

Commodore: Karen Finch
Vice Commodore: Gary Whitney
Secretary: Matt Richards

April 2015



Commodore's Log

Karen Finch, Commodore

Well, Mike and I finally gave up on the idea of actually installing refrigeration on Willow ourselves and have enlisted the skills of Tom Becker. Now I know I'll have refrigeration this season! Hurray! I look forward to cruising this year without having to constantly worry about where we'll get block ice next!

While Mike and I missed the St Patrick's Day Party, I understand it was a great success. Thanks go to Bernie Bacon and all of those who worked to make the day a success!!! Mike and I attended the MCYC St Patrick's cruise for the first time. We've been trying to get there for many years. This was the first time our schedules have allowed us to attend. I think we were the token sail boat there. Mike had to singlehand the boat back from MCYC in those 50 knot gusts of wind! Fortunately there were folks available to help him dock safely (Thanks, Gary & Loren!).

Our first Walk BBQ of the year is scheduled for April 11. Walk 4 will be hosting. If you're not familiar with our Walk BBQs, each Walk hosts a BBQ each year, for a total of five Walk BBQs. All members are invited. Usually, members bring their own main course and beverage of choice. The hosting Walk supplies salads, sides and deserts. They are always a great time so be sure to come out and join the fun!

Opening Day is just around the corner with the festivities scheduled for May 2. Watch for more information and a schedule of events for the day.

Finally, please take the time to read the article in this Foghorn about our dredge. The Board has approved the recommendations of the Dredge Acquisition Committee to purchase a new Badger dredge. A presentation will be given to the membership at the April General Meeting. An increase in member fees for our loan fund is a part of this proposal. Please come to the April meeting to learn about the plan and vote.

See you at the Club!

Twinkle twinkle
little bat!
How I wonder
what you're at!



RCYC Ladies Dinner

April 17, 2015

6:00 pm – Social Hour

7:00 pm – Dinner

Raffle and Entertainment

"Mad Hatter Tea Party"

Reservations to **JoNell McClary**
(503)667-2676 or jonell.mcclary@frontier.com

Cost: \$25.00 in advance

Please RSVP no later than April 10th
Attendance limited to one hundred ladies



You're mad. Bonkers. Off your head.
But I'll tell you a secret ...
All of the best people are.

The Dredge

Background, and history of the club's dredging operations

We all realize that dredging is necessary to keep RCYC and our boats afloat. The Columbia is the largest river on the west coast of both American continents. It cuts through the Cascade Mountain range and brings a lot of sand and silt with it. As the current slows down at our moorage the sand and silt is deposited on the river bottom under our boats, causing the moorage to silt in.

In 1976 the club moved to our present location. We bought the upland property and leased the submerged property from the state of Oregon. Jerry Randall realized right away that without dredging we would rapidly become a kayak and beach volleyball club. It was Jerry who convinced the club to buy a used dredge and begin the annual tradition of do-it-ourselves dredging. And along with that came do-it-ourselves dredge maintenance. In 2000 the dredge was upgraded: Mechanical winches and clutches were replaced by hydraulics; other improvements were made at the same time. All of these are 15 now years old.

Current condition and goals

Nothing in the physical world lasts forever, even with the best of maintenance. Over the past few years it has become obvious that the dredge was nearing the end of its useful life. Routine maintenance progressed into major repairs each year. Last year, Commodore Ethan Van Matre charged a Dredge Replacement Committee (DRC) to determine the current condition of the dredge and provide options. The committee hired a surveyor with extensive experience in marine equipment and metal vessels, member Alison Mazon AMS, ABYC, SAMS, to survey the dredge. It was moved to Schooner Creek Boat Works to be lifted so that a full survey of the hull could be accomplished. The survey found that the dredge is dated and suffers from severe corrosion.

