



Commodore: Chuck Silver
Vice Commodore: Bill Kramer
Secretary: John Flenniken

July/August 2011



From the Helm

Chuck Silver, Commodore

As you probably know, the cruise to Hadley's was changed to East Dock on Government Island. Well, you couldn't go to shore there either. The water was really high with a lot of current. It took Jean and me about two and a half hours to get there, barely making three knots or less, over ground. We did have a good time. There were ten boats from our club, and we had a great happy hour and pot luck on Sunday.

Speaking of high water and strong current, be mindful of these conditions, especially if you do go out boating. There is a lot of debris, large and small, coming down the river as well. If you have looked over the wall on Walk 1, you have noticed the wood pile that has accumulated. I do not recommend anyone's using the work boat and trying to remove any of it at this time; the situation is too dangerous. We need to wait until the water level is lower and the current has backed off. We do have Clark Caffall with his tug available to remove the debris if necessary.

The Walk 2 BBQ was a huge success. Everyone had a good time, and the weather was perfect. The live entertainment by Mike Oxborrow and Stealin' Easy – Mike Finch, Gareth Tabor and June Henry – was as good as it gets. Along with the appetizers and side dishes, we even had a keg of beer. This will be a hard act to follow, but our celebration of July 4th will be a fun event to look forward to, with good food, the swap meet, and radio-controlled boat races. Shortly after, on Saturday, July 9th, we will have the Walk 3 BBQ, and, coming up before you know it, Lazy Days, which officially starts on July 23rd. Lots to look forward to!

We were sad to hear of the passing of Gloria Becker, Tom's mother, the weekend before last. Our hearts go out to the family at this time of their loss.

Congratulations to Elden and Marilyn Stender on 60 years of marriage! Mike and Carol Pick will have their 50th anniversary in August. We can't all be so fortunate, but I admire those couples who have weathered it through thick and thin and stayed together.

We have a great boat club with wonderful members and amenities: gated parking, a clubhouse, a work shop, a shower, ice, and concrete docks, to name a few. We encourage members to use these facilities. They are here for us to enjoy. If you want to use the Clubhouse for a private party, you are welcome to do so. Vice Commodore Bill Kramer is your contact. There are forms to fill out and some fees to pay. I would like to remind you that rules for you and your guests to follow are outlined in your Year Book. Guests are limited to the parking lot, Clubhouse and patio. They are not to walk the docks unless accompanied by an RCYC member. Children 12 and under need to wear a life jacket when not in the Clubhouse. Ice is available for all to use, but it is not free. Members, please record your name, and what you took, so that you can be billed accordingly. Most of us know the rules and abide by them, but our guests may not. If you are planning to use the Clubhouse for an event, you might highlight the rules at the outset of your party so all are informed. Enjoy your club.

Let's go boating!

Ode to Walk 2's Party

by Judy Oxborrow

Rose City is the place to be,
When Walk 2 throws a big party!
People gathered from far and near,
Word had spread about the keg of beer.

The keg of beer was tapped at four,
And all too soon, it was no more.
We nibbled through the salsa and chips,
Veggie tray and artichoke dips.

The music was a thought inspired
By musicians both young and retired.
Walk 2 displayed great talents galore.
The crowd kept wanting more, more, more.

Lynn Easton on drums and Mike O. on bass,
Laid down some licks and set the pace.
Juliana on fiddle rosined up her bow
And the Orange Blossom Special she let go!

John Miller on guitar the crowd did please
With songs that brought back many memories.
Gareth Tabor with guitar, banjo and dobro
To us his composing skills did show.

Mike Finch with mandolin, harmonica and guitar
As a pilot and musician, he does go far.
June Henry with guitar some ballads did sing,
And with music the clubhouse did ring.

Then grills were fired up to cook our meat.
Then salad, corn and baked beans we did eat.
And, finally we added a really great treat,
Strawberry shortcake oh so sweet.

The musicians played into the night,
Walk 2 did its barbecue up right.
And, now we issue our thanks to all.
Walk 2 people and musicians had a ball.



Secretary's Salutations

John Flenniken - Secretary

Membership news this month.

Stan Livingston and Darlene Brown have resigned their membership and placed their boat for sale at Passion Yachts. Stan and Darlene joined in 2008 and sailed a MacGregor 26 named Escape Hatch.

Don and Linda Belshaw have been voted Life Members. They became members in 1991 and are continuing their active status. They have a 26 Nordic Tug, Little Drummer.

Loren and Kathy Beach have been voted Life Members. They became members in 1991 and Loren continues in his role as Moorage Chair. They sail an Olson 34 sailboat "Fresh Air".



Vice Commodore's Report

Bill Kramer, Vice Commodore

There are many ways to enjoy boating and socializing with fellow boaters. The Fourth of July Land Cruise is a great opportunity to have a fun day. This year's activities include a swap meet and RC sailboat races. There will also be a BBQ, a movie and fireworks viewing. We may prefer to spend the 4th off the river, but for the Lazy Days cruise we all want to get out on it. This is a super way to get away and enjoy life afloat. To help you plan for your cruise, there will be a discussion after the 4th of July BBQ about favorite places to visit and anchor on the Columbia River.

The work parties for the first half of the year have been completed, but we do have a couple of summer projects if you want to get a start on your fall work hours. Several waler timbers on walks 2 and 3 were found to be rotten and will be replaced, and new decking will be put on the ramps from the parking lot to the head walk. If you want to help on these projects, contact Chuck Pennington, our work party chair.

The right to rent the Clubhouse is a great perk of membership in RCYC. Having a private party there can add a special touch to a celebration. With this privilege does come some responsibilities. As the sponsoring member, it is your responsibility to instruct your guests as to what is expected of them. Safety is a top priority. We all want guests and members to be safe. This is why all children under 13 must wear a life jacket whenever they are on the ramps or the docks. Even if children are just going from the parking lot to the Clubhouse they need to wear a life jacket. Safety and respect for the privacy of other members are reasons all guests walking on the docks or breakwater must be escorted by a member. Please ensure that your guests do not roam the moorage unescorted. The other responsibility when renting the Clubhouse is monitoring the parking lot gate, making sure that a responsible person will open the gate for guests as they arrive. Gate duty, providing life jackets and escorting guests do require planning, as does informing guests of what is expected of them. While we want your function in the Clubhouse to be fun, your rental does mean you are responsible for seeing that these policies are followed. Failure to do so will mean a forfeiture of your deposit and the loss of renting privileges. The Vice Commodore is the person who handles clubhouse rentals. If you want to rent it or have questions, please contact me.

Have a great summer.



July 4th Radio Control Regatta

The challenge is out. The sailing glove has been tossed into the brink. Will *Le Petite Soleil* be the de facto winner of the Independence Day Regatta?

There is still plenty of time to prepare your Soling for the big day. If you have retired from racing, please consider selling, chartering or loaning your Soling for the competition. A fun day will be had by all. Special restrainers will be stationed along Walk 2 to prevent our boats from being forced under the walk by the current!

As the accompanying picture shows, *Le Petite Soleil* has been working hard in her secret high tech racing facility, experiencing various wind and wave conditions.

Racing begins at 1 pm, conditions permitting.

Bob Gales
RCYC RC Racing



Avoiding Propeller Accidents by Alan Bergen BoatUS Representative

Guarding Against Propeller Accidents While on The Boat

- Everyone on the boat should be seated; never let passengers ride on the bow, gunwales or transom. Bob says he now sits inside his inflatable.
- Always wear your engine cutoff switch lanyard. Note that it may be necessary to shorten the lanyard when the operator is seated next to the engine.
- Stay at least 100-feet away from diver-down flags. Many divers have been killed or seriously injured by props. Turn away from diving areas; don't try to idle by. Be aware that divers have difficulty gauging distance underwater and will often stray more than the legal distances from the flag. Current can also cause divers to be swept away from the flag.
- When docking, don't let anyone onto the swim platform while the engine is running. Swim platforms tend to be slippery and people have fallen into the prop when the boat bounced off of a piling.
- When launching or un-grounding a boat, keep people in the water away from the stern and prop. In the struggle to get the boat into open water, it's easy to forget the prop is back there.
- Avoid letting anyone aboard drink heavily, especially when the boat is underway. Alcohol has been a factor in many prop injury claims.

Guarding Against Propeller Accidents While Water Skiing or Swimming

- Get back to skiers immediately. Skiers have been run down by other boats while they were waiting to be picked up. Life vests (required by law), wetsuits and t-shirts, as well as skis and kneeboards should be bright colors so that the skier will be easily visible to you and to other boat traffic. Skiers in the water who are waiting to be picked up should hold a ski out of the water so that they will be more visible to you as well as other boat traffic. The color of the equipment is very important; one skier who was run down had a kneeboard and life vest that were both black, which is less visible [than light colors] against the dark water.
- NEVER put the engine in reverse and back toward a skier (or anyone else) in the water. When you pick up a skier, make a gradual turn back and then shut off the engine before you are alongside. When the wind is blowing, always approach from the lee.
- Do not put the engine into gear until you see that everyone who was in the water is seated safely inside the boat. Just because you hear a voice a few feet away, don't assume he or she is aboard. In one recent injury claim, when a man sitting on the swim platform sounded as if he was on the boat, the skipper carelessly gunned the engine without looking back to check.
- Don't use an outboard or I/O's lower unit for re-boarding. Propellers are sharp, even when they're not moving.
- Never take a boat into a swimming zone.



Moorage Matters

Loren Beach, Moorage Chair

At present we are filling two smaller-boat openings, working down the improvement list, and next moving on to the new-member list.

As increased river traffic increases wakes in summer months, be aware of where your spreaders and masthead line up in relation to the rigs of the boats on either side; you may need to move ahead or back in your slip. Also, be sure to have snubbers on bow and stern lines. Your mooring lines should be good quality nylon.

We have resumed the "take your boat out or crew on another boat" night, on Tuesdays at 6:00 PM. Check in at the Clubhouse patio and gather up members for crewing or go out with another member. This is a very informal activity; I suggest you dress for the weather and wear your pfd and maybe bring a snack if you are hungry. If you schlep along an extra can of pop or other beverage to share, that might be appreciated. You will get better acquainted with other members and share some boating time. No matter what sort of boat you own, large or small, power or sail, come on down.

The high water and fast current appear to be with us for several more weeks. While the colder springtime water is always riskier, this season is even more so as the current is running extra fast at three knots plus; so wear your PFD anytime you are on deck. Be cautious when under way and stay well upstream from the walk below your boat. Do not cut a corner when entering or leaving a fairway. Keep that bow pointed up stream.

Have fun, but keep your wits about you.



Lazy Days Cruise

July 23 - 31



**Saturday 23 Martin Island
Sunday 24 Behind Walker Island
Monday 25 Cathlamet
Tuesday 26 Astoria West Basin
Wednesday 27 Lay day - Astoria
Thursday 28 Cathlamet
(Potluck)
Friday 29 Walker Island
Saturday 30 Martin Island
Sunday 31 R.C.Y.C.**



**Some members can't take a week and others may take two but what ever your plans let's all try and meet at Cathlamet on Thursday the 28th for the Potluck.
Happy hour at 1700 and Potluck at 1800**



If you have any questions contact Ron Moran @ 503-807-3817



L'Orca returns to RCYC



L'Orca, a Beneteau 35s5 owned by RCYC member Jerry Barnes is currently moored in her slip on walk I. Jerry and his crew survived a crushing blow by a whale at the beginning of the Oregon Offshore race in May. The boat has subsequently been assessed as totaled by insurance adjusters.



4TH OF JULY



Rose City Club 4th of July Party.

- Swap Meet 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm
RC Boat races 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm
Happy Hour 5:30 pm
Potluck 6:30 pm
burgers/brats provided, bring a side dish,
salad or dessert.
 After dinner activities
 Downriver cruise discussion
 Movie & Popcorn
 Fireworks

RCYC Upcoming Events, Meetings, and Functions:

July 2011

- 7/4 RCYC 4th of July Land Cruise
- 7/9 Walk 3 BBQ 5:30 pm
- 7/11 RCYC Board meeting 7 pm
- 7/15 RCYC Beer Can Race 5 pm
- 7/18 RCYC Foghorn deadline
- 7/20 RCYC General meeting 7 pm
- 7/23 Start of Lazy Days Cruise
- 7/28 Potluck in Cathlamet
- 7/31 End of Lazy Days Cruise

August 2011

- 8/8 RCYC Board meeting 7pm
- 8/10 OWSA General meeting 6 pm
- 8/12-14 Pirates Cruise
- 8/18 Foghorn deadline

• Check the web site for updated Club dates and more information about RCYC.
Also view and/or download your Foghorn from the RCYC web site.
www.rosecityyachtclub.org