

Home Port

Corinthian Yacht Club of Bellingham



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October 2019

Volume 35 Number 10

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The Next Potluck Meeting is Tuesday, October 7 at 6:00

Speaker and Program Highlights: Alan Arfritz is coming to talk to us on cruising Ketchikan to Bellingham, sure to be a great program! Please note that we will also be discussing a proposed bylaws change. The proposed changes are located after the Commodore's Corner in this newsletter.

Commodore's Corner

Amanda and I have just returned from our canal barging adventures in France. We raise money for the WWU scholarship fund and have a little fun doing it. This year we cruised the River Baise in Gascony. 13 people on two boats! We were joined by fellow CYC members, Karen and Steve Racich, Chris and Linda Benafel, whom I am certain will have some tall tales to tell.

I must say, right here that I categorically deny all charges!!....

But then, as in all boating adventures, we had an incident on the second day. Descending from the canal a Garonne to the river, our other boat had engine failure. Drifting helplessly toward the river's weir, we came alongside, rafted up and maneuvered over to a nearby dock. (Quick thinkin' from your commodore, eh?) Called the mechanic and two hours later, we're on our way up the stream and still no paddle.

What makes the Baise a challenge is how narrow it is with vegetation-choked shorelines. If the helmsman isn't paying attention, an overhanging tree can leave you wearing a garland of oak leaves with a few cuts and abrasions to boot. A low hanging branch can also wipe the table on the flying bridge clean of glassware with the bottle of Rose.

Quelle horreur!

Then there was a near international incident the fourth day out as we attempted to moor in a very tiny river port. Three boats were already moored, but the boat of German tourists offered to move their boat 6 feet and if the boat in the middle moved their boat 6 feet the other way so our two boats could raft up between them. I saw the head nodding negatory, and in spite of our German friend's attempts to intercede on our behalf, the other boater (of undetermined nationality) refused to move. A clear cut case of un-boatsman like conduct. My crew was hot! So we thought it best to continue up river and avoid any fisticuffs.

The French waterways always shut down the locks at 7pm. No travel afterhours. We were unable to find suitable mooring that night and were forced to camp in the weeds below the next lock. Thankfully, we had enough wine and Armagnac to survive the wilderness and



2019 CYC Officers and Board Members

Commodore - **Laurent Martel**
Vice-Commodore - **Kathy Sheehan**
Secretary - **Roni Lenore**
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Race Chair - **Sean Jones**
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the locks re-opened at 9am the next morning.

Our trials and tribulations aside, we were able to keep all our appointments. Touring the Chateau Frandat winery and Armagnac estate. Visiting the medieval towns of Vianne and Nerac and the fortress-like garrison town of Larrisangle. We kept to the itinerary, a first!

By the sixth day on the river, we had a seasoned crew. Everyone felt well accomplished in their tasks: piloting the boats, maneuvering into the locks and manning the lines on the fore and aft decks. In fact, cocky would be the adjective one could apply to the attitude of the crew. So, I was quite gleeful when we approached the double lock (l'ecluse) of Graziac.

Most locks raise the channel 2 to 4 feet but this lock was very different. There were a lot of "open-mouthed fly-catchers" amongst our crew as we gazed up nearly 25-feet of steel doors marking the lock's entrance. Very impressive!

Amanda and I always offer our guests an adventure, but we never predict what kind...

Your Commy, Laurent

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NOTICE OF PROPOSED BYLAWS CHANGES

CORINTHIAN YACHT CLUB OF BELLINGHAM BY-LAWS

Article VI, Officers

Section 1: The Board consists only of the following elected and appointed positions:

A. Elected: Commodore, Vice-Commodore, Immediate Past Commodore, Administrative Officer, Education and Programs Officer, Secretary, Treasurer, Cruise Officer, Cruise and Reciprocity Chair, Race Officer, Membership Officer, and Reciprocity Chair.

Laurent Martel, Commodore

Racing News

- Results from the 2019 CYC Thursday night racing series are posted at: [CYC 2019 Race Results](#).

Cruising and Reciprocity

It's time to welcome fall with our Blakely Island Turkey Cruise! This year has been reserved for the weekend of Oct. 25-27. We will start off the weekend with our Halloween party on Friday night, so dig out those costumes. This evening will be filled with music, games, costume contests and heavy appetizers in the pavilion. No scheduled dinner, just appetizers. Bring one to share.

Saturday will be full of shenanigans and laughter (I hope) starting about 1:00pm, followed by our amazing turkey fry and pot luck at 4:30pm.

Here's what I need from you if you intend to join us:

1. Boat name and LOA and draft
2. How many guests you'll be bringing
3. If you intend to join us for all festivities or will you be spending the weekend on your own. (There is a reason I am asking)
4. What day you are arriving - Friday or Saturday

I'll be in touch with everyone about food at a later date. Cut off for RSVP's is Friday October 18 at 5:00pm.

I hope you can join us, we're looking forward to another great weekend celebrating this tradition.

Call or text me at 360-220-6757 or email at winepixie@hotmail.com.

Tracy and Troy

Education and Events

We have two great programs lined up, Alan Arfritz is coming to present on cruising Ketchikan to Bellingham for our October meeting, and we again have the Showstoppers lined up for December. Lesli is also in the process of firming up our venue and date for our Spring Dance which we do to help support the Community Boating Center. Stay tuned for the dance date and plan to attend.

Do you have a computer or mobile device to keep your appointments and weekly schedule? Do you want to add CYC events to that electronic calendar?

Cruising schedule and other CYC events are listed on the [CYC Google Calendar](#), which is updated periodically. You can [subscribe to the CYC Google Calendar](#) on your computer or smart phone or see the [Events & Cruises](#) page.

Need help getting started? Talk to Chuck Dingée.

October 2019

October 8: CYC potluck, SYC Clubhouse

October 25-27: Blakely Island Turkey Cruise, Hosted by Tracy and Troy Olney

October 22: CYC Board Meeting

November 2019

November 12: CYC potluck, SYC Clubhouse

November 26: CYC Board Meeting

Cruising Recipes

Recipe Corner: In keeping with the French Canal theme, Laurent says to keep it simple, that we can't go wrong with a Foie Gras Entier served with an ice cold Chateau Riussec Sauterne

CYC Board Minutes

Board minutes are in Adobe PDF format.

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Homeport News

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

8 OCT 2019

Roni Lenore, Laurent Martel, Chuck Dingée, Tracy and Troy Olney, Lesli Beasley.

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