

Commodore: Dave Reilly
Vice Commodore: Nolan Johnson
Secretary: Chuck Pennington

April 2017



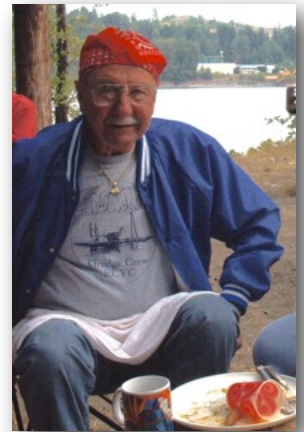
From the Helm
Dave Reilly, Commodore

“How high’s the water Mama? Sixteen feet and risin”
Yep, the Columbia is at flood stage so pay special attention to the current when you take your boat out. Also, keep a watch out for snags that were picked up by the higher than normal water levels and may be lurking in the river.

Spring runoff is not all bad; it means warmer days are headed our way and more active racing and cruising are just around the corner. You can just feel the pace of life picking up at the Club. Work parties have already begun. The water is on at the walks, and people are cleaning all the green winter slime off their boats. Plans are being made for the first Walk BBQ on April 22 and Opening Day on May 6. And the first Club cruise of the year will be April 29 – 30 to Bartlett Landing.

On April 1, RCYC’s Board, Officers, Moorage Chairman, and Resident Members will be conducting our periodic review of the moorage to check on expired boat registration stickers and the general cleanliness and safety of the moorage. So, if your boat needs current registration stickers, your slip needs some tidying up, or your mooring lines need attention, now is the time to attend to those things.

We were saddened to learn of the death of Roy Ciappini. Roy was a Past Commodore and was always a positive supporter of Rose City Yacht Club. Roy and Maxine were fixtures at Club social outings and cruises. Roy’s cheerfulness will be missed. Maxine is planning a celebration of life for Roy to be held at the Club later in the year.



The Board set up a couple of committees at its last meeting. One committee will, 1) look for a permanent home to the large garbage bins in the parking lot, 2) look for ways to enhance our waste recycling at the clubhouse, and 3) look for ways to improve the attractiveness of the entrance to the Club from Marine Drive. The other committee will investigate options for new tables in the clubhouse.

There is good news and bad news with respect to the Old Salt’s Dinner. The good news is that the recent survey indicated there was support for continuing the dinner. The bad news is that no one has stepped up to take leadership for the dinner. This is a last call for someone to step up and take on the responsibility for the Old Salt’s Dinner. If we don’t find that special someone, we will reorganize the calendar to schedule a Walk BBQ in October.



At the last General Meeting, we swore in Ken Stephens and Hannah Powell as new members. Welcome Ken and Hannah.

Lots of good stuff happening at the Club. Get down there and have some Fun!

Photos: Bottom Left - New members Ken & Hannah
Above: Past Commodore - Roy Ciappini



Vice Commodore's Report
Nolan Johnson -Vice Commodore

As the March
Foghorn deadline
rolls around, so

does the season and the Vernal Equinox. Welcome to Spring! And, if you were at RCYC on Saturday, you probably caught sight of a picture-perfect start sequence for RCYC's Frostbite Regatta, presided over this year by Race Officer Rock Kent. Rock did a great job keeping the racers in the vicinity while the wind came up. And when it finally did fill in, the spectating was fantastic. For those who don't know, a sailboat race usually starts into the wind. Since the wind typically blows upriver, an upwind start is helped along by the river current. For Saturday's race, the fast flood-level current and the solid wind made for some especially zippy - and picturesque - racing. But now, on to the more mundane (though equally gratifying.)

Our first work party of the season on March 4th was a success. The weather (mostly) cooperated. Club member attendance was good, and a lot of jobs were marked as completed. If you weren't there, then you missed out on a phenomenal lunch of scratch-made shepherd's pie and kale salad. A club shout-out to the Annottis and their helpers for setting such a high bar for work party lunches!

Rick Samuels has already started gathering names for the March 25 work party. We're off to a good start, but there is still quite a bit of un-winterizing to do around the club facilities. We'll see you on March 25th for the next work party!

On the Clubhouse calendar, we've had some shifts since last month. The Walk 1 Barbecue moved to a new date later in the month and is now sharing the date with the April 22 Work Party. This looks like a great chance to set aside the whole day for a bit of a "land cruise" preview at RCYC.

That's it from the Vice Commodore's chair this month. See you on the water!

Special Work Party

A special work party headed by Tom Stringfield met on Wednesday, April 22nd to tow a new finger slip from Schooner Creek where it was launched, to RCYC. Fighting a strong current and high water, they were able to successfully complete this tow in 2.5 hours. Handling the work boats attached to the finger for stability and additional power were Pam & Karl Corey with Loren Beach and Steve Beaty. The finger will be attached to Walk 5 on the March 25th work party.



From the Rear Gary Whitney - Rear Commodore

As I write this, spring is just days away – according to the calendar. It's a reminder to me that I have not finished all my winter boat projects and a need to get busy so I can enjoy sailing this spring. After the first work party and once the danger of a hard freeze has passed, the water was turned back on. I took advantage of clear, clean running water to wash the accumulation of dust, dirt and grime off the boat. Now all I need to do is to wax the hull and wipe down the cabin woodwork.

If the weather is fair, take advantage of your good luck; come down to the Club and get reacquainted with your boat. I was surprised at how fast the moss and algae grow on the north side of my boat - lines, gunwales, canvas etc. It's good to look everything over very carefully as high winds and winter weather may have damaged your boat.

RCYC's Frostbite Regatta is in the record books, and the Opening Day Regatta begins the racing events in March and April. Please check the calendar. Whether you are a seasoned racer or just curious, there are things to do in conducting a race. Please check with the race coordinators; and if they ask for help, please volunteer. RCYC's racing participation is steadily increasing. More participants make for more fun, more helpers make for less work on everyone.

April is the start of the Walk BBQs with Walk I leading off this year April 15th. April is also our first cruise to Bartlett Landing [East Dock] the weekend of April 29-30. The Opening Day Parade is May 6th. It's never too soon to get your Vessel Safety Check for 2017 and sign up for the Opening Day Parade.

Summer can't come fast enough; though if you dress warmly, you can enjoy some great, uncrowded times on the water right now.

Saving Sailing: Nicholas Hayes Presentation April 1 at Willamette Sailing Club

On Saturday, April 1, 7:00 p.m., Willamette Sailing Club is hosting a presentation by author Nicholas Hayes. He will present his vision of intergenerational mentoring and family sailing as an opportunity to learn and grow together. Sailing builds not only leadership and problem solving skills, but also stronger communities. Among the ways we choose to spend our leisure time, only sailing offers the opportunity to mix generations and genders in a life of adventure, learning, cooperation and fun. Hayes' book, "Saving Sailing," which burst onto the scene in 2010 and remains popular today, reintroduced sailing to American families as a surprisingly accessible, affordable, lifelong family activity. Tickets are \$20. RSVP/registration is required due to occupancy limits. Proceeds are being donated to sailing and mentoring not-for-profit organizations. Copies of his book will also be available for purchase.

Calling All Hunter Sailboat Owners!

Are you interested in taking weekend cruises down river towards St. Helens or through the Multnomah Channel or maybe upriver to Beacon Rock or Government Island? There is a group of like-minded sailors who do exactly that!!!!

Many of our members have been sailing the Columbia River for many years and know all the best spots to spend a relaxing weekend on your boat. We also have several seasoned sailors who head up to the San Juan Islands during the summer months.

Our organization has monthly weekend cruises from April thru October. A typical cruise includes great potlucks, and a lot of FUN!!! In August we have our Annual Rendezvous and Race at Sand Island near St. Helens. Also a ton of FUN!!

During the winter months we have guest speakers give presentations on various educational topics, in addition to our Annual "Love Your Boat Party." If this sounds like you, please visit our website, www.columbiariversailing.org and follow the links to "New Membership" to sign up!! Our dues are only \$35 a Year!!!!

If you have other questions, please e-mail:
info@columbiariversailing.org



Moorage Matters

by Loren Beach

Before March ends, we hope to install a new concrete finger dock on walk five, placed where a boat house recently departed. Preliminary measurement shows that this will create space for two 'narrow' boats. This will open up a couple more slips around the moorage once boats on the Improvement List are accommodated.

There has been really high water this month, and likely more to follow as the upper Columbia River basin discharges plentiful snow melt. Remember to "crab" as you enter and exit a fairway, as current will average over 2 kts until low water in July.

Pressure water is being restored, walk by walk. Due to inadequate drain down of the piping on walks three and four last fall, several metal pipes inside the utility posts were split. Members have had to put in hours of volunteer time with commensurate frustration repairing the breaks. This is exactly what a thorough draining of the piping in each post in the fall is meant to protect against.

Dinghy Docks - Floatation to level them will happen after the worst of the current abates. It is difficult and dangerous to work underwater at presently.

Name Plates - You must have a legible name plate on the place your dinghy or kayak occupies.

Cleanliness - Time to scrub down your dinghy as well as your Big Boat.

Dinghy Numbers - Remember that if your dinghy is over 12 feet long or has an outboard, it needs current OR numbers. Some county marine patrols will ticket aggressively for this.

By now your "big" boat should have current registration tags and numbers displayed. This is required to occupy a slip at RCYC.

River traffic is starting to pick up, producing more wakes, so check on your lines, snubbers, and chafe gear.

After a near-sinking recently, another member boat took on enough water to justify briefly operating our gas engine Dewatering Pump. One lesson I take away from watching all this is that I need to check on the actual function of my pumps, electric and manual, every year. **ALL OF THEM!** There are probably several methods to do this, but what I have done is to flood our bilge with several gallons of water from a hose, after taping off some limber holes so that extra sections of the bilge beyond the pick-ups would not have to be filled and emptied. While our electric pumps with float switches are both in good order, last year I found that the high-capacity Whale Gusher manual pump was not functional. After removal, the old 1980's rubber check valves inside were found to be so hardened that they would no longer seal. Given the age and the 'death grip' that the ss screws had taken on the inside of the aluminum pump body, it was easier to replace it with a new pump. In another 25 years or so, if I am still around, I can replace it again!

You probably have a similar pump if your boat was designed/built for ocean service. While our electric pumps are very good for 24/7 removal of nuisance water, that huge manual pump, operated by a frightened sailor, will remove a greater amount of water... at least until you staunch the leak.

And on a far less dramatic note, **CLOSE** your thru hull valves when you leave the boat.

RCYC 2017 Ladies Dinner

“YOU’RE NOT IN KANSAS ANYMORE!”

The RCYC Ladies’ dinner will be held Thursday, May 18, 2017.

6:00 p.m.—Social Hour

7:00 p.m.—Dinner, Raffle and Grand Prize Drawings

Ladies, you can make your reservations with JoNell McClary, (503) 667-2676 or jonell.mcclary@gmail.com. Watch for updates with price and menu.

Gentlemen, we would love to have your help as waiters and kitchen staff, so if you’d like to be a part of that team, please contact Head Waiter John Flenniken, (503) 292-4319 or catalina_22@comcast.net.

Foghorn Copy Deadline - 18th of the Month

Please send your titled articles and photos to All Foghorn volunteers listed below

Editors

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Cathy Skach: cathy.skach@gmail.com

Photographers: Dennis Annotti and all club members



Walk I Party & RCYSS Silent Auction

Rose City Youth Sailing Society presents RCYSS's Annual Silent Auction on Saturday, April 22nd at the Walk I Barbecue.

Bidding starts at 4:30pm and closes at 5:30pm. There will be wine tasting and nautical items donated by our local businesses and individuals. Please contact me (pamsesar@gmail.com of 503/381-2070) or Marie Griffin (griffin2971@comcast.net or 503/260-7401) with donations.

This is a fun time. Help give the gift of sailing and help get new boats for WSC. We have supported many children who would not be sailing without our help. Please ask neighbors and friends and other boaters to contribute. The happiness and skills are life changing.

Each class is about \$200 and new boats are about \$8,000. We are hoping to raise \$5,000 this year. And for a donation of \$60, a special RSYCC sweatshirt is yours.



Members Jim Hackley, Judy Brandon and Jim Martin at the RCYC St. Patrick's Party



Secretary's Salutations
Chuck Pennington - Secretary

This has been a busy month for membership. At the March Board meeting, we interview three new member family applicants. Chris and Susan Dorn own Ruffian, a C&C 33, and have been sailing on the river for many years. Martin Foster and Lindy Beers own Siren Song, a Pearson 33, and have been doing coastal fishing and cruising for the past three years. Richard and Barbara Gicking own Temerity, a Nauticat 44, currently in the boatyard up north and to be brought south later this year. They have done a lot of chartering and offshore sailing.

The Board also approved a change in membership for Lynn Easton. Lynn is once again moving from Active Member to Inactive Life Member. A change of address for Lynn will be in an upcoming yearbook addendum.

At the March general meeting, we swore in new members Ken Stephens and Hannah Powell.

We were all saddened to learn of the death of Roy Ciappini, a Past Commodore of RCYC. Memorial services for Roy will be announced later this spring. Our thoughts and prayers are with Maxine.

RCYC Upcoming Events, Meetings and Functions

April 2017

- 3 Knauti Knitters, 10:00 a.m.
- 8 Private Party (Ormond)
- 10 RCYC Board Meeting, 7:00 p.m.
- 15 Private Party (Samuels)
- 17 Knauti Knitters, 10:00 a.m.
- 18 Foghorn Deadline
- 19 RCYC General Meeting, 7:00 p.m.
- 22 Work Party, 9:00 a.m.
- 22 RCYSS Silent Auction 4:30 p.m.
- 22 Walk I BBQ, 5:30 p.m.
- 29 – 30 Cruise, Bartlett Landing

May 2017

- 1. Knauti Knitters, 10:00 a.m.
- 6 Opening Day
- 8 RCYC Board Meeting, 7:00 p.m.
- 13 Work Party, 9:00 a.m.
- 15 Knauti Knitters, 10:00 a.m.
- 17 RCYC General Meeting, 7:00 p.m.
- 18 RCYC Ladies Dinner
- 18 Foghorn Deadline
- 20 RCYC Medium Distance Race
- 26 – 29 Memorial Day Cruise, Hadley's Landing

Safety At Sea *by Chuck Pennington*

In February I attended a Safety at Sea Seminar sponsored by the US Sailing Foundation. The purpose of the seminar was to better prepare myself for taking my boat offshore.

The course was a two day information packed event that touched on many aspects of safety at sea. The first day was comprised of classroom instruction that covered topics from life vest use, storm sail design/repair, weather forecasting, seamanship skills, use of electronics, life sling deployment for man overboard, fire fighting techniques, and proper use of emergency signaling devices such as flares. There are additional topics that I have not mentioned. However if you are interested learning more, you can go the US Sailing Foundation website.

The second day included both classroom instruction as well as practical hands on experience of deploying a life raft and entering the raft from the pool. Even with a rather benign situation of being in a pool, it presented difficulty for some of us entering the life raft because of our inflatable life vests. Just imagine what it would be like if one had to do the same thing with it being pitch black and ten foot breaking seas. I will add that at least two attendees had to do this very thing.

I found the Safety at Sea seminar very informative and would encourage anyone interested to enroll in a Safety at Sea Seminar.

Repower Blues Part III: Success at Last *by Tod Bassham*

Clearly something was wrong. The key was turned, but where was the rumbling vibration, the belch of smoke, and the foul looks of neighboring boat owners choking on a cloud of unburnt fuel? It took me a couple of seconds to realize that the little red engine *had* started, and was purring quietly in its soundproofed compartment, emitting modest puffs of invisible CO₂, and sipping daintily at its fuel tank.

True, getting to this happy juncture had been no easy journey. The last, but by no means least, frustration involved a tiny \$8 bronze elbow, which was supposed to thread into an opening in the side of the engine, so the oil pressure sender can do its duty. The official parts list called for a one-eighth (1/8") inch bronze elbow. Whistling a merry tune, I went down the hardware store and purchased a one-eighth inch bronze elbow. But the elbow would not thread into the opening. What gives?

Aha! The engine was marinized in England, which uses the metric system, so the threads must be metric. Methinks I'll just get a one-eighth inch metric elbow. So, still whistling a merry tune, I sauntered back to the hardware store and asked for an elbow with one-eighth inch metric threads. This elicited a look of pained condescension. Turns out there are no such thing as one-eighth inch metric threads or metric threads - period. Using small words and simple gestures, the hardware guy brought me to understand that all pipe threads are built to National Pipe Thread (NPT) standards and one-eighth inch is the internal diameter of the pipe, with the unspoken premise that even congenital idiots are cognizant of these basic facts of life.

I felt gratitude for this instruction, but no closer to a solution. The NPT-threaded elbow just would not fit. I looked again at the parts list, and saw that it clearly specified a one-eighth-inch BSP elbow. Wait, what the hell is BSP? For me, it was the work of a moment to whip out a smart phone and determine that BSP stands for British Standard Pipe, which it turns out is the thread standard that the whole world uses...except for the United States. BSP threads are pitched slightly differently than NPT threads. Why we Amurikaans use NPT when the whole world uses BSP remains a mystery, although it is obviously Obama's fault somehow. Anyway, problem solved. I just needed to go back to the hardware store, whistling a merry tune, and ask the hardware guy for a one-eighth inch elbow with BSP threads.

Now it was his turn to look bewildered. He had never heard of BSP threads. After several phone calls, I could find nobody in Portland who stocked a one-eighth inch BSP threaded bronze elbow, although some dealers had at least heard of the BSP standard. Eventually I had to order it from the East coast, paying \$20 shipping for a \$8 part. But the BSP pipe threaded on beautifully, and all's well that ends well.

Calling all Golfers! *by Marili Reilly*

If you play golf and would consider representing RCYC on the greens, look no further than the CRYA Golf Tournament in September. The club is looking for at least one foursome, which can include your usual non-RCYC golf buddies. The tournament will be held at the Wildwood Golf Course on the third Saturday of September and will include lunch in the clubhouse, which is being hosted by Multnomah Channel YC.

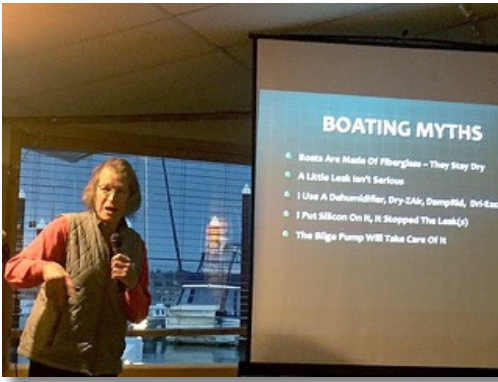
This is CRYA's only fundraiser of the year, and if you are not a golfer you can still contribute by being a sponsor or by providing items for the gift bags that are given to the golfers. If you're a business owner, this is a great way to get some name exposure with other clubs. Please give me a call at (503) 502-3997 or send me an email at cascademarili@gmail.com if you have questions or would like to participate in one of these ways.



RCYC during high water.

The high water makes it easy to go up and down the ramp, but creates dangers within the moorage.

Be careful around the water when you come down to check on your boat.



March 15 General Meeting Presentation by Allison Mazon

One of the benefits of attending the general meetings is to be able to participate in our General Meeting Presentations. Our Programs Chair, Andy Schmidt provided an opportunity for our own club member and well known boat surveyor, Allison Mazon to share information regarding boats and moisture. Using her collection of pictures and hands on displays, Allison proceeded to scare the water out of us as she detailed how moisture gets into boats, what it does to the structure of wood, fiberglass and metal when it does get in and also share how difficult it can be to repair the damage of this intrusion.



If you have ideas for our General Meeting programs, please contact Andy as he is always looking for good ideas.



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