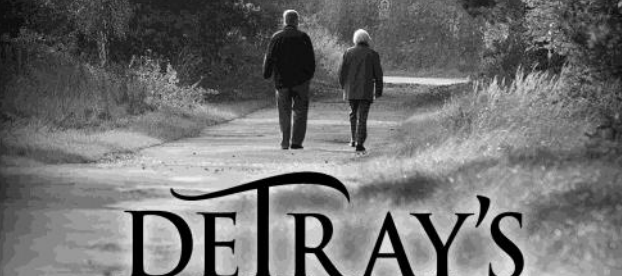
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## August 2019

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4	5	6	7	8 Main Station Committee Meeting	9	10
11	12	13 OYC Board of Trustees Meeting	14	15	16 Hot Rods & Hot Dogs (OYC Car Show/BBQ)	17 Dog Days of Summer Dingy Cruise
18	19	20	21	22	23 Commodore Cruise Series #3 Gig Harbor	24
25 Commodore Cruise Series #3 Gig Harbor	26	27	28	29	30 Labor Day Cruise to Island Home	31
1 Labor Day Cruise to Island Home	2 Labor Day	3 Bridge Meeting	4 OYC Dinner Meeting	5	6 Foofaraw	7

## September 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Labor Day Cruise to Island Home	2 Labor Day	3 Bridge Meeting	4 OYC Dinner Meeting	5	6 Foofaraw	7
8	9	10	11 OYC Board of Trustees Meeting	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20 TGIF	21
22	23	24	25	26	27 TGIF	28
29 OYC Oktoberfest Cruise	30	1 Bridge Meeting	2 OYC Dinner Meeting	3	4	5
6	7	8	9 OYC Board of Trustees Meeting	10	11	12

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