



## ROSE CITY YACHT CLUB NEWSLETTER

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

June 2015



### From the Helm

Karen Finch, Commodore

The 2015 boating season is now officially open! Our Opening Day events were wonderful! Thanks to everyone who played a role in making the day a great success! The weather even cooperated. I don't think we could have ordered a nicer day! I hope the nice weather continues throughout boating season. I know we need some rain, but I'm solar powered, so I'm always hoping for sun (it can rain at night).

I'm looking forward to my first cruise of the year this Memorial Day weekend. It looks like we still won't have refrigeration (that's OK, we can use the cooler one more time). But I'm insisting on running water. I can't imagine trying to go on a 3-day cruise without it. Mike seems to think we'd be fine. How? I'm not sure.

The month of June is rather quiet in terms of Club events. It looks like all the Fridays are open in the Clubhouse. I'm hoping we can have several informal, unplanned BBQs on some of those Friday evenings.

See you on the river!

Happy sailing!



Colors Hoisted - The Season is Launched

## Opening Day



RCYC Opening Day Parade



Flag Ceremony by the City of Roses Ship

## A View from the Rear

Ethan VanMatre, Rear Commodore

Funny thing happened the other day. I was getting close to the moorage on Marine Drive and had slowed down and turned on my turn signal. I usually pump the brakes a time or two just to get the attention of anyone not paying attention. As I neared the turn into the driveway, I shifted my gaze from the road (and my rear view mirror) and onto the moorage. I was looking for outbound cars and people near the gate. Super, no one coming out. I started my turn and then out of the blue WHAM! Rear-ended. Next thing I know I'm looking at the fence with my foot pushing the brake as hard as I can. I really did not want to end up in dry moorage. I don't think that there is a moral to this story. If there was it would be something like – No matter how careful you are, Stuff Happens. Be careful out there, they are trying to kill us. (P.S. no one was hurt, not even my dog.)

Now, on to what I really wanted to write about this month. First off, I wanted to give a really big thank you to all RCYC members for their support in our efforts to replace the dredge. Our investment in a new dredge is an investment in the Club's future and will pay us back many times over. Thank you!

Part of the analysis that I did compared the requested fees increase to the buying power of the Club. I discovered that the fee increase we approved to purchase the new dredge brought the Club's buying power up to, and even with, the buying power in 2007, the last time the Club had an increase. So, each year past 2007 the Club had less buying power. And now we have brought it up to parity. But we did fall behind every year after 2007 as costs went up.

One of the first things that I discovered last year as Commodore was that we have a number of projects on the future horizon and no funds to pay for them. And thus



we push those projects out another five years. This is something that we really cannot keep doing. The solution, of course, is to raise fees and dues proactively and build up the funds to take on those projects. Imagine what the moorage would be like if the Breakwater broke up and the wake was free to pound your boat in its slip.

Sooner or later we will have to look at raising dues to cover the Club's needs. I hate fee increases myself, but I really would not like to see the Breakwater fail. I am, after all, tied to it! So when a fee increase comes up, you might want to keep in mind that a shift from reactive to proactive is a good thing.



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## Medium Distance Race



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### Rose City Youth Sailing Society

By Pam Sesar

It has been a unique month. A lot is going on in the junior programs in the area. Vancouver Lake Sailing Club, Willamette Sailing Club, and the Columbia Gorge Racing Association are sponsoring new sailing opportunities, while continuing with their visions and goals to maintain high standards and strengthen existing programs. WSC will be using a dock at McCuddy's for sailing. They are currently having Tuesday/Thursday afternoon sails. Contact [wsclubmanager@gmail.com](mailto:wsclubmanager@gmail.com) or call 503-246-5345. I realize I am repeating this announcement, but it is very exciting to have the new location.

- The following is a list of just some of the things RCYSS is doing and has done:
- RCYSS children receive reduced or members discounts at VLSC and WSC
- We help with tuition reimbursement up to 80%
- We donate equipment to sailing schools
- We support new projects
- We help schools maintain and grow
- We support a thriving youth sailing community
- We volunteer at local schools
- We encourage friends of our juniors to sail
- We ask families to volunteer and support the schools in anyway they can
- RCYSS families help in so many ways! There are many individuals helping that do
- THANK YOU!

Thank you for remembering us with donations.

Cheers, Pam



## RCYC UPCOMING Events, Meetings, and Functions:

### June

- 01 Knauti Knitters, 10:00 am
- 06 Private Party, 2:00 pm
- 08 RCYC Board Meeting, 7:00 pm
- 10 OWSA General Meeting, 5:30 pm
- 13 Private Party – Noon
- 14 Private Party – 3:00 pm
- 15 Knauti Knitters, 10:00 am
- 17 RCYC General Meeting, 7:00 pm
- 18 Foghorn Deadline

### July

- 04 Land Cruise 4th of July
- 06 Knauti Knitters, 10:00 am
- 11 Work Party #5, 9:00 am
- 13 RCYC Board Meeting, 7:00 pm
- 15 RCYC General Meeting, 7:00 pm
- 18 Foghorn Deadline
- 18–26 RCYC Lazy Days down river cruise
- 20 Knauti Knitters, 10:00 am

\* Check the website for updated Club dates and more information about RCYC. Also view and/or download your Foghorn from the RCYC website: [www.rosecityyachtclub.org](http://www.rosecityyachtclub.org).



## JUNE GENERAL MEETING PROGRAM

By Andy Schmidt, Program Chair

The June General Meeting program will be presented by our own, long-time member, George Kent: "A Grand European Tour." Join George as he shares his 15-day, 620 NM river trip from Budapest to Amsterdam. George's journey was shared with his daughter and son-in-law and started with a flight from the States into Prague for a 3-day visit. From there, they hop a bus from Prague to Budapest where they meet up with the river boat that will take them up the Danube River to the Main Canal, then down the Rhine; a passage that includes 5 countries, 16 towns, and 60+ locks. As George will explain, the river boats are purpose built; able to navigate the 1000+ bridges that span the rivers along the route from the Black Sea to the North Sea. George captured his adventure through photographs, and will share his stories and memories with a slide presentation.

See you at the General Membership Meeting June 17th!



### Willamette River Cruise: September 20 – 21

We will be going to the River Place Breakwater on the Willamette.

Because the Breakwater is open to the public we will not be having a Potluck.

If you want to leave the Club as a group, Honahlee will be getting underway Saturday at 0930 hours. On Sunday, if possible, let's all leave River Place at 1030 HRS to minimize bridge openings.

The Club has paid to reserve the Breakwater; however, I need to pre-pay the City for each boat. The charge per boat is \$20 which I will collect from you that weekend. Please do not use the pay station on the Breakwater.

To reserve your spot, please contact Ron Moran before September 15th

[ronmoran@gmail.com](mailto:ronmoran@gmail.com) or 503-807-3817

## Reciprocals

Tom & Cathy Nelson

As members begin making preparations for summer cruising in Oregon, Washington, and British Columbia waters, we thought it might be timely to review the use of our reciprocal clubs.

In the RCYC 2015 Yearbook, on pages 86 and 87, is a list of clubs with which we have reciprocity in Oregon, Washington, California, Hawaii, Alaska, and British Columbia. The clubs are listed by geographic area along with phone numbers and website. If you take your laptop, tablet, or smart phone along on your cruise you can log onto the club site you are interested in and find a great deal of information about that club. Clubs often list a map of their reciprocal dock, a calendar of events, and related links around the area.

Also, if you log onto our RCYC website and click on "reciprocals" (then "reciprocal members" and finally "reciprocal list") you will find a listing of all clubs (including RCYC) that are using a program called Yacht Destinations. There is considerable information on this site as well.

Just a reminder, if you are planning to use reciprocal clubs this summer be sure and fly the RCYC Burgee at their dock and also have your RCYC 2015 membership card to register with the reciprocal club.

If you find any discrepancies with the list that appears in the Yearbook please let us know so that we can make corrections for next year.

Tom and Cathy  
Nelson

Reciprocal Co-chairs



## Secretary's Notes

Matt Richard, Secretary

There are no new members to speak of this month, but I will happily report that the Board approved new Life Memberships at the May meeting. Congratulations to Bob and Leslie Philips, and also to Pat Adams!

Matt Richard

## Foghorn Copy Deadline: 18th of the Month

*Please send your titled articles and photos to ALL Foghorn volunteers listed below:*

**EDITORS:** Judy Oxborrow: [judy87807@centurylink.net](mailto:judy87807@centurylink.net)  
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Cathy Skach: [cathy.skach@gmail.com](mailto:cathy.skach@gmail.com)

**PHOTOGRAPHERS:** Hans Geerling, Yvonne Lamont & all Club Members.



## Vice Commodore's Report

Gary Whitney, Vice Commodore

We are fast approaching the beginning of summer. We have completed the Spring Work Parties and the moorage is looking good. One of the Vice Commodore's jobs is to keep track of hours worked. In recording the hours I find that some of our members give selflessly of their time and energies. We have over 1200 hours recorded, several with almost 30 hours, and a few members who have worked more than 40 hours. Many members who do not have a work hour requirement come to work parties or work tirelessly taking care of the moorage. Others do not record the hours that they work. What motivates our members to work beyond the 6 hours required each half of the year? I'm sure there are many answers to that question, but a few answers come to mind. Friendship and pride are two that stand out. When we come together at a work party, we meet old friends and new ones, and we toil together for a common goal. We are proud of the results of all that work, proud of the way our Club looks, and proud of the way our members come together to achieve a common goal. We make our Club what it is.

June 10th is the cutoff date to get your first-half work hours finished. Only a few members haven't recorded their six hours. By the time you read this, there will only be a few days left for you to complete your hours so that you will not be billed. If you are short, you should have heard from me by now.





### **DON'T FORGET!**

*The Rose City Youth Sailing Society's  
1ST ANNUAL SILENT AUCTION FUNDRAISER  
at the WALK 5 BBQ on MAY 30, 2015  
from 4:30 to 6:00 pm during Happy Hour*

*All the money raised goes to fund sailing lessons for children who are our sailors of the future. Up for auction are generous donations from RCYC members Tommy and Jeanne Becker, Alison Mazon, Marili Reilly & Wade Cornwell, Jan Dees, Nina Kramer, and Bob Gales, among others, as well as several local businesses. Terry & Kathie Annis are offering a WINE TASTING and RCYSS logo sweatshirts will be for sale.*

*We welcome all members to join us in supporting the effort to keep sailing alive and well for the generations to come in our community.*

*Gail O'Neill, RCYSS Auction Coordinator*

## **Wildlife-viewing options at the Club**



Most recently a few members were treated to a swarm of honeybees. Blue is a favorite color for honeybees, normally in the form of blue flowers. I guess the bees had to improvise as they flew over the club and decided that all of that bright blue canvass was fair game. Bees are quite docile while swarming and dock walkers got to ooh and ah and even touch the swarm. After watching the swarm for a while we decided that they really did need to be taken care of. Bees are important pollinators and it is best to try to 'take' the swarm. Since it was Saturday we did not think the Department of Agriculture would be available so we 'googled' honey bee swarms and came up with the Portland Urban Beekeepers, a local group with a hotline. Carl made the call and soon we had a beekeeper in his suit gathering up the swarm off of Don Ferrell's boat. The beekeeper had Carl finish capturing the swarm, explaining that the swarm would bed down for the night in the "hive" (the cardboard box with bee boards that he brought) and all Carl had to do was tape the box shut after dark and call the beekeeper to come collect the "hive." Carl, being the biologist that he is, made sure that every last bee was swept into the hive before taping it shut. If you ever find yourself with a swarm on your hands simply call the Portland Urban Beekeepers hotline at 503-444-8446 or check them out at <https://portlandurbanbeekeepers.org/>.

Pam and Carl Corey, Resident Members



**Bee Keeping at the Club**



**Snug as a bug in a Box!**

Did you know that Rose City YC is a cooperating group member of BoatUS? Because of this special arrangement, you get 50% off when you join the nation's largest association of recreational boat owners. You pay one-half of the regular BoatUS dues of \$30.00 – only \$15.00 a year! If you're already a BoatUS member, you can renew your membership at the low \$15.00 rate. For information about BoatUS benefits, check out their web site: [www.BoatUS.com](http://www.BoatUS.com).

BoatUS Membership benefits include:

- An effective lobby that fights unfair taxes, fees and government regulations that single out boat owners.
- Discounts on fuel, overnight slips or repairs at more than 600 marinas. Locally, Rocky Point Marina on Multnomah Channel offers fuel and repair discounts.
- Low cost, high protection boat insurance, including special programs for trailerable boats and PWCs.
- On-the-water towing, with your choice of service levels – from \$50 per incident (free with membership) up to unlimited service – provided by the nation's largest towing network, TowBoatUS.
- BoatUS Magazine – a full year's subscription is included with membership!

If you were thinking about joining and just didn't get around to it, now is the time. Membership applications are available in the Clubhouse, or contact me for more information. If you are renewing your BoatUS Membership, be sure to mention Rose City YC, and our Co-op group #GA84669Y to get the special \$15.00 rate.

This is not to be construed as an endorsement of BoatUS by Rose City YC or its officers. However, more than forty RCYC members have taken advantage of this Co-op group rate.

Alan Bergen

BoatUS Coordinator



## Moorage Matters

Loren Beach, Moorage Chair

Boats have started to depart for extended vacation absences and we have three new member boats temporarily using their slips. If you are going to be absent for a month or more please let me know when you are leaving and expecting to return.

There are no new slip assignments pending this month, but I know of several boats that are actively for sale, either through a broker or privately, so we could possibly have an opening to fill by mid summer.

The new gate drive motor is working a lot better than the old one and it took a lot of hours of work to get to this point. When transiting that gate opening, note that the closure delay time is shorter than it used to be.

**\*\*This month several members will be receiving a "final notice" by formal letter to bring their boat into compliance with the rule requiring current registration stickers. Those not doing so will have to remove their boat, and when and if they are in compliance again, will go onto the waiting list for a new slip.**

On a more cheerful note, Tuesday evening sailing has started up again. Just come down to the patio deck with your PFD at 6 pm on Tuesdays, and either pick up some crew or go out with another member. The purpose is to get out on the water and hopefully get in some sailing time.

Lower river levels will be a concern all this summer and fall. If you have web access, at home or aboard, check the Vancouver, WA river gauge. It seems to be about an hour different than our location, give or take. What with less river flow this year, we are already experiencing a three foot change from high to low tide.

<http://water.weather.gov/ahps2/hydrograph.php?wfo=pqr&gage=vapwl>

If you draw six feet or more, also be aware of the sand bar outside of Tomahawk Bay. It extends out toward the shipping channel a lot further than it used to.

I covered the bird nesting problem in a recent email, but it might be worth mentioning again. Keep the end of the boom covered to stop very small birds from nesting inside.

Fair winds,

Loren

## Opening Day



**FOGHORNA**   
ROSE CITY YACHT CLUB

3737 NE Marine Drive  
Portland, OR 97211  
503-282-2049

*RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED*