



Propeller and Sail

Ketchikan Yacht Club Newsletter

April 2004

Current Soundings

Congratulations to **Wilbur Smith** on his Recreation Visitor Safety Award! As many of you know, Wilbur has given many safety programs, has done numerous boat inspections helping all of us be better and safer boaters! Each time he has done his program at KYC, we learn something new or reminded of an important safety rule. Thanks Wilbur, for making our waters safer!

The KYC Clubhouse gate will be rebuilt and repaired thanks to Larry Meehan . . . as well as the roof surveyed to see what needs to be repaired and replaced. Soon everything will be ship-shape!

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Sam McQuerry



**KYC Meeting
May 4, 2004
Potluck at 6 pm
Meeting at 7:30 p.m.
The Last Meeting until Fall**

Up and Coming Events by Judith

Mark your calendar for the **2nd annual Luau** to be held **May 15, 2004** (Saturday) from 3 p.m. till midnight. Wear last year's grass skirt, and add something fun to your wardrobe for this delightful event.

The Luau info is:

The pig is ordered! The lei's are ordered! There will be a couple of new palm trees.

All Yacht Club members are invited as well as family and friends. The meat will be provided, so if people could bring a side dish, salad, or desert (perhaps with a tropical flavor), and BYOB. Weather permitting; we will have the mini sailboats, and hopefully some gumbi suit races.

So everyone is invited to come get lei'd
Judith

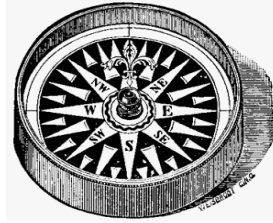
AND...the morning of the Luau, the club will be offering a **FREE American Heart Association Adult CPR class** (club members only) starting at 0900 (to about 1300 depending on the number of people). Please call Deb Davis (225-1016) if you want to attend—space is limited.

From the Sec/Treas

DUES>>>DUES>>>DUES are due. Last chance to nominate a new member during the membership drive (no initiation fee) is April 30.

Deb

Commodore's Comments



By George Porter

Look for George's column next month!

In lieu of the Commodore's Comments, News from the Goat Locker By Kris Jensen

Well since our Commodore has jumped ship to go fritter away his summer enjoying his new boat, you're stuck with me for the next few months.

First of all many of you have met Nancy and I during the course of the last few years but many have not so here's a little background. Nancy and I moved to the sunny southlands in May 2000 after 13 years in Kodiak. It was only for two years and then I'd be able to go home to Kodiak for one more hitch, and then muster out up there. Last fall we sold our place in Kodiak and decided K-town (this K-town) was for us. Of course most of you know I'm with the US Coast Guard, specifically I'm an Electronics Technician Chief (ETC/ E-7) and currently serve as Assistant Supervisor of the Electronics Support Detachment on the base. I've just completed 20 years of active duty service and am now retirement eligible but I'm going to stick with it until I can afford to retire or they really P!\$\$ me off, whichever comes first. Generally Nancy leads a life of leisure and folly, but occasionally works when the mood strikes

her. Right now she's having a ball making stained glass art, but is also going to be helping CruiseWest again this year as their Driver trainer for the tour busses. She's going to be flying around Southeast training drivers in the various ports of call for the cruise ships.

We usually sail our boat Aleutian Tern in the Wednesday races but this year I also acquired a new boat, though mine will be more toil and expense than fun like George's. But it should allow me to hone my racing skills more than the Tern birdy did and might enable me to actually cruise with the old boat.

Hopefully I'll see more of you out on the water and around the clubhouse as the year goes on. Please don't hesitate to say howdy and give me input on how you'd like to see things go at the club.

Trivia items:

Ornamental Sleeve Buttons The decorative bone buttons that are today sewn on many suit jackets, sports coats and blazers began as an effort by Lord Nelson to keep young midshipmen and cabin boys from wiping their noses on their sleeves. In the days of sail, young boys, often as young as nine years old, would sign on sailing ships as cabin boys, usually becoming midshipmen as they got older. Many, particularly on their first voyages, would become homesick, tearfully tending to their duties in their fancy gentlemen's uniform. That uniform had no pockets for a handkerchief; so the young boys would, like all young boys, wipe their noses on their sleeves. To break his cabin boys and midshipmen of this ungentlemanly habit, Lord Nelson had large brass buttons sewn on the sleeves of all midshipmen and cabin boy uniforms. The decorative value of the

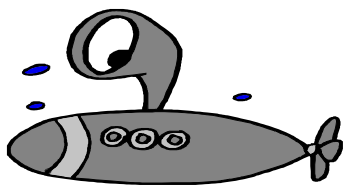
buttons were soon realized, and in short order, London tailors were adding

Page 3

decorative buttons to frocks, coats, and dinner jackets. Though the buttons have become less gaudy, the practice continues.

Ship's Husband Sometimes when a ship is heading for the yards, an old salt says that she is going to her husband now and it causes novices to wonder what he is talking about. A ship's husband was once a widely used term, which described the man in charge of the shipyard responsible for the repair of a particular ship. It was not uncommon to hear the sailors of creaky ships lament, Ah, she's been a good ship, lads, but she's needing her husband now. In the course of a ship's life, she may have had more than one husband, but this had little bearing upon her true affections. Tradition has it, her love was saved solely for her sailors.

“Donkey’s Breakfast” In old sailing ships, sailors slept on the deck or on bare bunks, and later in hammocks. Any kind of a straw mattress was a great luxury. Because the first sea-going mattresses were usually filled with hay or straw, “donkey’s breakfast” became a synonym for such beds.



CRUISING NEWS

KYC Members,

Glad to hear the Ketchikan Y. Club is beginning a new season. I wish we could be there for the Luau, breakfasts, dinners. etc.

However, we are now back on Bainbridge Island, WA living on our boat at Eagle Harbor Marina while our home is being constructed.

We plan to visit Ketchikan from time to time. When we do we will stop by and say hello.

If any of the Ketchikan Y Clubbers come to Seattle this summer, there is lots of room for transient moorage at Eagle Harbor Marina on Bainbridge Island. Bainbridge is directly across the Sound from Seattle --- a ferry ride away. Ask them to stop by and say hello. Our slip number is C 21.

**Have a wonderful spring and summer.
Judy and Ed Martin
M/V *Dreamer***

KYC Members:

Just a short note to bring you up to date on our cruising.

Raven will be in Loreto the first week of April. We departed San Diego on January 6, and headed toward Cabo San Lucas. The trip down the coast was not fun. The winds were consistently on the nose, the winter storms up north were causing tremendous swells, and it was unusually cold for the area. We broke our boom on the last leg going into Cabo at midnight during chaotic seas. Fortunately, no one aboard was hurt. Emil jury-rigged the boom but it wasn't until we got to La Paz that he was able to repair it.

The voyage from La Paz north has been magical. The islands are beautiful, with crystal clear turquoise blue water and white sandy beaches. The weather is consistently in the 80's and sailing is good. We don't know how long we will be here or what our destination will be after San Carlos, but will drop a note and let you know as we progress.

**Susan and Emil Dopyera
Aboard Schooner *Raven***

Old Salt's

Wisdom



None of us knows anything about boats until we have built or owned at least three; by that time we begin to realize how very little we really do know. –William Atkin

A Rule of Thumb about anchoring, buy the heaviest you can physically handle, hang the expense. And don't forget the **Role of the Rode**—A small anchor on a long rode is more effective than a large anchor on a short rode.

The hollow winds begin to blow
The clouds look black and the glass is low
Last night the sun went pale to bed
The moon in haloes hid her head
Look out my lads! A wicked gale
With heavy rain will soon assail.

Things that bring good luck at sea:

- Baking bread on Good Friday
- Throwing bread over board during a storm (it will calm the sea)
- Carrying a boom on board that had been used in a church
- Having a child on board
- Getting underway on a Sunday
- Throwing back the first-caught fish
- Stepping on board with the right foot first

History

April 1, 1945, A tsunami swept away the light station at Scotch Cap, Alaska. The entire five-man crew was killed. The Officer in Charge, Chief Boatswain's Mate Anthony L. Petit is the namesake of our local Coast Guard 175-foot buoy tender

2004 Race Schedule

Warm up series		Wednesday	April 21 and 28
May series	sponsor- Shaffer Family Dentistry	Wednesday	May 5, 12, 19 and 26
June series	sponsor Davies-Barry Insurance	Wednesday	June 2, 9, 16, 23 and 30
July series	sponsor Mariner Sails	Wednesday	July 7, 14, 21, and 28
August series	sponsor Serwat family	Wednesday	August 4, 11, 18 and 25
Frostbite series	sponsor Alaska Glass and Supply	Saturday	September 11, 18 and 25
Race Against Time		Any day in	May, June, July and August
Guard Isl- Clover Isl	sponsor Lyn Cothary	Saturday	May 15
Nicholas Passage	sponsor Lindemann family	Saturday	June 12
Jack and Jill	sponsor Otter Creek Partners	Saturday	June 26
Single-handed	sponsor Otter Creek Partners	Saturday	July 3
Tri island	sponsor Alaska General Seafoods	Saturday	July 24
KORC		Wed-Sun	August 11, 12, 13, 14 and 15

Upcoming Activities and TO DOS:

- Please close the windows and lock the doors after use of the Clubhouse.
- We have had a high power bill lately at the Clubhouse, please make sure heat is turned down, lights are off, etc.
- Spruce up your boat...free pressure washer use until 30 April.
- Mother's Day weekend in May will be the start of the Friday BBQ and Sunday Brunches....see you there!

Dock Lines

- Check out the [Race Schedule!](#)

Web Site

- Don't forget to keep checking out our website at www.ketchikanyachtclub.org



KYC's next Meeting May 4, 2004



Ketchikan Yacht Club
PO Box 6694
Ketchikan, AK 99901

Founded 1933