The club has several long-term goals for our dredge program:

- Provide RCYC members with year-round access to all slips in the marina
- Increase dredge reliability and reduce extraordinary maintenance and repairs
- Increase operator safety and ergonomics
- Maintain current RCYC membership and attract future members

Options

The committee considered five options and compared total costs of each, annualized over the 30-year expected life span of a new dredge:

Option	Investment	Lifespan (in years)	Annualized Cost (Over 30 years)
Buy a new dredge + major maintenance	\$382,000	30	\$12,733
Buy a used dredge and refurbish	\$255,000	30	\$28,333
Rebuild dredge reusing some equipment	\$355,000	20	\$11,833
Repair + add safety upgrades (3 times)	\$125,000	5-10	\$12,500 - \$25,000
Commercial dredging, per year	\$125,000	1	\$125,000

Why not rebuild and reuse some equipment?

Although this option initially may cost less than buying a new dredge, the main components that would be transferred from the old dredge will be ones that are the most unreliable. A one-off design could be customized to our needs, but would also be unproven and could be problematic. Costs on a custom project could spiral out of control.

Why not repair and add safety upgrades?

This is the least-cost option in the short term. However, these repairs and upgrades will likely last only five to ten years, needing to be repeated at least three times to equal the life span of a new dredge. Most critically, this option patches, but does not solve, the corrosion and "odd construction" of the hull itself. It may well cost up to twice as much per year as a new dredge, and certainly will not last for 30 years.

Continued on page 3

The Dredge cont.

Why not buy a used dredge?

There are used dredges available. However, the condition of a used dredge is unknown and each would require a professional survey. Travel to test drive each potential dredge on location will add to costs. All of the equipment will be used; the engine, pumps, valves, and controls may need significant refurbishing or replacement. The total investment over a 30 year life span is equal to, or more than, a new dredge, and the reliability of a used dredge is unknown.

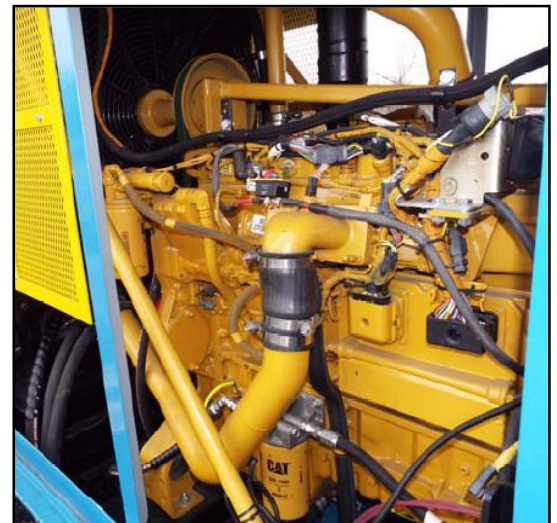
Recommendations of the DRC

The committee concludes that replacing the current dredge with a new Badger model dredge built by Dredging Supply Company (DSC) is the best option. For purchase and major maintenance investment it is the safest and most cost effective option over the 30 year life of a dredge.

Financial Options

The Long Range Plan (LRP) and the Finance committees met jointly a number of times to develop funding alternatives in response to the DRC recommendation. These range from waiting until enough savings accumulate in the capital fund to buy a new dredge, to taking out a commercial loan to buy a new dredge. The Long Range Plan balances revenues – your fees towards capital improvements to the club – against the cost of those improvements, over a 15 year planning horizon. Projects like improving the club gate and replacing the breakwater are included.

The joint LRP and Finance committee recommendation is to buy a new Badger dredge this year, paying for 1/3 of it with an investment from the capital fund and for 2/3 of it with a commercial bank loan. This works out to about \$130,000 from the capital fund and about \$200,000 in a commercial bank loan, depending on final contract negotiations with Dredge Supply Company. To make all of this work, an increase in club member fees going to the loan fund is necessary. This increase amounts to about \$47 per quarter for Active and Active Life members, and about \$23.50 for Inactive members in round numbers.



A presentation of these findings, options, and recommendations will be made at the

April General Meeting.

Please plan to attend and participate in the discussion. More detailed information will be available at that time, and questions can be answered.

**Wednesday, April 15, 2015
7:00 pm in the Clubhouse**

Vice Commodore's Report

Gary Whitney, Vice Commodore



Spring is here; the days are longer; and as members of RCYC, there are lots of ways to get involved, build community and use our boats. Racing has a long tradition at RCYC, and the RCYC Medium Distance Race will be held on May 16th. If you are interested in participating or helping out in a supporting role talk to Kevin Kahl. Helping out with a race is a good way to share the excitement without having to sit on the rail.

We will have two more spring work parties scheduled for April 4th and 18th. They are a great way to get your work hours for the first half of the year done. If that does not float your boat, there are other opportunities to earn work hours, including mowing the lawn as a grounds steward for a month during June, July or August. You can choose your own time to mow and enjoy being outside in the summer.

The main reason we belong to RCYC is boating and the cruising season is underway. The Bartlett Landing cruise is April 24th -26th. Opening Day is May 2th. Who can resist a parade? Don't forget to get your vessel safety check or VSC. A VSC helps you keep your boat in safe operating condition, and it helps the club's score on Opening Day. Memorial Day weekend is best when it's spent at Hadley's Landing. Join the cruise May 22th – 25th.

If we can't go sailing, we should enjoy food together. The Walk 4 BBQ is April 11th. The Ladies Dinner is April 17th. Guys you can help with the dinner. The ladies will be enjoying the dinner, and you can volunteer to be a waiter. We have a great club and these are just some of the many ways to get involved and enjoy being a member of RCYC.



Cruising Corner

Ron Moran, Cruising Chair

The first cruise of the season is coming up at the end of this month. If you have not already done so, it's time to get your boat ready for the 2015 season.

On April 25 – 27, the Club will be headed to Bartlett Landing (East dock on Government Island). Let's plan for a potluck on Saturday, with Happy Hour at 1700 hours and dinner at 1800.

While getting ready for the new season, let's check a few things.

1. The engine water impellor. Take off the cover and check for cracks in the rubber or missing blades. If it's in bad shape, replace it with that spare you have. You do carry a spare, don't you? If it's over ten years old, it would be cheap insurance just to replace it.
2. Check your electrical system. Wires that run to the engine can come loose because of the vibration. Also check for chafing.
3. Starter battery. If it's a wet cell type, check the water level. Clean and tighten the terminals. If it's over 8 years old, think about replacing it. It's hard to get a jump start, and you can't start it by pushing the boat.
4. Water strainers. Check and clean both your engine water strainer and fresh water strainer.
5. Check the spare parts that you carry and replace any that were used last season.

Remember to wear your life jacket when out on the water.

Let's have a safe and happy 2015 cruising season.

Membership Reminders

Judy Oxborrow, Treasurer

1. **Reimbursements.** Work parties are in full swing. If you provide lunch or purchase materials for a work party, you will probably want to be reimbursed for them. A reimbursement form may be downloaded from the Club website. Check the Forms and Documents section. If you don't have computer access, call Judy Oxborrow and she will be happy to mail you a form.

Please be sure to indicate what function or event you made the purchase for, who authorized the purchase, and please PRINT your name on the line where it asks the name of the person to whom the check should be issued, then sign the form. You do not have to have the person who asked you to make the purchase sign the form. For example, if your purchase was for lunch for a work party, you could either list the Work Party Chair or Work Party Leader as the authorizing individual. Don't forget to attach your receipts. Then mail the form and receipts to the address indicated at the bottom of the page. If the reimbursement is for a large amount and you would like payment before the next Board meeting, please contact Judy judy87807@centurylink.net or 503/652-1549) to discuss expediting the payment. Otherwise the bookkeeping firm will follow its customary practices in processing the payment.

2. **Quarterly billings** are sent to members during the first week of January, April, July and October. If you do not receive your billing by the 7th of that month, please contact Judy Oxborrow. Any problems with your billing should be handled by a contact with Judy. Do not call the bookkeeping service directly as we will be paying for that time. Most likely, Judy will be able to answer your questions as she has 24/7 on-line access to the bookkeeping records. If your billing is not paid timely, you will be assessed a late fee. Please do not call or write the bookkeeping service about the charge. The bookkeeping service does not have the authority to waive a late fee. Again, contact Judy to resolve the matter. Do not ignore the late charge as it will not disappear and must be resolved.

3. **The 2015 Yearbooks are out.** One copy has been mailed to Inactive and Inactive Life Members. All Active and Active Life members receive two copies and are expected to pick them up at the Clubhouse. If you did not pick your yearbooks up at the March general meeting, you will find them in large plastic bins in the Clubhouse (either on the back or front counter). The yearbooks are alphabetically filed in an envelope with the member's name on it. Just pull the envelope from the bin and take it with you. And, if you want a pdf file to put on your electronic media, please send an e-mail to judy87807@centurylink.net Please check your listing and submit any changes or corrections to Judy. We have already picked up two new addresses.

4. **Please note.** E-mail is not a guaranteed communication. If you send an e-mail to Judy at judy87807@centurylink.net you will receive an acknowledgement – even if it is only, thanks, got it. One active member indicated that they had returned the update form but it was never received. So, if you don't get a response, please presume the e-mail was not received and send it again.

Member News

Matt Richards, Secretary

At the March General meeting, Past Commodore Bob Phillips swore in new members Robert and JoAnn Bergstrom and Kevin and Gina Stenberg. Robert and Joanne have a Newport 30. Kevin and Gina just purchased a Catalina 42.

Gregory and Josiane Douglass were introduced as prospective members. They are the son and daughter-in-law of members Jim and Carolyn Douglass. Their daughter Elsa was the Club's 2014 Daughter of Neptune. Their daughter Audrey is our 2015 Daughter of Neptune.



Moorage Matters

Loren Beach, Port Captain

Other than the 20' slip by the jog in walk two, we have no openings. I know of some vessels that may be surrendering slips this year as their owners have aged out or moved away, so there should be some movement into assigned slips for waiting list boats. Meanwhile we have a number of new members "double filling" slips around the moorage wherever a boat is gone temporarily. As member boats return from storage or boat yards, and others go on long summer cruises, these temporary boats will be moving around.

The Club does its best to provide a tie up for as many boats as reasonably possible. That's why I ask anyone leaving for a month or more to let me know your date of departure and ETA. Per the moorage rules, you will receive a reimbursement of moorage fee for the time another boat is using "your" slip.

Speaking of rules, it's time for the bi-annual moorage inspection by the Commodore, Port Captain, and interested board members. There are a small number of boats not conforming to moorage rules regarding display of current registration stickers. Since this is covered in the Yearbook (Rules A.1.d.), my advice to the Officers and Board is to apply the rule as written and have non-conforming boats removed per Rule 6.d. Every year a small number of members have to be warned by the Commodore to follow our basic rules. Given that we have new members eagerly awaiting a slip, my advice to the Officers and Board is to enforce rules without prejudice. If this moves a boat or two out of a slip and thence to the bottom of the waiting list, so be it.

As for having a current registration sticker, this only requires a visit to your boat once every two years - which does not seem onerous. (If you are ill and cannot get down to the boat for a while, contact me and I will arrange some help.)

While on the subject of regular visits to check on your boat, note that the recent high wind event reinforced the need for close inspection of lines and fenders. Canvas can be damaged easily once the wind rises above 35 or 40. On March 15, there was a gust of 52 mph.

Check the lead of your power cord to ensure that it does not fall into the water or put strain on the dockside outlet. Much has been said about securing dock boxes. It's a pleasure to report that some are now tethered to the new "soft eyes" on the triangles. Everyone should follow their example. Please remove any extra ballast from the box and it should no longer - ever - be screwed down to a triangle. We need to be able to quickly lift and pivot it over onto the head walk to access any waterline piping leaks.

Someone already asked when the Tuesday, 6 pm "adult sail" activity will start up. Look for an announcement by e-mail, probably by late April.



March General Meeting Program—Alaska

Judy Oxborrow

There was a great turnout for the March program. Everyone attending had nothing but rave reviews for the pictures of Alaska taken by Bob Brown and Nathan Sanborn, who spent several weeks sailing in Alaskan waters.

Did that inspire you to visit one of the last truly wild places on earth? Do you want to visit but don't want to spend several weeks or take your boat north? Well, there is another way. Mike and I are taking a cruise/tour to Alaska in September 2016. We are doing the trip in two parts. The first is a week on land that includes two days in Fairbanks, two days at Denali National Park, one day at a lodge near Mt. McKinley and two days in Kenai National Park. Then we join the ship at Whittier/Anchorage and sail south over the next week – stopping at Hubbard Glacier, Glacier Bay, Skagway, Juneau and Ketchikan. There is an option of the cruise/tour or cruise only segment of the trip.

Last year we did a trip to Hawaii with RCYC friends. It was the first time we had travelled with a group where we knew everyone, and we thoroughly enjoyed the trip. The one rule we established at the start was that no one was responsible to anyone for anything on the trip. We all did our own thing during the day. Several of us met up for cocktails before dinner each evening. However, we all met in the dining room at dinner to trade tales of our adventures and finalize whatever plans we wanted to make for the evening or the next day.

We have already formed a group and there could be some financial advantages or benefits if we have enough people going in the group. If you are interested, drop me an email (judy87807@centurylink.net) or phone call (503) 652-1549.



Above: Bob Brown & Wings of the Dawn in Alaska—Photos by Nathan Sanborn



View From the Rear

Ethan VanMatre, Rear Commodore

Spring has sprung and cruising season is about to start. I notice a lot of activity around the moorage as we all take our boats out of their winters slumber. Coincidentally, we are also taking our moorage out of its winter slumber. And that is the topic of this month's column – Participation.

As members of a yacht club, a do it yourself club and a member managed yacht club, we all participate in the maintenance and management of the club.

Some participate by becoming Officers or Board members. Others take on special projects like the dredge replacement committee or work on walkway lighting. Some step forward to handle the dirty but essential jobs that arise when something fails – plunging in, so to speak, when the potty pump fails.

Many of us participate in work parties, taking care of those things that we do year after year to keep the Club going. Some keep the Clubhouse presentable and the galley clean for all to use. I did that for a year or two.

The grass is cut, weeds pulled and flowers bloom under the care of dedicated members. The odd job on no-ones list is just taken care of by members who see the need and take the time.

There are other forms of participation that are very important too. We pay our dues and follow the rules. We keep our insurance up to date and send the policy page in. We give a key or combo for safe keeping to the resident members which have saved a boat or two from sinking. We keep our registration up to date and our slip area clean and tidy.

And there you have it. With so much done and so much to do, you have to go cruising.

Nautical Reads

Bill Kramer

Bridges are one of the bonuses of living in Portland. Did you know there are 22 bridges over the Columbia and Willamette rivers in the Portland and Vancouver area?

I love all of the different styles and types of bridges we have. Getting out of my car and seeing them from the river bank or better yet from the deck of my boat adds to my enjoyment of them. The more I learn about our bridges the more interesting they become. It is easy to learn more about our bridges with a great new book, Big & Awesome Bridges of Portland & Vancouver, by Sharon Wood Wortman.

What makes this book special is that it is written for kids. It has lots of art and graphics as well as facts, bridge poems and interviews with bridge designers and workers. It includes the new Tilikum Crossing and Sellwood bridges. Adults needn't worry about this being a kid's book, there is plenty of information about the bridges. You also will learn about bridge building and design. There are even plans to build model bridges out of popsicle sticks that you can load test.

