

Home Port

Corinthian Yacht Club of Bellingham



122° 30' 06" W 48°44' 55"N

February-March, 2011

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Do you have questions about the HomePort Newsletter or want to volunteer? Contact Kathy Sheehan at editor@cycbellingham.org

2011 CYC Officers and Board Members

Commodore - **Mel Davidson**
Vice-Commodore - **Dave Cahill**
Secretary - **Bill Gunter**
Treasurer - **Bob Jenkins**
Administrative Officer - **Laurent Martel**
Membership Chair - **Sherry Jenkins**
Race Chair - **Bill Apt**
Cruise Chair - **Chris Wilson**
Reciprocity - **Dan Lehfeldt**

Commodore's Corner

We are pushing into spring, so it is time to start planning to get the boat ready for the coming season.

We don't haul it out every year anymore, since we stopped racing our boat. We do have someone dive under it once or twice a year to replace the zincs and scrub the bottom between haulouts. That seems to keep us going reasonably well. I used to do that myself, too, but my bones object now to continuous immersion in 48-degree water for any length of time.

A few years ago, lying on my back on a cold concrete slab (not cement, remember) in the middle of a rainy March, scrubbing, scraping and sanding under the keel, I caught bacterial pneumonia. It pained me to pay to have the boat sitting on the hard when I couldn't work on it.

Instead of a few days, the boat was out of the water for close to three weeks. Broke my Scottish heart (and sickened the rest of me). I was lucky it wasn't worse. So be careful. Pick your days: stay home or work inside the boat when the weather is crook.

Assuming you haul out, check the:

- Cutlass bearing and shaft seal
- Rudder bearings
- Through-hulls, both for a free turning handle and a clear opening (sometimes barnacles grow in there)
- Folding prop for wear
- Grease in the folding prop (if provided for)
- Lifelines for rust and worn spots at the stanchions in particular
- Knot-meter paddle wheel
- Paint-free copper grounding plate, if you have one



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And of course, replace your zincs. I went through the boat and replaced hoses last year, so we are set there.

Please add your items to my list.

Be safe out there, Mel

Winter Dance a Success



The Winter Dance at Melody Hall was another great success. Otherwise dignified yacht club members were seen dancing with lampshades, er, sailboats on their heads!

[See photos from the Winter Dance](#)

Homeport News

Send us your comments about the online CYC newsletter. Are you receiving your copy by e-mail? Do you want to volunteer to write an article or do some editing? Do you have pictures for the Home Port News? E-mail Kathy Sheehan at editor@cycbellingham.org.

Upcoming Events

(For more info, see [Events & Cruises](#))

March 8: 6 p.m. Monthly meeting, Mardi Gras and potluck at the Squalicum Yacht Club. Andy Schwenk of Northwest Rigging, who has previously addressed our club on the dangers of worn rigging, will return to talk about preparing to compete in local yacht club racing. Andy is expected to condense 30 years of competitive sailing knowledge into one hour.

March 8: Marina Advisory Committee meets at 6 p.m. at the Squalicum Harbor Office, 722 Coho Way.

March 19: The Wings over Water Pacific Northwest Birding Festival from 10 to 4 in Blaine. Activities include guided field trips of the wildlife and geology around Semiahmoo Spit, MV Plover wildlife cruises of Drayton Harbor and Semiahmoo Bay, and wildlife and educational exhibits and maritime museum tours. For more information: www.blainechamber.com.

March 20: Vernal Equinox, 4:21 p.m.

March 20: A celebration of the life of Bill Servais, 2 p.m., Squalicum Yacht Club.

April 2: Boating for Women by Women workshop, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Squalicum yacht Club, presented by [Bellingham Sail & Power Squadron](#). Please e-mail Deborah O'Connor at pinqa@oconnor.qs for more information. Cost is \$35 and covers food and program.

April 7: 2011 race fleet pre-season meeting. Also Mel Davidson's birthday.

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You don't necessarily have to climb your rigging to tune your boat for racing.

April 9: **CharterFest at Gate 3**, near the Bellingham Yacht Club, from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

April 12: **Monthly meeting and potluck** at the Squalicum Yacht Club.

April 14: **Thursday night racing begins.**

May 7: **Opening Day and CYC Swap Meet.** Possible Poker Run Cruise in the afternoon, hosted by Bruce Henninger

May 21-22: **Matia Island Cleanup Cruise.** Hosted by Dan and Donna Lehfeltd.

June 21: **Summer Solstice**, 10:16 a.m.

June 21: **Sunset Women-Only Cruise** at 6 p.m. hosted by Kathy Sheehan

June 24-27: **Cruise to Stuart Island and Cleanup at Turn Point Lighthouse.** Hosted by Donna-Marie and Dave Cahill.

Sept. 24: **"Oktoberfest" cruise**, hosted by Bruce Henninger.

Membership

In Memory: Bill Servais

Bill Servais, the CYC's first commodore and one of the club's founding fathers nearly three decades ago, has died in Mexico.

He was sailing in the Pacific with his uncle, Dick Randolph, and had a heart attack in Mazatlan, Mexico, on Jan. 25. He was 68.

"We have lost a good friend," 2011 Commodore Mel Davidson said. "We will miss him."

Bill had been sailing Pacific waters in his boats for some years now. He was the Davidsons' family dentist and took his tools of the trade on the junk-rigged "Migrant" when he left Bellingham to go cruising about 15 years ago. He served several six-month tours as the resident dentist at the U.S. Antarctic station at McMurdo Sound.

"Bill was one of the lucky ones anchored at Phuket when the 2004 tsunami hit," Davidson recalled. "He got word early enough to up-anchor and set sail before it hit but returned to help rebuild soon after."

For a remembrance of Bill Servais by his brother, John, see: <http://www.nwcitizen.com/entry/dr.-bill-servais>

John Servais, along with Bill Apt, Donna-Marie Cahill and others are organizing a celebration of Bill's life at the Squalicum Yacht Club on March 20. If you can volunteer to help with food or other details of the service, please contact Bill or Donna-Marie.

EMS Class in Spring

The tentative potential dates for the weekend EMS class are May 15-16 or June 4-5. This is a non-certified course in emergency First-Aid. About 16-18 people are needed to make this 16-hour class work. The cost will be approximately \$100.

Come to the March and April potlucks to learn more about this class.

Boat Photos for CYC Web site

Show us a picture of your beautiful boat! And show everybody else, too. Vice-Commodore Dave Cahill is developing a slide show of CYC member boats for the CYC web page. So far, he has about 10 contributions. If you haven't done so already, please e-mail a favorite picture of your boat, with a filename that clearly identifies your boat (davidsonboat.jpg vs boat.jpg or DSC21778.jpg) to cahilldm@comcast.net. Send also your name, boat name, the length and manufacturer.

The picture does not have to be of the boat alone. It can include family members, other boats or at events. If you have questions, call Dave at 647-1832.



CYC Cruising

Cruising Family of the Year

The CYC Board has chosen Deb and Dave Jones, along with Mike Reed, for Cruising Family of the Year. Deb and Dave sailed to Princess Louisa Inlet (<http://www.princesslouisa.bc.ca>) last year. And Mike gave a fascinating report to the club in February of his travels along the West Coast with Delayne and others.

Congratulations. A trophy presentation will be made at the March potluck meeting.

Deb and Dave Jones will not be able to host a Turkey Fry Cruise this fall, but dates have been set for two cruises so far this year. Cruise chairman Chris Wilson is still looking for hosts and locations for other times during the cruising season.

Contact Chris (cruise@cycbellingham.org) about any cruises you'd like to host or attend.

Cruising Schedule

Cruises being planned so far:

May 7: Possible Poker Run Cruise in the afternoon, hosted by Bruce Henninger

May 21-22: Matia Island Cleanup Cruise, hosted by Dan and Donna Lehfeltd.

June 21: Sunset Women-Only Cruise at 6 p.m., hosted by Kathy Sheehan

June 24-27: Cruise to Stuart Island and Cleanup at Turn Point Lighthouse, hosted by Donna-Marie and Dave Cahill.

July ??? Echo Bay of Sucia Island (host and date up in the air)

August ??? Eagle Harbor of Cyrpress Island (host and date up in the air)

Sept. 24: "Oktoberfest" cruise, hosted by Bruce Henninger.

Sept ??? Gulf Islands week- visit some Island across the border (host and times to be determined)

Oct ??? Turkey Cruise (dates and host to be determined)

Cruising Guide

CYC members may be interested in ActiveCaptain.com, a Web site with an interactive cruising guide. Some 100,000 boaters share their personal knowledge about anchorages, hazards, marinas, etc. and input it into the NOAA chart system. The Web site is free to registered members, and the organization also has inexpensive software, including a mobile app for smart phones.

Chris Wilson notes that there are many other cruising-sourced chart applications such as Navonics Mobile 5.0 that are also worth looking into. A cell phone with a GPS becomes a chart plotter and a marina/anchorage database. Rose Point navigation software for PCs will also import user details into the charts.

CYC Racing

The first race of the 2011 season is scheduled for Thursday, April 14, with the pre-season fleet meeting on April 7. If you would like to race or help with the committee boat, come to the pre-season meeting to find more information about racing rules and safety equipment, including changes to the [PIYA \(Pacific International Yachting Association\)](#) standards, which some of our long-distance races may come under.

Community Boating Center

The [Bellingham Community Boating Center](#) is looking for people with sailing experience to join its board of directors and education committee.

The non-profit center in Fairhaven offers entry-level kayak, sail, and rowing classes. This year, CBC will add stand-up paddleboard classes, a "next level but not racing" sailing class and a youth paddle camp. The CBC is also strengthening its community-wide cold-water safety awareness campaign and hopes to have a youth paddle club in 2012.

If you are interested in directing the future of the CBC, either as a member of the board or a committee, please send a

letter of interest to CBC, PO Box 4272, Bellingham, 98227. Or contact Mary at msdurbrow@msn.com.

CYC Board Minutes

Board minutes are in Adobe PDF format.

[Nov 2010](#) [Aug 2010](#) [Feb 2010](#) [Oct 2009](#)

[Oct 2010](#) [June 2010](#) [Jan 2010](#) [Sep 2009](#)

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Our mailing address is P. O. Box 101, Bellingham, WA 98227