

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

July/August 2015



From the Helm

Karen Finch, Commodore

In case you haven't noticed, the river level is really low already and it's still early in the boating season. This means we need to be extra careful when (or if) we attempt to enter some of our favorite spots along the river during the upcoming Lazy Days cruise. It also means that the ramp leading to the club will be very steep so please be careful! Hopefully, our boats won't be touching bottom at the end of the summer!



On a related note, I want to give a shout out to Christian Steinbrecher, Alison Mazon and Jim Calnon for taking time out of their busy schedules to take a trip back to visit DSC (the dredge builder) and also see 2 operating Badger dredges. Thank you all for doing this for our club! Following the trip, the Dredge Acquisition Committee made a recommendation to the Board that we go forward with negotiating a contract with DSC. The Board approved this recommendation.

We have many social events scheduled for July and August. The 4th of July Land Cruise promises to be a fun-filled day that includes a swap meet, members displaying various crafts, an RC sailboat race and (of course) friends and food. Later in the month we have the Lazy Days cruise (my personal favorite and I'll have refrigeration this time). In August we have the Pirate's Cruise and the Walk I BBQ. So don't miss out...join us for fun times!



Secretary's Salutations

Matt Richard - Secretary

At the June General Meeting, Judy Oxborrow swore in new club members Beth Lebert and Paul Schoonover. Paul and Beth have been members of the Willamette

Sailing Club and the Hunter Sailors Association of Oregon. They enjoy sailing their Hunter 22 on many local waters. Welcome to the club Beth and Paul!

And just in time too! It's summer cruising season, and I'm looking forward to heading down river to enjoy the Lazy Days Cruise that starts on July 18th. Snuggler's Cove has been in my dreams all winter, and I look forward to dropping anchor (actually two anchors and a line to a stump) there once again, hiking the beaches of Lord and Walker Island and just generally being lazy, sitting easy in the cockpit watching eagles, ospreys and kingfishers soar.

I hope to see many new members on this year's Lazy Days Cruise. If you're indeed interested, Cruise Chairman Ron Moran will be giving a presentation at the club on the 4th of July Land Cruise of Snuggler's Cove and several more cruising destinations on the river that you won't want to miss.



Vice Commodore's Report

Gary Whitney, Vice Commodore

The first half of the year and its work parties are over. One of the jobs of the Vice Commodore is to keep track of our work hours, work with members who have not completed their work hours and resolve any shortages. More on that later, but first here are some statistics. RCYC members have put in over 1,340 work hours in the first half of this year. This breaks down to 8.07 hours per member family.

That is not the whole story. There are 40 member families that are life members and are exempt from work hours. These exempt members have put in 89.5 work hours for an average of 2.23 hours each. That is the RCYC spirit -- lend a hand, even if you are not required to do so. When we factor out the hours of the exempt members, the average hours worked by RCYC members goes up to 9.92 per member family. It should be noted that an "inactive" member has recorded a number of work hours (24 hours!), and he is exempt.

There are many reasons that a member family cannot fulfill their work hours responsibility. Waivers and deferments for health or other reasons may be granted by a vote of the Board of Directors. The key here is to not wait until the last moment to call Rick Samuels [503-799-4255] and ask what you can do to get your hours .

Our first fall work party is scheduled for Saturday, July 18th followed by Saturday, September 12th. If you have had a hard time getting in your hours in the first half of the year, mark your calendar, get to one of the first work parties and get your obligation out of the way. If you are really pressed for time, consider signing up for one of the chair positions or Clubhouse cleaning which will allow for a flexible schedule.

The Invaders Are Here!

The bank from the parking lot leading down to the docks is looking more like a jungle every day. Actually it is now covered almost entirely with invasive species, a.k.a. Noxious Weeds, defined by the State of Oregon as a plant that has the potential to cause severe negative impact to Oregon's agricultural economy and natural resources; or that endangers native flora and fauna by its encroachment in the forest, range and conservation areas.

With the help of multiple conservation organizations including the Columbia River Land Trust, The Audubon Society (Backyard Habitat program) and the East Multnomah Soil and Water Conservation District, we are undertaking the process of doing a thorough assessment of the noxious weeds on the bank and researching safe, environmentally sound options for removing them and preventing their re-growth.

If you are interested in participating or helping out, please contact Melissa Bearn - melissa@melissabearns.com

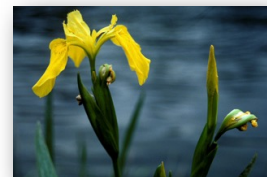
From the Rear

Ethan VanMatre - Rear Commodore

Cruising season is in full swing. The 4th land cruise and The Down River Cruise (Lazy Days) will soon be upon us. The Pirate's Breakfast falls not long afterward. Mark your calendars for Aug 7th through 9th and come to Schwitter Landing for Pirates Breakfast. The dock is still broken, but there is plenty of room on the inside finger. Perhaps, it is time to put a 4" x 4" across the gap and see who can walk the plank.

OpenCPN ([http:// http://opencpn.org/ocpn/](http://http://opencpn.org/ocpn/)) is a full featured Open Source (read free) chart plotter program that runs on PC, Mac, Linux and soon Android. It is often used by world cruisers as their primary chart plotter. For the July General Meeting program, I will be taking a PC and loading OpenCPN on it and going through a few setup options so that you can get a head start with it. I've been working through the OpenCPN manual and discovering just how very capable it is.

Sometime in August, the Commodore will appoint the Nominating Committee that I will be chairing (See By-Laws Art. XI.1). Our task will be to identify and nominate members to fill the open positions on the Board of Directors for the coming year and nominate a slate of officers for 2016. I encourage any active or life member with an interest in serving on the Board to give me a call or email. I will get your name on the list to be considered by the



The innocent looking Yellow Flag Iris, growing on the bank about halfway down the west ramp just above the high water line, is on the Multnomah County Early Detection Rapid Response list for highly noxious plants.



Moorage Matters

by Loren Beach

There are no changes in moorage assignments for this month; but, we do have several new members using temporary slips. The waiting list is growing again as more new members are sworn in. I still have folks looking for space on the dinghy docks for their small boat or kayak. If you have a small boat that you are not using this summer, please take it home.

I get reports of cleats on the concrete finger docks being loose. If you have one that needs tightening, you can do this with an end wrench. If the nut is bottoming out on the shoulder of the bolt and the cleat is still loose, put some washers under the nut. There should be some galvanized washers in the shop.

Winds have been gusting to mid and upper 20's this week in the evening. Check your lines for chafe and fenders for wear.

Our propane BBQs on the patio are in the news. Just recently someone left the tank valve on and also the burner on! Escaping gas was noticed around the clubhouse. This is a serious violation of "common sense". If you or any group you are with is finished up using BBQ, turn Off The Gas Supply Valve!

The Tuesday evening sailing is going well. We enjoyed good winds recently after getting off to a slow start with several no wind weeks. Still the same protocol — meet at the patio deck at 6 pm, dressed for the weather and wearing your PFD.



New club members Beth Lebert and Paul Schoonover. They enjoy sailing their Hunter 22 on many local waters.

The Dredge and Sand by Mike Oxbarrow

Sure has been a lot of talk around the club lately about our little problem of dealing with the sand that accumulates under our boats. The absolute necessity of an on-going dredging program is a "no brainer". The club recently put things in motion to acquire a replacement for our venerable old dredge, the J. Randall. Many of us can hardly wait for the delivery of a brand new Badger 8" dredge so we can get our hands on it. Man, the sand should fly this winter!

Maybe I was subconsciously thinking of our Club's problem with too much sand the other day while listening to XM satellite radio (channel 5 - the 50's). I heard an old song that just lodged in my brain and got me to thinking. You know, that weird place where your mind just sort of takes off on its own and makes connections that you wouldn't ordinarily conceive of. The old song I heard was "Mr. Sandman" - Written by Pat Ballard in 1954 and recorded by Vaughn Monroe, and more famously by The Chordettes. (You can find it easily on YouTube.) So, hmmm, sand, dredging, catchy song - hmmm, I wonder...The result was an idea - maybe some new lyrics could be written to adapt the old song.

What I came up with - which should be considered as a "Work in Progress" - are some new lyrics for the old song "Mr. Sandman", adopted for our club's dredging operation. My creative efforts are hereby submitted for your amusement and consideration:

RCYC's Mr. Sandman - version 1.1
(to the tune of the original Mr. Sandman)

Mr. Sandman, Please take our sand
Take it away from our submerged land
Down the river, sand comes every day
Please Mr. Sandman, just take it away!

Mr. Sandman, Please take our sand
We'll even pay Div o' State Lands
They charge a fee and that is no joke
With too much sand our boats do not float

(Chorus)
Sandman When water is low
With too much sand, our boats do not go
Please turn on your magic beam
Mr. Sandman please dredge us clean

Mr. Sandman, Please do your thing
Pick up our sand and give it a fling
Up to the pond then haul it away
dredging the sand, will sure make our day!

Repeat: chorus

FINANCIAL MATTERS

Please don't panic when you receive your billings this quarter. Remember in April, the membership voted to increase the loan fund by \$47.00 per quarter for all Active and Active Life members and by \$23.50 for all Inactive Members. This increase in funds was necessary in order to support a loan to purchase a new dredge. For most members, billings should consist of seven or eight line item entries: Membership Dues, Capital Improvement, Activities Fee, Dredging Fee, Loan Fund, Moorage, Electricity and/or Ice. If you have questions about your billing, please call Judy Oxborrow at (503) 652-1549 or e-mail her at judy87807@centurylink.net. If you were billed for work hours and feel that billing is in error, please contact the keeper of the work hour records, Vice Commodore Gary Whitney at (360) 253-2427 or e-mail ka_sl28@ymail.com

As a service to our members, the Club has provided for the purchase of ice on-site at minimal cost. Members are required to sign for the ice and indicate number of bags taken. If you are using the ice for a club function such as a BBQ, then please sign the function name, not your name. If you are having sailing/racing crew pick up ice for your boat, please have them sign your name – not theirs. If you are having a private party and a family member or guest gets ice, please have them sign your name – not theirs. If you hand writing legibility could be questionable, please PRINT!! This quarter there were a significant number of illegible entries and entries that could not be matched with a membership.

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

Alan Bergen: alan-at-home@comcast.net

Joyce Jensen: joyceandbrad@msn.com

Janice Choy-Weber: choymozart@gmail.com

Graphics

Vickie Nissen: vnissen@frontier.com

Robert Phillips: rlphillips@web-ster.com

Rhonda Boguslawski: rhondalmb@netzero.net

Cathy Skach: cathy.skach@gmail.com

Photographers: Hans Geerling and all club members

RCYC Upcoming Events, Meetings and Functions

July

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

August

- 1 Private Party , 1:00 p.m.
- 3 Knauti Knitters, 10:00 a.m.
- 7-9 Pirates Cruise [Schwitter Landing]
- 10 RCYC Board Meeting, 7:00 p.m.
- 12 OWSA General Meeting, 5:30 pm
- 15 Private Party - , Noon
- 17 Knauti Knitters, 10:00 a.m.
- 18 Foghorn Deadline
- 22 Walk #1 BBQ 5:00 p.m.

September

- 4-7 Labor Day Cruise [Beacon Rock]
- 7 Knauti Knitters, 10:00 am
- 9 OWSA General Meeting, 5:30 p.m.
- 12 Work Party #6, 9:00 a.m.
- 12-13 Long Distance Race
- 14 RCYC Board Meeting, 7:00 p.m.
- 16 RCYC General Meeting, 7:00 p.m.
- 17 Knauti Knitters, 10:00 a.m.
- 18 Foghorn Deadline
- 19-20 River Place Cruise
- 21 Knauti Knitters, 10:00 a.m.
- 26 Work Party #7, 9:00 a.m.
- 26 Walk #2 BBQ, 5:00 p.m.

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.

The Book Corner *by guest editor, Judy Oxborrow*

Our guest columnist this month is Judy Oxborrow. I want to encourage all members to think about being a guest columnist as it gives great variety to the book column.

E-Reader Paradise for Summer Cruises

Years ago, our boat got the nickname “The Bookmobile” because we always had books aboard for reading while on summer cruises. We judged the length of our cruising by the books in the duffle bag we packed. When I had read all the books, we knew it was time to come home. E-Readers and tablets have blown that idea totally out of the water!! However, for your Lazy Days cruising, here are some great sailing e-books that might prove tempting.

First, try books by P.J.Alderman. She has two mysteries set on the Columbia River and in the Astoria area – “A Killing Tide” and “Phantom River.” Both plots center around the operation of the Columbia River Bar Pilots and US Coast Guard.

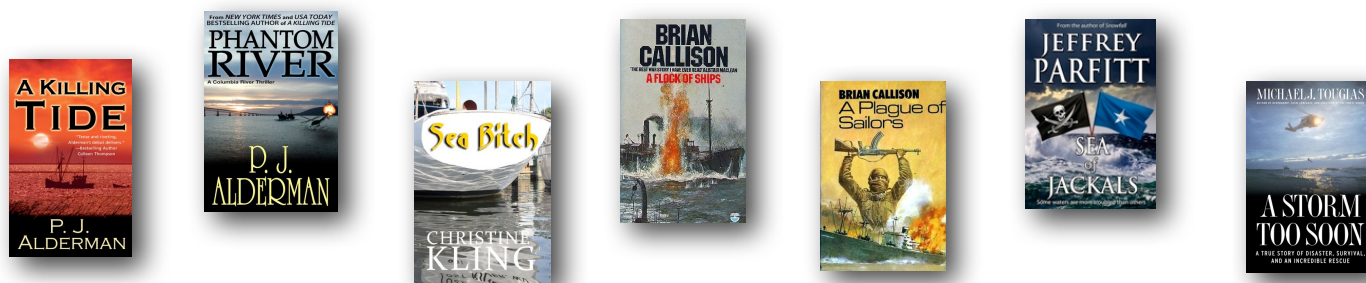
Just going into the Kindle section of Amazon and searching for Nautical Fiction brings up a number of nautical reads. One I just downloaded was “Sea Bitch: Four Tales of Nautical Noir” by Christine Kling. The tales feature deadly, dangerous women and boats. Her heroine, Seychelle Sullivan, has been touted as a worthy successor to John McDonald’s hero, Travis McGee. She has a number of nautical reads published (“Cross Current, Bitter, End Wreckers Key, Circle of Bones, and Dragon’s Triangle”) and I am slowly working my way through them all.

Another great author to read is Brian Callison. He is a former Merchant Marine and British military officer, so his books have a decidedly British flair and most are set around his merchant marine service. Some of them are: “A Flock of Ships, Trapp’s War, A Plague of Sailors, The Trojan Hearse, Ferry Down, A Thunder of Crude”, etc. There is a whole series with Trapp in the title and featuring his character Captain Edward Trapp, who is described as being unapologetically amoral and frequent Captain of decrepit ships and questionable crews.

If you want more current nautical fiction, consider the works of Jeffrey Parfitt. This author was born in 1959 and ran away to sea at age 16. At age 30, he became an investigator for London Customs for six years. Then he went back to sea as the Captain of a dive boat. His books (“Sea of Jackals, Blood Alley, Snowfall, and Shadow of Fear”) all have modern day themes.

Then there are the true stories of disaster and survival at sea. In January, our meeting featured Coast Guard Commander Nevada Smith who was involved in search and rescue operations after tropical storm Andrea in 2007. Those operations were featured in a book titled “A Storm Too Soon” by Michael J. Tougias. This same author has a number of books – “Rescue of the Bounty: Disaster and Survival in Superstorm Sandy; The Finest Hours: The True Story of the Coast Guard’s Most Daring Sea Rescue; Ten Hours Until Dawn: The True Story of Heroism and Tragedy About the Can Do; Overboard! A True Blue Water Odyssey of Disaster and Survival; Fatal Forecast: An Incredible True Tale of Disaster and Survival at Sea.”

So regardless of the genre you want to read, an E-Reader or tablet means no more book bags (less weight on the boat) and hopefully longer cruises. Most of the ones I have downloaded have been free or under \$3. And, e-readers have their own lighting, so you don’t need the cabin lights on late at night draining power and this makes for a happier Captain too!





What a great fundraiser! Thank you Walk Five for hosting such a great fundraiser. Thank you to all the members for all the donations you gave. Thank you to all the other RCYC members that donated time and money. You truly are the best!

Please check out some great photos and videos at www.willamettesailingclub.com, Columbia Gorge Racing Association www.cgra.org, and Vancouver Lake Sailing Club www.vlsc.org. The dock at McCuddy's is going well. You may have seen some of the boats out on Tuesdays and Thursdays. So very fun! Contact Willamette Sailing Club, David Valentine - Club Manager wscclubmanager@gmail.com Telephone: (503) 246-5345 to become part of this great group. The 29ers have been out; now watch for new fleets to emerge, such as Optimist, Lasers, and possibly the RS Feva. Moorage will be available to adults with Lasers as well.

RCYSS has discounted rates, reimburses up to 80%, and supports our local schools. For the latest classes and fees, go to the local schools web sites (VLSC, WSC). Fill out the RCYSS application found on the brochure, and email it to me. It is on our web site.

Please encourage children to learn this great skill and become a part of a supportive sailing community.

Pam Sesar



Are you still getting a hardcopy of the Foghorn by mail? You can save time and money by getting the electronic version delivered immediately in full high definition color the moment that it is posted. Over the past five years we have been able to save the club money by reducing the number of print copies from 125 per edition to our current list of 65 copies per edition. This saves the club over \$ 1.00 each month per copy. Join others in promoting this green practice.

The Cruising Corner *by Ron Moran*

The down river cruise, *Lazy Days*, is coming up the end of this month. For those of you that are new members in the club this is one of the most popular cruises the club has. It is scheduled as a one week cruise down the Columbia to Astoria and back. Some members don't think one week is long enough and stretch it out to two weeks.

The dates and locations are listed elsewhere in the Foghorn and will be posted at the club. Please keep in mind the location are just suggestions. Some members just go to the places listed; others may skip a location and go to another spot. Whatever you do, let's all try meet at Cathlamet for the potluck on Thursday.

If you have not been to some or all the places listed, check out the information on page 57 & 58 of the current RCYC Yearbook. Also the following will be helpful.

Martin Island – Don't cut too close to the bottom end of the island and stay close to the Washington shore when first entering the channel between the island and Washington shore. Just inside the channel there is a small sand bar coming out from the Washington side so stay a little right of the channel center. Once in the channel stay toward the center. **DO NOT** get close to the Highway side of the channel at the upper end it's sanded in. After you make the turn to the right, stay closer to the east side of center and away from the top end of the island until you are at the opening into the pond. Again, stay toward the center of the opening. Once in the pond the depth is consistent. Logs were stored in the pond for many years so there are many sunken logs and cables on the bottom so use a trip line on your anchor.

Walker Island – The recommended way to get in is to go around the lower end of Walker and come back up the channel between Walker and the Oregon shore. Stay in the center of the channel; there are many old pilings next to shore.

Cathlamet – If you know the way or follow someone that does, you can come in the upper end following the channel between Puget Island and the Washington shore. If not, then follow the main channel around Puget and come up to the entrance to the marina from the down river side. Don't cut the corners when entering Elochoman Slough from the river, stay in the center. When making the turn into the marina, don't go much past the entrance and stay a little right of center until you are inside. If this is your first time at Cathlamet, it's a short walk to a grocery store. At the marina, you will find good tasting water and there is fuel that is not over priced.

The trip to **Astoria** can be as smooth as glass or very rough so make sure your boat is ready for whatever condition you may face.

SAFETY: There is a lot of ship/tug/barge traffic in the lower river so keep a good watch-- not just in front, but also behind. And, please wear your PFD's.

As always if you have any questions, please contact your Cruising Chair, Ron Moran, at ronmoran@gmail.com or 503-807-3817.



Lazy Days Cruise July 19 - 27



Saturday 19 - Martin Island
Sunday 20 - Behind Walker Island
Monday 21 - Cathlamet
Tuesday 22 - Astoria West Basin
Wednesday 23 - Lay Day - Astoria
Thursday 24 - Cathlamet – Potluck
Friday 25 - Walker Island
Saturday 26 - Martin Island
Sunday 27 - R.C.Y.C.

Some members can't take a full week
and others may take two.

Whatever your plans are, let's all try and meet in
Cathlamet on Thursday the 24th for the potluck –
Happy Hour @ 1700; Potluck @ 1800.

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



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

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED