

Commodore: Tod Bassham
Vice Commodore: Gary Brown
Secretary: Cathy Skach

Rear Commodore: Loren Beach
Directors: Mark Holzmänn, Kathy Souhrade
Kelly Brown, René Emch, Barbara Weiss

June 2023



From the Bridge

Tod Bassham, Commodore

During the cold, wet spring many of us pined for hot summer days. The month of May is traditionally a temperate transition between spring and summer, but with global warming the rules are broken. May 9 had a low of 47 degrees. Four days later, May 13, we had a record high of 92 degrees.

The early heat wave is caused by a stalled high pressure system up in Canada, which meant light and frustrating winds (but beautiful starry skies) for the racers in the Pacific Northwest Offshore Race. RCYC had four boats entered in the race—Jim Calnon's *Pathfinder*, Ben Emery and Naja de Pilla's *Penelope*, Gary Brown's *Get Set Go*, and Phil Lewis' *Souffle*. Jim took second place in PHRF-A and Overall. Well done, Jim! Actually, well done all. Just competing in the Offshore is an achievement to be proud of. Hopefully, we will have a full report from our intrepid sailors before long.



*Opening Day at the Club.
Photo courtesy to Roxana Volesky*

Speaking of intrepidity, hats off to the members who spent four months planning and executing a fabulous Ladies' Dinner on May 18. The theme was May Day in the Scandinavian tradition. Social leads Linda Shaw and Fran O'Bryant decorated the Clubhouse to the nines with May Day paraphernalia. Many members contributed raffle and auction items, and the proceeds will be used for Clubhouse improvements and a donation to Rafael House. Chris Richard and Barnaby Tuttle cooked up some 300 Swedish meatballs in cream sauce, Hasselback potatoes, fresh pea soup, lingonberries, and other Nordic delights. A crew of handsome, well-dressed men led by John Flenniken served up the sumptuous meal and washed the dishes afterward. Special thanks to organizer and First Mate Deedie Bassham, who initially was rather daunted to learn that the First Mate is supposed to put on the Ladies' Dinner. But Deedie leapt into the project with the help of many experienced former First Mates and, together, they pulled off an evening to be remembered.

From the Bridge continued on page 2

Speaking of Clubhouse events, for several years the Club has had a policy of keeping the ramp gate closed at all times (unless actively monitored) to discourage unauthorized wanderers around the moorage. Turns out an old provision of our Clubhouse Rental Policy actually requires the ramp gate to be left open during an evening event, even if unmonitored. To reconcile these contradictory policies, the Board approved a revised provision stating:

8. Security and Safety - All gates are to be left closed at all times and specific event codes issued and used. If the gate code pads are inoperative, then the host/sponsor of the event is to appoint a gate monitor to closely monitor the drive-through gate. During that time the ramp gate may remain open ONLY as long as the entrance gate is closely monitored. The entrance gate and the ramp gate are to be closed and locked when the gate monitor retires to the event. All gates and Clubhouse doors and windows shall also be secured immediately after the end of the event.

Thanks for your help in keeping our facility secure and unauthorized wanderers to a minimum.

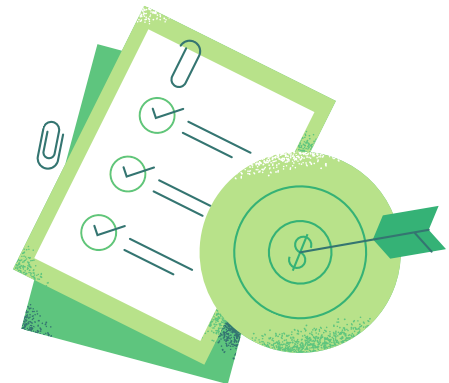
To paraphrase a wise saying: “Our budget reflects our values and priorities.” What values and priorities does the RCYC budget reflect? Cheap moorage? Low dues and fees? Well-maintained and upgraded facilities? Lots of social events, races, cruises? All of the above? It’s been a long time since we comprehensively asked these questions. Our last big budget review was over 10 years ago. Since then, inflation, changing demographics and other factors have complicated the picture. It seems a good time for a Big Picture Budget Review (BPBR, or “Beeper” for those of us who hate acronyms).

The Board approved formation of the BPBR/Beeper Committee, headed up by Treasurer Karen Jacobson. Assisting Karen will be former treasurer Judy Oxborrow, directors Rene Emch and Kelly Brown, Matt Richard from the Long- Range Planning Committee, and two members-at-large, Jim Calnon and Bruce Newton. Among the questions these intrepid individuals (Beepers?) will wrestle with are:

- Are our reserves sufficient?
- Is our revenue keeping up with current and projected expenses?
- Do we need to adjust dues or fees to keep up with inflation?
- How do we plan to fund big-ticket items on the long-range planning list (e.g., the breakwater)?
- What happens when we pay off the dredge and walk improvement loans in 2025?
- What improvements can we make to the budget process?

The Beepers will meet over the summer, with the goal of presenting recommendations to the Board in early fall, before the annual budget process kicks into gear.

Last thing to note: Ben Thomas is heading up a committee to redesign the RCYC sign that is currently obscured by our taller fence. He hopes to re-use really cool stainless steel letters from a previous sign that have been lingering in our storage shed for these many years. Our sign is the public “face” of our Club, so its design is a wee bit important. Stay tuned for developments on that front.





Vice Commodore's Report

Gary Brown, Vice Commodore

The Club has been alive with a variety of activities as we shook off the winter hibernation and came outside.

Cloudy skies and rain gave way to brilliant sunshine and warmth – finally! Oh yeah, time to play, everyone in their own way.

For four crews from our Club this meant preparation time for the Pacific NW Offshore Race was over, and it was time to head downriver to stage for the start line at Ilwaco, Washington. *Get Set Go*, *Pathfinder*, *Penelope*, and *Souffle* participated in the mostly upwind or no-wind course this year to Victoria. Jim Calnon and Liza Wells on *Pathfinder* took second place in the PHRF fleet. Congratulations to all four boats on making it to Victoria and having a great time in spite of having very little sleep along the way.

The Club is in fine form this spring due to over 2,300 hours of volunteer service spiffing it up. Turnout at Work Parties has been amazing, with members stepping up to take on all the tasks that Leads have been dishing out. 102 of 130 memberships have completed at least 8 work hours, meeting the minimum 8-hour requirement that is due by June 10. There are still a number of memberships with work to do, so please get hopping. You know who you are if you've been reading my highly personalized emails with gentle reminders that will include more encouragement as we approach the June 10 deadline. I have tender fingers after the Offshore and really don't like to type, so please don't make me do it. We certainly will take no pleasure in charging anyone for deficient work hours at the stiff rate of \$100/hr, so watch for emails from John Osborne for opportunities to serve.

See the [Calendar](#) for the Work Party dates for the second half of the year.

To see how many work hours your membership has accumulated to date the [How Many Work Hours Do I Have Tool](#) is found in the Members section of the Club website on the Forms and Documents page.

For booking the Clubhouse and Patio, send requests to Gary Brown. The Rental policy is found on the RCYC website [HERE](#) and the application form is [HERE](#).



Figure 1 John Osborne, taking time off from organizing Work Parties, at the *Get Set Go* helm during the 2023 Pacific NW Offshore Race, with Bayard Johnson trimming.



April 29 Work Party photos from John Osborne



Ladies' Dinner 2023

Deedie Bassham

So wonderful to return to traditions! The May Day-themed Ladies' Dinner was a smaller event this year for members and their family and friends. Fun was had by all, and my hat is off to all the brave folks who tried the pickled herring between shots of traditional Scandinavian aquavit. Hopefully there are a few of you who will now keep a jar in the refrigerator! So many hands helped make it a special evening, from decorations to flowers to chefs to servers to late-night cleaner uppers. The generous donations for the raffle came entirely from our membership. Proceeds will go to bar stools for the Clubhouse and Raphael House.



Lovely smiles and delicious dishes captured by Deedie Bassham. More photos on Page 9.

Cruising Corner

Allyson Richard

Your Cruise Chairs are back to bring you information about the upcoming cruises! We do our best to remember to submit a Foghorn article but often forget. Please know that you are always welcome to reach out with questions about cruising. That all being said, let's get to the fun stuff!

For Memorial Day weekend, the Club is going to change our destination and go to Bartlett instead of Coon Island. The water level is plenty high, and many sailboats won't be able to make it under the Sauvie Island Bridge. There will be a Happy Hour Potluck on Saturday, May 27, and a proper Dinner Potluck on Sunday, May 28.

And since the water is going to be high, you're more than likely going to need to open the railroad bridge. Set your radios to channel 13 to get the "49 Vancouver" Bridge open and keep it on the channel until you have cleared the bridge. If you have questions about this process, partner up with a Club member to discuss the steps or to travel with. The RCYC yearbook also has a great description for traversing the bridges and other common occurrences on the river.

I don't know about ya'll, but this teacher is looking forward to the School's Out Cruise! On June 22 we will head out to Coon Island's East Dock. For those who haven't been there before, Coon is down the Multnomah Channel with lovely scenery and is fairly quiet. On June 23, we will continue to travel downriver past St. Helens to Martin Slough. Plan to get into the slough during a high tide to allow yourself enough clearance. Watch out for dead heads and stick to the Washington Side (port side). We'll head back to Coon Island on the 25th to wrap up a wonderful trip.

July brings us a personal favorite, the Lazy Days Downriver Cruise. If you could please take a moment and [fill out this form it](#) will help you get slips at Cathlamet's Elochoman Marina as well as West Basin Marina in Astoria. We will also get some information from you about whether you plan on attending the big potluck in Cathlamet on July 27. That's going to be a great stop because we will be able to try out River Mile 38's new building behind the marina office!

We are so excited for cruising season to begin! See you on the water wearing your most fashionable PFD! Of course, please don't hesitate to email us at ally.chris2012@gmail.com. We'd be happy to help in any way we can.



Secretary Salutations

Cathy Skach, Secretary

Boy! Did spring ever get here and fast (or was that summer?). I blinked, and there she was. I don't know about you, but I could have used a little more of a gradual transition. At first it was too early to plant tomatoes, and now, somehow, I am SO behind in my garden!

Condolences go out to both Steve Peterson and Dan Cole. They both lost their fathers in April. Also Get Well wishes to Lorena Brown. She had knee surgery on May 8.

At the general meeting, three new members were sworn in. Congratulations go out to new members Linda Starr (Ericson 23), Dean Terry (Ericson 36 Cutter), and Mike McClain (Canadian Sailcraft 36). Welcome them when you see them around the Club and out on the docks!

At the May Board Meeting the Board interviewed one prospective membership: Lucas and Amy Larimore. Lucas and Amy have been sailing for about five years on a Buccaneer 18. They have an Island Packet 38 named *Neverland* up in Bellingham. She will be refit over the next summer or two. They are planning on some long-term cruising and eventually taking it up north to sail around Vancouver Island. Their long-term plan is to circumnavigate.

Recent change in membership status here at RCYC has the Board accepting Jim and Bette Johnsrud's request for resignation effective May 1, 2023. We'll be sad to see them go. May they find happiness in their ventures. Cliff and Cheri Hunter's request to move to Active Life was approved effective May 1, 2023.



Moorage Matters

Matt Richard, Moorage Chair

Here are the moorage movements and changes over the last month:

1. Andy and Robin Curry have been assigned regular moorage at Slip 19 on Walk 3, ending their sublet of Slip 12 on Walk 3.
2. Chris and Ally Richard have been temporarily assigned second boat moorage in Slip 24 on Walk 1, starting a sublet of Jim Calnon's slip. This is to accommodate a new boat purchase during a transition period between their existing and new boats. Their new boat, a Swan 47 named *Quintet*, will reside in their regular Slip 5 on Walk 5.

All available slips are assigned. Three slips are being sublet.

Sustainability Committee

The RCYC Sustainability Committee has been meeting to explore the role of sustainability at RCYC.

What is sustainability at RCYC? To us, it means finding efficient, low-toxic alternatives for our boating and Clubhouse needs, making improvements where possible, sharing ideas and information with the membership and leaving the Club and our waterways better off than how we found them.

What does sustainability at RCYC mean to you?

In the coming months you can count on us to communicate ideas that can move us forward towards sustainability goals as well as save the Club money. We will be providing educational opportunities through the Foghorn, general meetings, and host workshops where ideas can be shared.

Most importantly, we welcome all your suggestions, ideas, and wish for all of us to work together towards a more sustainable RCYC. To date, our committee includes: Liv Ormond, Pam Neild, Coral Simdorn, Abby Boudouris, George Kapllani, John Flenniken, Michael Valenti and Bob Phillips. Feel free to contact any of us at any time with your ideas or questions.



Stayin' Alive

C. DeVere Sheesley

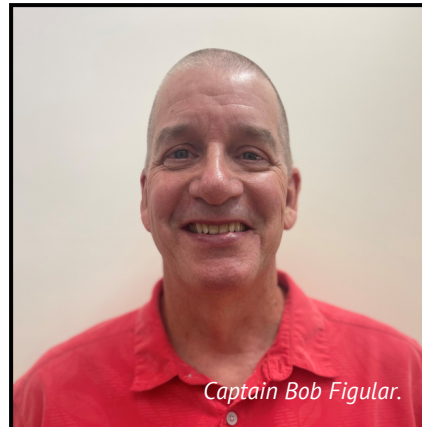
SPEAKER: Bob Figular, USCG 100 Ton Masters Near Coastal with Assistance Towing Endorsement and Auxiliary Sailing Endorsement, U.S. Navy Veteran aboard Aircraft Carrier USS Midway. President of Mariners Learning System.

PRESENTS: "Three Things Every Boater and Their Crew Needs to Know to Stay Alive"

DATE AND TIME:

Wednesday, June 21, 2023, 7:00-7:30 pm PST
RCYC General Meeting Presentation

PROGRAM: Captain Bob Figular will discuss the three main things that every boater and their crew members need to know to stay alive.



Captain Bob Figular.



Destiny's Desire.

ABOUT BOB: Captain Bob retired, or so he thought, at 38 years old after selling a successful digital printing company. With newly found free time on his hands, he looked for a way to challenge his mental and physical abilities. After a purchase of a 43-foot Catana catamaran, built in France, Bob set sail on his journey around the world. After looking up at waves above his 65-foot mast, a near miss with pirates, and other once-in-a-lifetime experiences, he returned to U.S. soil two and a half years later. To become a safer and more knowledgeable boater, Bob decided his next aspiration was to achieve his captain's license. After a disappointing schooling experience of being taught only the answers to the test, he wanted to provide the market with a well-rounded educational program. Mariners Learning System was founded in 2002 and has put over 200,000 students through our program. We are proud to provide knowledge and know-how, anywhere, anytime, any device.

[Mariners Learning System /](https://www.marinerslearningsystem.com/)

Coast Guard Approved Captain's License Courses and Exams Online + FCC
Element Exams / (609) 303 0664 /
customerservice@marinerslearningsystem.com



Captain Bob at the Helm.



BoatUS Foundation: 5 Ways to Be Seen and Heard When You Really Need to Summon Help

National Safe Boating Week, May 21–27

ANNAPOLIS, Md., May 15, 2023 – When you have an emergency on the water, how do you get help? For National Safe Boating Week, May 21-27, the nonprofit [BoatUS Foundation for Boating Safety and Clean Water](#) is reminding boaters that having the ability to be seen and heard is critically important. Here are five ways boaters can prepare for a safe summer on the water and, if necessary, summon rescuers to your location.

VHF Radio –

A VHF (Very High Frequency) radio is the most reliable way to communicate with other boats and emergency responders on most waterways. New Digital Selective Calling (DSC) radios with a red distress button can even send an emergency call and other important information such as your location to authorities automatically when [properly installed and registered](#).

Emergency Beacon –

An emergency beacon, such as an EPIRB (Emergency Position Indicating Radio Beacon) or PLB (Personal Locator Beacon) can be activated to send a distress signal to satellites and rescue authorities. These devices are designed to work in remote areas where cellphone coverage is not available. EPIRBs and PLBs [can be rented from the BoatUS Foundation](#).

Sound-Producing Device –

A sound producing device, such as an installed horn, a handheld air horn, and even a whistle, can be used to signal for help. Five or more blasts from a horn or a whistle indicate danger or a dangerous situation is unfolding. Sound-producing devices are required by law on most boats and can be heard over a considerable distance.

Visual Distress Signals –

Visual Distress Signals (VDS) such as pyrotechnic flares and certain battery-operated SOS light beacons can be used to signal for help when you're out on the water. Flares and Coast Guard-approved distress lights can be seen from several miles away and are an effective way to signal for help when other methods of communication are not available.

Distress Flag –

A distress flag is an orange flag with a black square and a black circle. If you're in distress, you can hoist the flag to signal other boats that you need assistance. This is a good alternative for use on small, wet watercraft, like kayaks and personal watercraft where traditional flares could get wet or storage aboard is a challenge.

From the Rear

Loren Beach, Rear Commodore

May has been really busy, and totally in the best sort of way. The Board got a lot accomplished, and the General Meeting had three new memberships sworn in. Welcome to Linda Starr, Dean Terry, and Mike McClain. The group really enjoyed a great Columbia River cruising program arranged by Chris Sheesley.

The recent afternoon Fire Extinguisher Class at PDX was full up, and PDX Fire Fighter/Trainer Ryan Roy was adept at explaining types of fires and methods of fighting them on board our boats. Everyone got to extinguish a live fire, under supervision. While it's not too hard to remember the basics of extinguisher use, actually using one starts to instill a little bit of "muscle memory" which should help if you ever face a true emergency.

At "press time" for the Foghorn, we completed a hugely (!) successful Ladies' Dinner. This marked another Return to Normality after this annual event had been paused for several years due to the pandemic. It is great to see Club activities continuing to ramp back up. I hope you are planning on attending upcoming BBQs and our Annual July Fourth bash on July 1, Saturday.

Be sure to log in often at our website at <https://rosecityyachtclub.org> and check the calendar there for current events, and also peruse the section for Meeting Minutes so you will know what's happening and why. Once on the site, click on Members, and then click on the Login box. A shout out to Steve Beaty for resurrecting our "sailing with friends for fun" unofficial Wednesday night sail. A member can use the "everyone" email address to solicit other members to go out and just sail around for the fun of it. We used to do this once a week in the summers by asking members to meet on the patio/deck and choose up boats and skippers and just Go For A Sail. It was fun then and is always a good way to get acquainted with others. If you have questions about the casual and uncomplicated nature of this idea, drop me a line. There are lots of other activity reports in this (and every) Foghorn issue. Stay informed, stay connected, and I hope to see you around the Club.



Photo courtesy of Rick Samuels.



Shop online & at the Club for products to show your colors.

Contact **Terry Foren** to order: nirecap@comcast.net



Ladies' Dinner 2023

(Photos courtesy of Richard and Kathy Pickwick.)



RCYC Activities

June

- 1 Red Cross CPR Class, 8:30 am
- 5 Knauti Knitters, 10:00 am
SYSCO Board Meeting, 5:30 pm
- 12 RCYC Board Meeting, 7:00 pm
- 15 Work Party, 9:00 am - 1:00 pm
Going North Meeting, 1:00 pm
- 16-18 Bartlett's Landing Cruise
- 17 RCYC Medium Distance Race
- 18 July Foghorn Deadline
- 19 Knauti Knitters—10:00 am
- 21 RCYC General Meeting—7:00 pm
- 22-26 School's Out Cruise
- 26 OWSA Meeting (tentative)—7:30 pm
- 30 Private Function—8:00 pm

July

- 1 July 4th Party and Walk 5 BBQ
- 3 Knauti Knitters, 10:00 am
SYSCO Board Meeting, 5:30 pm
- 10 RCYC Board Meeting, 7:00 pm
- 15 RCYC New Member Orientation,
9:00 am-12:00 pm
- 17 Knauti Knitters, 10:00 am
- 18 June Foghorn Deadline
- 19 RCYC General Meeting—7:00 pm
- 23 RCYC Pirates Beer Can Race
- 23-30 Lazy Days Cruise



3737 N.E. Marine Drive
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Check the website calendar for updates and more
information about RCYC at www.rosecityyachtclub.org

Need something added to the calendar?
Contact Vice Commodore Gary Brown.

Email articles, announcements and photos with "Foghorn"
in the header to RCYCFoghorn@gmail.com by
the **18th** of the month

- YOUR FOGHORN TEAM -
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