

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

September 2015



### From the Helm

*Karen Finch, Commodore*

Hello everyone. I thought it best to include an email sent out by the Board as my September Foghorn article. I believe it is important that everyone have a chance to read and understand why the Board decided the way it did.

#### [Everyone-at-rcyc] An Important Message From Your Board sent out August 14, 2015

There has been a great deal of discussion going on between some RCYC members related to the Board's decision in July to grant an exception to our moorage rules. The purpose of this email is to explain to the entire membership what happened and why.

#### What happened?

At the July 2015 Board Meeting, member Louise Redding came before the Board to request an exception to Moorage Rule A.1.n. which outlines RCYC policy with regard to privately owned slips and boathouses. Louise informed the Board that she has relocated to Arizona and is no longer able to make the long trip between her home in Arizona and RCYC. She also stated that she has sold her boat and requested that the Board approve an exception to the moorage rules that would allow her to sell her boathouse to a current RCYC member. Don Belshaw, the proposed buyer of Louise's boathouse, was also present at the meeting. After receiving input from those in attendance, including several Past Commodores, the question was put to a vote. The Board unanimously agreed to allow this exception. One Board member was absent.

#### Why did the Board make this decision?

The Board was presented with a request from a member for an exception. We listened to the in-depth discussion of the issue, which was predominantly in favor of granting this exception, and made our decision based on what we thought was in the best interest of the Club as a whole given the circumstances in this case. We considered the fact that Louise now lives far away and cannot continue to maintain the boathouse. Since her boat has been sold, the Board felt it was likely that the boathouse would sit empty for quite some time before a buyer willing to remove the boathouse could be found. The fear was that the condition of the boathouse would deteriorate. Don will continue to maintain the boathouse in good condition. The Board considered that this is a small, well maintained boathouse and transfer to Don, who currently moors his boat in a separate slip, is revenue neutral for the Club. Since this boathouse was not owned by Don back

*From the Helm continued on page 2*

## Fourth of July BBQ • Lazy Days • Pirates' Cruise



when Moorage Rule A.1.n. was written, all parties agreed that the rights of survivorship outlined in that rule do not apply. Thus, the amount of time this particular boathouse will remain in our moorage is limited. None of the current Board members were actively involved in the controversy that surrounded private slips and boathouses nine years ago (back in 2006). We were unaware of the level of controversy this exception would raise. Like most past Boards, this Board has made other exceptions to moorage rules. In our experience, this has always been done after careful consideration of all factors. The granting of this exception was no different.

#### **What feedback has the Board received so far?**

**You made the right, compassionate decision** –The Board has always examined member requests for exceptions to rules on a case-by-case basis, examining all factors and deciding what is best for the Club. We are a Club of people and realize that life doesn't always fit within established boundaries. We hope all future Boards will always consider member circumstances before enforcing rules.

**The Board had no right to make this decision** – In fact, the Board does have the right to grant exceptions to Club rules. Per Article VI, Section 1(a), "It shall be the duty of the Board of Directors to manage the affairs of the Club..." Both the Club attorney and Past Commodores agree the decision was within the purview of the Board as tasked in the By-Laws.

**No advance notice was given to the membership that this issue would be considered** – Commodore Karen Finch admits that she failed to send out the Board agenda in a timely manner and with a description adequate to communicate to members that this topic would be discussed. She deeply regrets this error.

**We're glad you made an exception to the rule** – Any member experiencing difficulties with established rules should feel able to come to the Board to seek advice and help. The important part is seeking Board approval before taking actions that are contrary to established rules. That is exactly what Louise and Don did in this case.

**This was an inside job; the Board showed favoritism** – This Board had no intention of deceiving the membership. We did not understand the emotions bound up in the transfer of boathouses. The Board acted in good faith and in full and fair consideration based on the overwhelming testimony in support of the exception. The Board further stipulated that this exception should not set a precedent and that any future like requests would need to stand on their own merits. It is our hope that when future RCYC Boards are

presented with member requests for exceptions, they will always consider circumstances before enforcing rules. There was no favoritism shown to these members. Any member in good standing with the Club would receive the same consideration.

**Timing was poor. This decision was made during a time when many members were out cruising** – Again, if the Board had understood the depth of controversy this issue would raise, we would have better informed the membership before discussing the issue. However, any Board Meeting throughout the year should be open to discussion of issues facing the Club.

**This opens the door for others to request to purchase existing boathouses** – Members always have the right to petition the Board for exception to rules. The Board must review each situation and make a decision that is in the best interest of the Club. The Board is well within its rights to make such decisions provided a change to By-laws is not required. As stated above, in this situation, the Board further stipulated that this exception should not set a precedent and that any future like requests would need to stand on their own merits.

**What can or should be done now?** – At its August meeting, the Board received further input from one member concerned about the Board's July decision. The request made was that the Board reconsider its decision as was done back in February, 2006. The difference in this case is that unlike the 2006 incident where the Club itself owned the boathouse, this boathouse is owned by a private party. The reversal of the decision back in 2006 had a financial impact on the Club itself, but not on any individual member. This decision does impact individual members. Contracts were made based on the Board's decision. After extensive discussion, the authority of the Board, and consideration of the equities of the parties and input from the floor, the Board decided unanimously not to reconsider its action.

The Board has been discussing other changes that might be made to prevent a situation like this in the future. One option discussed is to change the Moorage Rules by moving rule A.1.n. to section A.3. Private Slips and Boathouses. Since rule A.1.n specifically address private slips and boathouses, it is less confusing to include this rule in section A.3. Other options include proposing a change to RCYC By-Laws. The change in By-Laws could outline what types of decisions would require notice to and input and/or vote from the membership. Another recommendation is the Board plans to discuss exception to any Club rule be put on the agenda with more detail and that the agenda go to all members via email on the Friday before the Board Meeting.



Finally, we cannot emphasize enough the fact that there was no conspiracy on the part of the Board in this situation. We did the best we could and feel we made the right decision in this case.

Respectfully Submitted by your  
2015 RCYC Board,

*Karen Finch, Commodore*

*Ethan VanMatre, Rear Commodore*

*Gary Whitney, Vice Commodore*

*Matt Richard, Secretary*

*Mark Basel, Director*

*Karen Billion, Director*

*Doug McClary, Director*

*Richard Pickwick, Director*

*Kevin Robertson, Director*

## OpenCPN

*Craig Cordon, RCYC Education*

Rear Commodore Ethan VanMatre gave a presentation on the OpenCPN navigation software program to the membership at the July General Meeting.

OpenCPN is a free software program that allows anyone with a PC to have access to a variety of charts, worldwide, including NOAA raster, vector, BSB versions 1, 2, and 3, BSB version 4, nv-charts, NOS/GEO version 1, S57 ENC, CM93 version 2, S63 Encrypted ENC charts from a number of chart manufacturers.

The program also features NMEA filtering. Connecting NMEA GPS data turns the program into a fully functional chartplotter. GPS can connect either via USB (GPS puck), or an NMEA serial line. The serial port can be internal to the PC. If not, a serial adaptor can connect via USB.

OpenCPN includes a provision for user inserted checkpoints or waypoints. In addition to NMEA filtering, via USB, it can accommodate such plug-ins as radar, AIS, and weather.

The program website is [opencpn.org](http://opencpn.org). The download is only 28 megabytes. OpenCPN is free and maintained by volunteers. It runs on Linux and Windows.

## Fourth of July BBQ



## Chores for Diesel Boat Owners

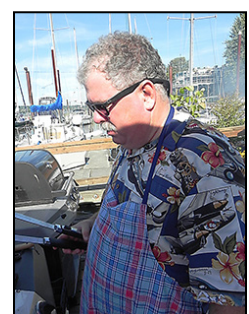
*Reprinted from BoatUS*

They are the lasting workhorse of many a cruising or sailing vessel, the inboard diesel engine. Some say they have a reputation for being finicky while others swear by their never-ending reliability. Either side you choose, there are two common chores that the owners of diesel engine boats need to be able to easily perform. Changing a diesel fuel filter and bleeding the fuel line of air are topics shown in two new helpful "how-to" videos by **BoatUS Magazine**. They can be found at:

- How to Change a Fuel Filter on a Marine Diesel: <https://goo.gl/IC6pz0>
- How to Bleed a Marine Diesel Engine: <https://goo.gl/9P8bdq>

"Bleeding a diesel engine of air is a misunderstood 'black art,'" said BoatUS Magazine Associate Editor Mark Corke, "But it's very easy to learn when we show you how to do it." The videos are part of the magazine's Practical Boater series that offers skills building, techniques, and best practices to get the most out of boating.

*Alan Bergen, BoatUS Coordinator*







## Secretary's Notes

Matt Richard, Secretary

Welcome back from your summer adventures! We had ours on the Lazy Days Cruise. Laura and I did make it to that favorite spot I mentioned last time, Snuggler's Cove. (Some call it "Smuggler's Cove"; or just "the Cove")



**In member news:** I am sad to say that long time member Dick Hewitt passed away. From the sidelines over the years, I knew him to be a very knowledgeable boater, friendly, and helpful to all. May our thoughts and prayers be with Sally.

Kathie Kneeland had successful knee replacement surgery and is recovering well, and of this writing the word is that Jan Dees went in for hip replacement on August 19th, thankfully, probably well planned, as this is after her summer cruise where she also made it to the Cove.

I am happy to report we have new members that joined at the July General Meeting. Lynn Easton swore in new members **Pat and Fran O'Bryant**. Pat and Fran have over 40 years of sailing experience that started with Pat as a teenager building *El Toros* with his dad. Pat and Fran's first boat together was a Flattie that they sailed in Astoria, and now presently have an Ericson 32 named *Cepheron*. Fran was the very convincing "Queen of Hearts" at our Ladies Dinner in April.



Lynn also swore in new members **Mike and Tiffany Levesque**. They have many years of boating experience, both pleasure and professional, and are excited about being new to sailing with plans that include the Sea of Cortez in the future. Mike and Tiffany have an O'Day 27 named *Symbion*.



*Welcome to RCYC!*





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## From the Rear

*Ethan VanMatre, Rear Commodore*

As my term of office starts to wind down I have only a few official duties to the Club left to do. Perhaps the most important is to chair the Nominating Committee. The Nominating Committee is charged by the bylaws (Article XI) to recommend to the membership a slate of members for election at the October General Meeting. This year the committee will recommend members to fill the Secretary position and four open directors' positions. Of course, members may put other names on the slate in good standing at the October meeting. This duty is very important as that it sets the stage for the coming year's Board of Directors.

Scratching on the back of a napkin it appears that fully 50% of our members have joined the Club in the 16-year period between 1999 and 2014. Indeed 46 members joined in the five years between 2010 and 2014, almost a quarter! Another quarter joined in the 10 years between 2000 and 2009. Of course, as we go back in time the number of members from each year decreases. This is normal as members drop out for a plethora of reasons.

It has always been my duty as an officer and board member to act in the best interests of all of the members of the Club. This is true for a member who joined in 2015 and equally true for a member who joined in 1948 (go Wade!). And that brings me back to the Nominating Committee.

If you are contacted to serve on the Nomination Committee by our Commodore, I urge you to accept. We need the pool of prospective members at large to select the best candidates to recommend to the membership for election to the Board of Directors. If the Nominating Committee contacts you to run for election to the Board of Directors, please understand that you are the Best of the Best of the Best of the Best (ok, ok too much flattery) and that you have a chance to help set the direction of the Club for the future.

## The Cruising Corner

The Willamette River Cruise to River Place is coming up on September 19-20. There is a \$20 charge per boat for this cruise payable to Ron Moran. I will collect the money from you Saturday the 19th at the dock.

The Breakwater is under the control of Portland Parks. The Club has reserved most of it for Saturday noon until Sunday noon. The Club has also paid the reservation fee, and I need to pre-pay, by September 16th, for each boat that is going. So, if you want to go, you must let me know by September 16th. Any cancellations after the 16th will still have to pay. If you cancel before the 16th you will not be charged.

If your mast height requires opening of the upper deck of the Steel Bridge, it will be up to you to give them the 2-hour notice required for weekend openings.

If you want to travel as a group, let's leave the Club at 0930 HRS on Saturday. On Sunday, if possible, let's leave River Place at 1030 HRS to minimize bridge openings.

*Ron Moran, Cruising Chair*

503-806-3817, [ronmoran@gmail.com](mailto:ronmoran@gmail.com)

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## Lazy Days

### Hot Days on the River with a Beer Happy Hour in Cathlamet











# Yo-Ho! There be PIRATES at Schwitter Landing!







# Moorage Matters

Loren Beach, Moorage Chair

We have recently filled several openings created by members leaving to go cruising. As a result, there are several new members using temporary slips.

The Tuesday evening "sailing-for-fun" program continues, but the hot weather has somewhat reduced participation.

I (literally) hear about clanging halyards around the moorage; if yours are not tied off away from the mast, please do this.

Hope you are enjoying your summer boating, and please continue to wear your PFD when you get under way.

Updated moorage lists are posted on the corkboard in the west end hallway of the Clubhouse.



Tristan Bittner



Nicola Bittner



Tanner Weber and Cathy Skach



Judy Brandon and Debbie Salituro



Andy and Rebecca Volesky



Mermaid Madison



Jim and Karen







CJ and Roxana with her parents, Hugo and Bertha

Ethan just can't get enough boat work.







## Vice Commodore's Report

Gary Whitney, Vice Commodore

As summer draws to a close, we all start to think about next year. RCYC depends on lots of volunteers to get everything done. So if you feel the call, let Ethan VanMatre, or myself, know if you are interested in participating as a committee chair. We have several opportunities available, including Photographer, Long Range Planning, and Insurance liaison.

Fall work parties are scheduled for September 12th and 26th, and October 10th and 24th. Rick Samuels, our Work Party Chair, will be glad to help you find a way to earn your work hours. The fall calendar is full of options. In addition to work parties, there are three more cruises before the end of the year: Beacon Rock, River Place and, Bartlett Landing. The Long Distance Race is September 12th and 13th, and the Old Salts Dinner is October 17th.

There is still a third of the year left, so keep on boating and stay active at RCYC. And, there is yet much to do before the next Soup & Sail.

## NAUTICAL READS - HISTORICAL FICTION

By Bill and Nina Kramer

Books are just one of the things I read. I also read several sailing blogs. They are a great way to get ideas and to go cruising vicariously. Here are some of the blogs I follow. Check them out and you may find some you also want to follow.

***Twice in a Lifetime*** is from a family that is currently sailing the Magellan Straits. They started from Kodiak Alaska and have been sailing the Pacific for about seven years with two children. Summer is too easy so they are sailing around the Horn in the winter. They make me want to go cruising. <http://thelifegalactic.blogspot.com/>

***Sailing Totem***. They started from Bainbridge Island and now they are in the Indian Ocean. They have just left the Seychelles. This family has three children and they are having a great adventure. <http://www.sailingtotem.com/>

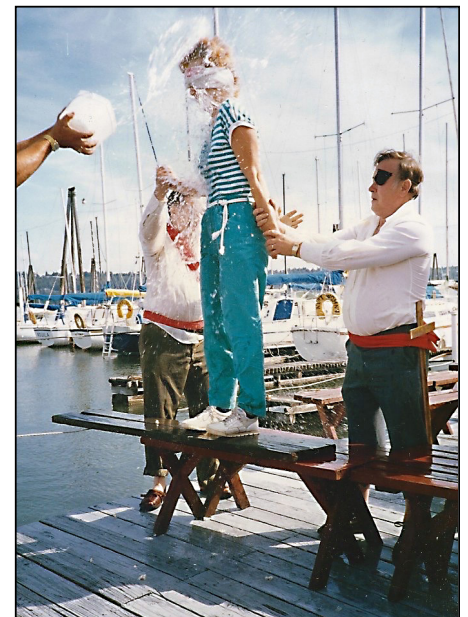
***The Cynical Sailor and His Salty Sidekick***. This is the blog of the sister of a library coworker. She has sailed New Zealand, Scotland, the Bahamas, and land cruised Florida. It's a fun look at coastal sailing in interesting places. <http://thecynicalsailor.blogspot.com/>

***The Boat Galley***. Hey, we all like to eat so why not find out how to do it better? <http://theboatgalley.com/>

*Nautical Reads continued on page 11*



**1986 Pirates' Cruise:** Joyce Jensen being "initiated" with pancake batter! Joyce had to go wandering about people she didn't know with pancake batter all over her! Aren't we glad the initiation events have been changed to something fun.





**David Burch Navigation Blog.** If you are going to go sailing you should know about weather. David's blog will keep you informed. <http://davidburchnavigation.blogspot.com/>

**Sunstone Sailing.** These guys get the Mike Godsil serious cruiser award. Lots of voyaging information, and they sail a wooden boat. <http://www.sunstonesailing.com/>

**Velic.** Follow RCYC's Randy and Ruth Webster. They are just starting a wonderful voyage. Give them your support. <https://velicblog.wordpress.com/>

**GypsyKramer.** Follow the ongoing saga of Gypsy as she gets transformed in Tom Becker's shop. You can watch the process of a Cascade 36 getting a complete refurbishment. Once this is done there will be a voyaging part too. <https://gypsykramer.wordpress.com/>

## RCYC UPCOMING Events, Meetings, and Functions:

### September

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

### October

- 2-4 Bartlett Landing Cruise
- 5 Knauti Knitters, 10:00 am
- 10 Work Party # 8, 9:00 AM
- 12 RCYC Board Meeting, 7:00 pm
- 14 OWSA General Meeting, 5:30 pm
- 17 Old Salts Dinner
- 18 Foghorn Deadline
- 19 Knauti Knitters, 10:00 am
- 21 RCYC General Meeting, 7:00 pm
- 24 Work Party # 9, 9:00 AM [last one for 2015]

• 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).



**Rose City  
Youth Sailing  
Society**

Rose City Youth Sailing Society  
3737 NE Marine Drive, Portland, OR 97211

**Rose City Youth Sailing Society supported local sailing schools and individual children this year.** What a great summer. But sailing doesn't end with cooler temperatures. Willamette Sailing Club has programs all year and supports the local high school teams. The Columbia River site has sailing for the advanced sailors, and if you haven't seen the sailors out on the water it is amazing to watch. If you ever need a pick-me-up, go watch our young learn to sail. The following are responses from some of our young:

*"Sailing is a ton of fun. My parents own a Catalina 30, and sailing that is pretty fun. However, I really enjoy dinghy sailing. My favorite is sailing Lasers. I like sailing Lasers because they are high performance, and a one-seater so I have full control!"*

*"I feel that sailing Lasers are a ton of fun. It's a one-person boat and you have full control over the boat. If anyone is looking for a good sailing lesson I recommend the Laser because it is fast, agile, and just overall fun!"*

*"My name is . . . and I am 12 years old. I'm a good student and I love sports. I play lacrosse, football, basketball, and I ski. For the past 2 summers, I've enrolled in summer sailing camp. My mom lost her job last summer so it's been hard. I didn't think I'd be able to take summer sailing camp again this summer. But my mother realizes how important the camp is to me. To me, sailing represents freedom. When I'm on the water, all I think about is the wind, sail position, and my best friend . . . (who was on the boat with me). I know it sounds corny, but literally, my worries float downstream. Being on the river is my escape. I feel at peace when I'm on the river".*

Please remember us in your donations. And, please don't hesitate to contact me, ever!

Pam Sesar



### 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)

Alan Bergen: [alan-at-home@comcast.net](mailto:alan-at-home@comcast.net)

Joyce Jensen: [joyceandbrad@msn.com](mailto:joyceandbrad@msn.com)

Janice Choy-Weber: [choymozart@gmail.com](mailto:choymozart@gmail.com)

GRAPHICS: Vickie Nissen: [vknissen@frontier.com](mailto:vknissen@frontier.com)

Robert Phillips: [rlphillips@web-ster.com](mailto:rlphillips@web-ster.com)

Rhonda Boguslawski: [rhondalmb@netzero.net](mailto:rhondalmb@netzero.net)

Cathy Skach: [cathy.skach@gmail.com](mailto:cathy.skach@gmail.com)

PHOTOGRAPHERS: Hans Geerling, and all Club Members.





*Picked blackberries at the Pirates' Cruise? Still picking blackberries, well here is a recipe you may like thanks to Cathy Skach.*

**BLACKBERRY VINAIGRETTE**

**INGREDIENTS:**

- 1 tablespoon olive oil
- 1 tablespoon minced shallots
- 1 teaspoon minced garlic
- 1 pint fresh blackberries
- 1/2 cup white balsamic vinegar
- 2 tablespoons balsamic vinegar
- 1/2 teaspoon sugar
- 1 tablespoon chopped fresh mint
- 1 tablespoon chopped fresh tarragon
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1/4 teaspoon fresh ground black pepper
- 1/2 cup light olive oil

**DIRECTIONS:**

Put all ingredients into a blender and run salad dressing setting.

*Or, go to a lot of trouble and do it Emeril's way, lol! I stole it from Emeril Lagasse - here is the actual recipe: <http://emerils.com/125817/mixed-salad-blackberry-vinaigrette>*



*RCYC members enjoying music on the dock in Cathlamet to fun in the sun at the Pirates' Cruise.*