Sharon Wood Wortman also wrote the Portland Bridge Book, the first and second editions are illustrated with neat line drawings and the third edition, which came out in 2006, has photographs of the bridges. These books are also worth looking at, but they're not as much fun as Big and Awesome Bridges.

You can find out more about Portland's bridges online at <http://bigandawesomebridges.org/> and pdxbridgefestival.org.

You can't go wrong with any of these books. They are available from your library or you can purchase Big & Awesome Bridges online, from the Oregon Historical Society or from the authors porch in SE. Powell's also has used copies.



Walk 4 BBQ

Festa Italiana!

Ciao RCYC!
 Join Walk Quattro April 11th
 for Festa Italiana!

Ora di Buono (Happy Hour). . .5 PM
Il Pesto (Dinner).6 PM

**Antipasti (Appetizers) will be provided for
 Happy Hour**
**Insalata (Salads) and Garlic Bread
 for Dinner**
**Dessert and Soft Drinks
 will also be provided**
BYOB and BBQ Entree

**RSVP to jonell.mcclary@frontier.com
 or 503-667-2676**

Medium Distance Race

Kevin Kahl, Race Captain

Saturday, May 16, Rose City Yacht Club will be hosting the "Medium Distance Race". This is a simple but fun four hour race up the Columbia and back with a single start.

Nolan Johnson will be our P.R.O. and Dennis Annotti will be the director for the after race social. Both Nolan and Dennis are new members to the RCYC so please help Nolan on the committee at nolan.g.johnson@gmail.com and Dennis with the social at dannotti@yahoo.com. I might add that all the big boys' and girls' boats will be sitting up in Victoria B.C. waiting for the Swiftsure so there should be an abundance of experience available that weekend.

Thank You to Rock Kent, Sean Whitacre, and all who volunteered for another successful Frostbite Regatta last month.

RCYC HAPPENINGS

April

4	Work Party #3	9:00 am
4	Private Party	2:00 pm
6	Knauti Knitters	10:00 am
8	OWSA General Mtg	5:30 pm
11	Walk 4 BBQ	5:00 pm
13	RCYC Board Mtg	7:00 pm
15	RCYC General Mtg	7:00 pm
17	RCYC Ladies Dinner	
18	Work Party #4	9:00am
18	Foghorn Deadline	
19	OWSA Spinnakers	9:00 am
20	Knauti Knitters	10:00 am
21	OWSA Cool Manvrs	6:00 pm
22	OWSA Cool Manvrs	6:00 pm
24	Private Party	5:00pm
24 – 26	Cruise to Bartlett Landing	

May

2	Opening Day Parade	
4	Knauti Knitters	10:00 am
9	OWSA Adventure Sail	8:00 am
11	RCYC Board Meeting	7:00 pm
13	OWSA General Mtg	5:30 pm
16	RCYC Med Dist Race	10:00 am
18	Knauti Knitters	10:00 am
20	RCYC General Mtg	7:00 pm
22 - 25	Cruise to Hadley's Landing	
30	Walk 5 BBQ	5:00 pm

*Check the website calendar for updates and more
 Information about RCYC www.rosecityyachtclub.org*

*Need something added to the calendar?
 Contact Vice Commodore Gary Whitney
ka_sl28@ymail.com*

Foghorn Deadline—18th of the month

Email articles, announcements and photos with "Foghorn" in the header to the editors and graphics individuals listed below:

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Rose City Yacht Club

OPENING DAY!

“Bloomin’ Good Time”

Saturday, May 2, 2015

8:00 a – Continental Breakfast

10:00 a – Flag Ceremony

11:00 a – Skippers Meeting

12:30 p – Parade of Boats Line-up

New Member Orientation following Parade
(approximate times – Lunch time TBD)

Contact Bill Kramer to include your boat in the lineup –
bkramer6@yahoo.com or 503.290.6781

To help decorate or help at the event, please contact Bernie Bacon
Bernieb777@gmail.com or 360.433.8594



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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED