



# KNOT NEWS

Volume 113, No. 8

Anacortes Yacht Club's 113th Year

August 2004

## Notes and Announcements from the Center of Dah' Boat

Bill is in Sedro-Woolley at Life Care Center of Skagit Valley. As Pat says... "he is bored stiff and strong as an ox," but due to complications he is still four weeks



from coming home... we hope. Bill Larson, Bob Carlson and the IDGABTT Society along with a few others have installed the ramp and sidewalk necessary to provide access to their home. Just yesterday the cement pour for the sidewalk was completed. I spoke with Pat today and she once again said to be sure to pass on their nu-

merous thanks for the many cards, visits, thoughts and prayers both she and Bill have received. It's been a long haul and they seem to always be hopeful. Bill's current address is: Bill (Constant) Booth, Life Care Center of Skagit Valley, 1462 SR20, Room 408, Sedro-Woolley, WA 98284, Message – 360-856-6867. More information and details on the work done for Bill will be forthcoming in next month's *Knot News*.

Now for the Vice Commodore's Message. Not much time to write this month... thanks to all for \$2 nights. Barb and Brad Blymyer will be hosting next Friday's \$2 night (August 13). Barb says it will be VERY good as she loves to cook. Next month, Chuck and Nancy Lang will be putting the evening on... so come on down and enjoy.

The first annual "Anacortes Arts Regatta" was held last weekend in conjunction with the Anacortes Arts Festival. It was great fun for all who attended.

I'm off for 9 days in the Gulf Islands... so ... no more time... see you again... maybe if we don't just stay!

As always, if you have ideas to make the Club better, please jump in and help or let me know your idea. Remember... Life is Short... Sail Fast...--Pat Barrett, Vice Commodore – Acting Commodore

## Vic-Maui Report

Well, the crew are all back to their daily routines, but the memory of our recent experience on Vic-Maui will last a lifetime. After over a year of preparation and planning, in 12 plus days it's over.

In that time we had evaluated and repaired the sail inventory, repaired electronics, rebedded stantions, painted the decks, had the bottom stripped, faired and painted, fixed the air conditioning, built an emergency rudder system, rebuilt the rudder bearing system, serviced the winches, rebuilt the furling system, replumbed the heads, hooked up the swim platform shower, repaired lee-cloths, replaced the galley sink, serviced the watermaker and refrigeration system, replaced the spinnaker mast track and cars, rigged for the storm jib and trysail, built a spinnaker net and other things I can't remember at this time. Numerous work days later we were ready to go.

We had a great start and actually left the Strait at 4:30 p.m. about 5 miles ahead of *Renegade* and 7 in front of *Flash*. The next day was light, but we stayed ahead of *Renegade* and South of *Flash*. We were close to our competition for a number of days, but slowed by equipment problems.

We broke all three fractional halyards, blew up all four of our masthead spinnakers (two of which we repaired on board, one lost to the sea after it took two stantions with it, and unfortunately our large masthead symmetrical was unrepairable), got a messenger line down the mast to feed a new halyard only to have it totally foul all our halyards and require fishing out in small pieces. We also had to heave-to and dive the bottom for a  
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## Vic-Maui , continued from page 1

fishnet on the prop and kelp on the keel and fix a few other things.

But, we had a wonderful cook who provided three gourmet meals a day. It never rained on us until we got into some tropical squalls. All fourteen crew members got along great. We had beautiful stars and phosphorescent Dahl's porpoises at night. We only landed one tuna and none of the Mahi-Mahi because we were going too fast. We had a halfway party and the two watches roasted each other in skits.

We sailed a very smart race going down to the 22nd parallel looking for the tradewinds. However, when we got there, they were only 8-10 knots so the extra 500 miles of southing didn't really pay off. We had to fly our fractional chicken spinnaker as it was the only symmetrical we had left so were slow the last two days. But, despite all of this we corrected out only 6 hours behind *Renegade* to take third in our division.

After a wonderful welcoming luau in Lahaina, I cruised with my family to Ohau and Kauai before flying home. People ask if I will do it again, and my answer is yes, if I can figure out how to keep spinnakers up in the air intact! --Gary Schoenrock, *Cassiopeia*

## From the Rear Commodore

I am sure that I am like many of you and the summer, which is going way too fast, is starting to get away from me. The weather has been great and I have been able to get out on the water some, but then it is never enough. Have you ever wanted to be able to go cruising or sailing around and the timetable to come back is when you feel like it, and not some set date because of another reason? Well, I am still looking for that time.



I have been able to get out a few days this past month and for me the conditions have been near perfect. Enough wind so that you can keep the boat at hull speed, but not so much that you can't sit back and hold the wheel with your toe and have a beer in one

had and your arm around Pat and warm enough to be in shorts. Now, in my opinion, that is just about perfect sailing conditions for cruising in the Islands.

I was out the other day just after crabbing opened in Padilla Bay with my hunting partner and his family, and it was one of those days I just described. We got an early start and put a few crabs in the boat for that evening and thought we would sail up past Sucia and around Orcas Island for the day. So I go below to start the stove to cook the crab and promptly ran out of propane. Plan "B" was put in place and a visit scheduled to Dick Britton at Skyline. Crab was good and we still had a fantastic sail. Guess this type of activity is what makes it so special to live and play up here.

As for club news, we have been busy during the month of July. We are seeing club rentals up from last year. The nice thing about this is that it generates revenue for us and we are able to do it in such a way as not to disrupt club activities. The feedback from those who are renting has been very favorable.

With the weather being so nice, attendance on Friday nights has not been down. Sure seems to me that everyone is enjoying the social time. I know that I have. We had a bunch of folks in from Calente YC in the Bay area and they were a great bunch, out having a fantastic time enjoying the San Juan and Gulf Islands. We had a two dollar night with them. I think I learned about more things to do up here cruising than they did.

August is here and I hope to see you out there on the water some. If you have any ideas or comments, please let me know. --Dave Malsed, Rear Commodore

## Joining the AYC Yahoo Group

Below are some instructions for joining Anacortes YC at Yahoo groups. As you may know, this had become an important means of communication for AYC members.

First, go to [www.yahoo.com](http://www.yahoo.com) and click on the blue link that says, "Sign in." Then follow their instructions for creating a new account or if you are an existing Yahoo user, just sign in with your Yahoo ID and password.

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## Yahoo, continued from page 2

After registering with Yahoo, exit the site and you will need to open your email system (Outlook or Hotmail or whichever one you used to sign up) and confirm your registration by clicking on their blue link. This will establish you as a new Yahoo member and will provide you with a ton of services such as email, instant messaging, calendar and several others. Some are more useful than others and because it is a free service, there will be a lot of advertisements. I have had a Yahoo account for years and have never had a problem with it. If you are familiar with MSN's Hotmail, then you know what I mean.

If you have some trouble finding our group the conventional way, here is an alternative. Type into your Internet browser address window the following:

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/AnacortesYC/>

Then in upper right hand side select "Join this group." From there follow the instructions and check the appropriate boxes. At just about every step there is a help button at the top of the page; use it when you have a question. Once you have become an approved member, you will be able to post to and receive from the group. You may also store photos or other files of interest to the group. The group is primary a forum for the members to communicate Anacortes Yacht Club events, activities and items of a general yachting nature. It is not a political platform. Please, no advertisements or inappropriate language. Your messages will be monitored by 1 of 3 moderators for content and then sent onto the membership as a post on the website and an email message. This may take a few minutes or a few hours depending on our availability. As one of the moderators, I just want to thank you for joining our little group and ask that you be patient with us if your post takes a little while for you to see it. We are yachties too! --Moderator Vic Childs, AYC Yahoo Moderator

## AYC Multihulls at Whidbey Race

I wanted to let everyone know that several racers from the AYC were racing at Whidbey Island Race Week. *Cat Sass*, *Pangea*, *Radio Flyer* and *Son of Raven* were there for one of the best race weeks ever! There were nine races total, two the first four days and one on Friday. The week started out fast with 20+ knot winds



*F-31 Sailing Fast at Whidbey  
Photo from Chris Sherman*

on Monday. *Son of Raven* hit a new boat speed high of 22 knots! Colin Arsini sailed with us on Monday and Tuesday and he was crying about leaving and having to go back to work for the rest of the regatta!

The multihull class had two boats representing AYC: *Cat Sass* and *Son of Raven*. Multihull final results: 1. *Chekee Monkey* (highly modified F-31); 2. *Son of Raven* (F-31); 3. *Water Wings* (F-31); 4. *Cat Sass* (Viva 27); 5. *Blue Lightning* (F-31); 6. *Optimus Prime* (F-31). Sail level (well, almost); Sail FAST! --Chris Sherman

## Great Start for Arts Festival Regatta

The first annual Arts Festival Regatta was held on Saturday, July 31, on Fidalgo Bay. Scheduling a regatta at the end of July in the San Juans shows a bit more optimism than some might feel is realistic, but the sun was with us and after a bit of drifting about in the bay, the wind filled in from the west. We managed to get 3 races in for the day and most all participants had a great time. As a first year regatta, I was tickled to see 16 entries for the day. We had a good mix of A, B and C boats on the course, giving us some fair competition.

In hindsight, we might have headed out to Guemes Channel for the day and held a Saturday "Boomer's Series" race... the wind from the west filled in great on the channel. As we stayed in Fidalgo Bay, we needed to wait a bit longer for the winds to fill and even then they were a bit fluky (surprise! surprise!). In talking with others afterward and getting lots of "opinions," local knowledge would lead us to believe that IF we are going to get a

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### Arts Festival Regatta, continued from page 3

westerly, it will come down the channel for the better part of the day and NOT die until towards sunset. As race chair though... I was a bit paranoid about the 11 foot tide and the subsequent current we would have in the channel... and the risk of no wind... but... hindsight... is soooooo clear.



*B Fleet Going to Weather in the Arts Festival Regatta  
Photo from Vic Childs*

Next year will be another race and another day and I hope it is as much fun. Thank you to Dave Thomson for the use of *Tortuga* as the committee boat. He provided a group of friends from California to help with timing and flags. They headed out on Sunday morning riding bicycles across the country. Warren Walz and *Mischief* helped to move marks around and provide a platform for our always helpful photographer, Wayne Martin, to catch lots of sunny photos. Chuck Mallary handled moving the line and other marks for us in the AYC chase boat. Sitting in the sun for the day... "relaxing"... was just what Chuck needed.

In the A Fleet, *Rachel*, Roy Rard's Dash-34 took line honors with 1st place. Steve Kleinbart and *Flashpoint* gathered 1/2 gallon of Arts Festival Beer for 2nd, followed by Ed Kennedy and the weekend crew on *Slingshot* who took home the beans and a "3 of a kind" Arts Festival Regatta hat for 3rd.

In the B Fleet, *Lucky Jim* from Oak Harbor won the Arts Festival Wine basket. *Zoom* and Gary Schoenrock's crew won the bottle of grog and 2nd place, while Fred West and his J22, *Fever (Zephyr)* took home the jelly beans and "3 of a kind" Arts Festival Regatta hat, with 3rd place.

In the C Fleet, the speedster, *Puffin*, skippered and crewed by Maury Fink and Marv Klinger avoided the collisions of the rest of C Fleet and took home the fine wine with 1st place. *Nellie*, dodged (mostly) around the course for 2nd place and *Friendship* avoided damage twice and came home with the hat and the beans for 3rd.

There were three other boats that were not officially scored, as they did not have a current PHRF certificate, but they still wanted to play. Lin Folsom and her last minute pickup crew on *Myrica*, an Alan Buchannan 30, has some bragging rights in the C fleet scoring unofficially 2nd, while Kevin Swackhamer from Bellingham, who came down with his Santana 20 *Hitched*, has unofficial bragging rights on 1st in the B Fleet. Wayne Shalamuneu also participated in the race on his beautiful Columbia 29, *Silver Ocean*.

After the racing, the sailors were treated to fine art, wine, beer and victuals at the Anacortes Arts Festival Fine Art Opening held at the Port Warehouse... it's true... some sailors can and do appreciate fine art... so take some time and money this coming weekend and support the artists of the Arts Festival... they have supported us. I had a fine time working on this event and hope all had fun. Next year it will be bigger and better... but mostly fun! Thanks for coming to all who attended. -- Pat Barrett, Vice Commodore

### Another Successful Pub Cruise

The Pub Cruise had a very good turnout and fun was had by all. The management of Otter Bay gave the group free steaks and a case of wine as well as the use of their grill. It was a great meal. At Genoa Bay there is a new operator running the restaurant, but the food was as great as before. When leaving Genoa Bay, a sailboat race started up the channel and Lynn Ogden creamed the four other boats. Sidney had a fun Canada Parade and fire works. After a night at Ganges, many of us went to Lopez Island for their 4th of July Parade. The fire works were spectacular until several brush fires were started. That ended the show.

Those who went on the cruise, all or part of the way, were Bill and Brenda Cheaqui, Dean and Suzanne Emery, Phil and Madelyn Case, Steven Dubnoff and Marian Lowe, John and Martha Moody, Dave and  
*continued on page 5*



*A Happy Bunch After a Steak Feed at  
Otter Bay  
Photo from Bill Short*

Karen Thomson, Walt and Christine Schad, Lyn and Kathy Ogden, Craig and Joanne Clark, Bob and Jan Jordan, Doug and Carol Hansen. The three Gather boys from San Juan Island also tagged along. -- Bill Short, Cruise Captain

## Speeding Up US Customs

From the Recreational Boating Association of Washington... At a recent visit to the U.S. Customs Small Boat Reporting Office, it was learned that Customs has deployed a new computer system. The good news is that the new system improves national security; however, the not-so-good news is that it cannot be integrated with the older system that contained your PIN small boat reporting information. The PIN system is still alive and well, but your information must be manually entered into the new system each time you re-enter the U.S. and check in by telephone. Customs reports this has slowed the process considerably and wait times are longer than last year. To help speed up the process, and improve the situation for both Customs and us boaters, please have the following information for each passenger and your vessel WRITTEN down and ready to report upon calling:

- √ Passport number for each passenger is desired. If no passport, birth certificate number and driver license number would be required for each passenger
- √ Date of birth and place of birth for each passenger
- √ Name of owner of vessel, including charter vessels
- √ Vessel number

- √ Make, model, and year of vessel
- √ Customs decal number for your Annual User Fee. This \$25 renewal fee should be paid prior to entering Canada.

Also remember that documents are required on board for pets; i.e., current rabies certificate etc. No Canadian beef or beef products are allowed entry into the U.S. Also raw chicken and eggs are not allowed. No cut flowers are allowed.

With this information ready and available, you can expect your PIN telephone clearance process to take 5 minutes for the average boat and two people, plus wait time on hold. The clearance time is longer if more people are on board. If you have any questions whatsoever, please call your local U.S. Customs Office. Know before you go. -- Provided by Dave Malsed

## New Members

Hi All. It gives me great pleasure to introduce new members to the Club. New members always bring new ideas and their own experiences to the AYC which adds to the overall enthusiasm of the Club. I would like to introduce Karl and Patricia (Pat) Essig. Their mailing address is P.O. Box 190, #05019, Jefferson, OR. Cell phone, 310-849-3698. Email, [kkessig@att.net](mailto:kkessig@att.net). Karl and Pat are preferred members and are new to the Pacific Northwest. They have been boating for 20 years and recently moved from Southern California. Karl is past (Staff) Commodore of the Santa Monica Windjammers Yacht Club. They are interested in both racing and cruising and will be willing participants in various committees. They have volunteered for racing, galley, bar operations and facilities. Welcome Essigs! --Barbara Ritts, Membership Chair

## More News from Whidbey Race Week

Thomas Childs, my nephew and previous owner of *Radio Flyer*, entered this year's Whidbey Island Race Week. The boat was prepped and polished and looking good. Although they did not fare as well as planned, they had a great time. Sunshine, wind, great racing, over 110 boats and crews all make Race Week (AKA adult summer camp) the premier sailing event of the Northwest.

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## More from Whidbey, continued from page 5

*Radio Flyer* is a 1969 Columbia Saber, best described as “old world fast.” The original design was from a mold of a famous 1950s international 5.5 meter (*Carina*). In the early sixties Columbia Yachts wanted



*Radio Flyer at Whidbey*  
Photo from Vic Childs

to build the first fiberglass racing sloop to enter in the Olympics. They built several (actually over 300) of the 5.5 meter boats when the Olympic Committee decided it was too soon for fiberglass. Stuck with all these hulls, Columbia added the cabin top and minimal cruising accommodations and called it the “Saber,” a family racer/cruiser. You can read more about Columbia Yachts by going to the Columbia owners’ web site. [www.columbia-yachts.com](http://www.columbia-yachts.com). --Vic Childs, proud owner of *Radio Flyer*.

## Snail Mail Trumps Email

Bill, the sender of the following email is an old friend from my offshore cruising days. He and his partner are on *Amadon Light*, a Panda 40 now in Tonga. They provide daily weather reports for cruisers wherever they happen to be, and are active on several ham nets. --Elizabeth Pearce

Mid: 1688\_ke6sd  
From: ke6sd  
To: smtp:m1466@olyopen.com  
Sent: 7/28/2004 03:03:00  
Subject: Snail Mail Trumps Email

Hello All,

A while back I received a letter - not an email - from a Chinese friend in Taiwan. It read... “Dear Bill: Last

night I was awakened by a sausage. The sausage asked if I knew Bill in the Ocean. I hung up on the sausage. When I wake in the morning I think maybe it is you the sausage talks about. Could it be you? Sincerely, Lillian”

Baffled, I thought that Lillian had completely flipped out. I put the letter away, and reread it several times over the next month. Finally, it dawned on me. As we get mail sent only once a year, the letter was dated almost 8 months before. On checking the log I saw a QSO with a Chinese fellow in Tainan, Taiwan. I recalled asking him if by chance he knew Lillian Whang who lived in Tainan. Then, I realized the problem. Apparently, he called her in the middle of the night. And, in going from English to Chinese, and back to English in her letter to me, the helpful “ham” had become a “sausage.” Ciao, Bill.

## News from AYC Cruisers

Progress Report on a summer cruise from Phil and Madelyn on *In the Mood*.

After a fun Pub Cruise to the Gulf Islands, we headed north for our 6 week cruise to Bella Bella. We’ve been out for two weeks now, but made it no farther than Campbell River. Currently, we are tied to a sea wall off Discovery Bay Marina having had our Westerbeke engine hoisted to shore this morning. We await the water taxi/towboat to return to move us back to our slip at the marina. The Westerbeke seems to have worn out, so now we decide whether to rebuild the old or replace it with a new. This translates into 1-3 weeks of laytime and lots of \$\$.

We have also kept in contact with Jane and Roger Wright aboard *Anticipation*. Currently, they are holed up in Port McNeil due to a broken water pump, but they should be back out on the water by the weekend. They have been all over the Broughtons and are headed for River’s Inlet north of Cape Caution. The Caves and Karneys are watching fireworks at Vancouver after a harrowing (20-30 knots) crossing of the Straits of Georgia. If the gods are with us, we will join up with them to travel north some time this summer. The Harbers are joining us up north as well. We will contact you later. --Phil and Madelyn Case

# **Anacortes Yacht Club**

## **August Activities**

**Wally's Tour Race I, Wednesday, August 4**

**AYC Bar Opens Friday, August 6, at 5:30 pm**

**Wally's Tour Race II, Wednesday, August 11**

**AYC Bar Opens Friday, August 13, at 5:30 pm**

**Two Buck Night, Friday, August 13, 5:30 pm**

**Wally's Tour Race III, Wednesday, August 18**

**AYC Bar Opens Friday, August 20, at 5:30 pm**

**Board Meeting, Tuesday, August 24, 7:00 pm**

**Wally's Tour Race IV, Wednesday, August 25**

**AYC Bar Opens Friday, August 27, at 5:30 pm**

**No General Meeting in August**

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### **Email and Other Changes**

For all address changes (including telephone and email), contact Dave Thomson, 360-293-7900, [eltortuga@comcast.net](mailto:eltortuga@comcast.net), or drop a note to the address shown in the Roster.

### ***Knot News* Contributions**

The deadline for the September issue is Saturday, August 28. Please send an article, photos and other items of interest to George Hatfield, Editor, at [gphatfield2@comcast.net](mailto:gphatfield2@comcast.net).