



KNOT NEWS

April 2018

The Anacortes Yacht Club

Since 1891

April Calendar

Club open every Friday at 17:30

April 1-Easter

April 2-5

Private Event-Club closed 8-5pm

April-Mon, Tues and Thurs

15:00pm-17:30pm –HS Sailors

April 4,11,18,25-Wednesdays

18:00 Buoy Racing

April 7-8 Saturday-Sunday

Tulip Regatta

April 13-Friday

17:30 General Meeting/Speaker

April 20-Friday

19:00-21:00 Third Friday Fun Night

April 20-22 Friday-Sunday

Shakedown Cruise-Bellingham

April 26-Thursday

18:30 AYC Board Meeting

April 27-Friday

17:30 \$5 Night



Commodore's Corner

From the Bridge - the Commodore's perspective:

We have been working towards trying to develop a much better understanding of who we are now and who we

may want to be in the future. To that end the board and others have been participating in the development of a member survey questionnaire so we can move to a board and some others retreat style brainstorming session. The survey will be available to all members to take on the web site and your participation ensures that your voice will be heard and your preferences noted as we progress through the planning process. Please keep a lookout for email notices on this topic!

We have also recently done a one-time only (so far) research project to try out a "square" style debit/credit system for use on Wednesday nights and possibly at other racing events. It is slow going as any change is difficult and can make the bartenders jobs more complicated. We will move very slowly on this!

The Tri – straits racing series has 2 races in the books so far and Wednesday night racing has started with 2 of them done also. The weather has been really pretty good with a little rain, some sunshine and variable winds. Kinda normal for the PNW! If you have been staying home due to the cold of rain please reconsider! This is my favorite time of year for racing as we have the potential for serious winds and larger waves, all of which amount to better fun!!

Hope to see you all out there!

-Walt Meagher, Commodore

March Fun Night Cruising, Cruising

March 16, about 40 AYC members gathered to welcome new members and hear about plans for the coming season! We had a great time sharing ideas and tips for the areas to explore.

We are ready to go - first stop is Bellingham for the Shakedown Cruise, April 20-21.

Make sure to ask Bob Neumann about what happens at 5pm on the Canadian Cruise in August!



Check the "Upcoming Cruises" on the website for all dates and more information.

*-Sandy and Tom Norris
2018 Cruise Chairs*

Ahoy to all Foodies at AYC

Since many people asked about the recipe for Caribbean Fish Stew that was served at the March Five Buck Night we are providing the link to the magic ingredients:

<http://www.myrecipes.com/recipe/caribbean-fish-stew>

So easy and so delicious. Enjoy!

This was a good month for welcoming new members to the AYC!

New Preferred Members

Deena "Aiona" & Matthew Hartley - "RasCal" - Cal 29'

Aiona and Matt moved to Washington from Texas in 2013 and Anacortes in 2017. Aiona has sailed various boats since 1991 and revived the sailing/racing program at the University of Illinois. They also belong to The Center for Wooden Boats. They are excited to get involved in the racing program as well as social events.

Rish Pavelec & Cissy Fisher -

Rish & Cissy have relocated from San Diego to Anacortes and are members of the SDYC since 1993. They have owned and restored 7 Kettenburg 32' Pacific Class sailboats, #63 and #16 won multiple club awards. They raised funds and restored a PC #8 (the oldest "PC" floating) and gifted her to the San Diego Maritime Museum. They are excited to get involved in the club and enjoy the many social events the club offers.

Kirby & Mary Phillips - "Spirit" - Ericsson 30'

Kirby and Mary have lived near Lake Wenatchee for the last 1 1/2 years. They have sailed in the San Juan and Gulf Islands since 2001. Additional voyages include Annapolis to Key West with legs inside on the Inter Coastal and Outside. They are excited to join the club cruising and getting to know the club members during social events.

New Associate Members

Mike Bastrom & Rexanne Graham

Mike and Rexanne recently retired and moved from South King County to Anacortes. They are looking to get involved with the local boating community to gain boating experience and expose themselves to different boats to help decide what boat will work for them. They are excited to get involved in the racing program and go cruising with the club enjoying the many social events the club offers.

Please give a rousing welcome to all our new members and make sure you introduce yourselves to them soon.

-Callie Weber, Membership Chair

Spring Sailing Begins



Sailboat racing is in the DNA of Anacortes YC. Every spring the sailors of AYC shake the salt outa their sails and start the annual pilgrimage around the buoys. This year Chris Jensen is dueling with his lovely blue cat and Gail G is countering with her new blue battle wagon. Our first canting keeled sled skippered by Gavin Bracket is on the course as well as the usual suspects.

In the distance racing the Smith Island Race turned out to be a lovely affair with sunshine and wind that was not predicted. Team OC with Jeff Hulme at the helm was the first boat home and our Commodore Walt took the Syndicat out for one more jaunt to that windswept rock.

Come join the fun, either visit our new PHRF measurer Vince Townrow at Ullman Sails on 28th street and get your paperwork filled out, or simply show up at 5 pm with 6 frosty gifts for the skipper and hop a ride on one of those colorful SC-27's on J and K docks.

-Captain Midnight

It is (still) all about volunteering

The March general meeting and dinner with Mayor Gere would not have been possible without the help of Jan Chapman, Jerry and Kathi Reilly, Walt Guterbock and Sam Stone.

And the Bar would not have been without the Bartenders, Diane and John Wilkinson.

Now the Clubhouse.... Spotless gutters, a new upper walkway, clean decks, rails, outside chairs, organized and fresh kitchen, sparkling clean windows, clean BBQ area, refurbished bar stools, etc.

Tom and Wyndham Jackson, Todd and Lorie Ann Morgan, Iain and Ingrid Draper, Jan Chapman, Ron and Diane Fry, Danette Carroll, Charley Drake, Sam Stone, David Hansen, Clay Wilcox, Robb Anderson, Dave and Terri Bawden, Jerry Reilly, John and Diane Wilkinson, Bob Barry, Robin Dalton and Frank Nebuloni.

Some brand new members, some recent members, and some long-term members, all volunteering to make AYC what it is today and what it will be in the future.

THANK YOU!

-Bill Stone, Vice Commodore



Tom Jackson replacing the upper walkway.

Bartending is the Best!

Specialty drinks at the club

This month brought a new twist on your average Friday night at the AYC. Garth and Marti Frazier have instituted "specialty drink night" with fun and unique offerings to spice up social hours. They plan to continue so if you see them behind the bar, try something new.



Bartender Orientation

We conducted two bartender orientation classes over the past month. Both seasoned and prospective bartenders attended. Thanks to all who attended (about 30) and a special shout out to Garth Frazer for sharing "hands on" knowledge. I am expecting we all learned a new detail about operating the bar. I will be publishing an updated bartender's guide for access on line and the binder next to the cash register has been updated.

-Bob Neumann, Rear Commodore

Tri-Straits-Smith Island Race-March 24

Tri-straits II – Smith Island March 24, 2018. Last Saturday we ran the Smith Island race that started and finished at the west end of Guemes channel. The weather report was for 2-9 knots of wind according to Wind Finder and 5-15 according to NOAA with some rain and maybe some sun. Tidal currents were to be outgoing most of the day until early evening. What we actually got was a bit of everything! Wind from 0 to about 16 for a brief stretch close to Smith Island. The race started at 0900 sharp and we were late for the start partly because the winds were very light and there was outbound current. My concern was that if we got drifted over early we never would have made it back to the start line! So we were off like a herd of turtles with Mac, Andy and Jeff heading along the Burrows shoreline and we headed for the center of the channel to ride the current elevator. As it turned out there was not much current and once we got into the center of Rosario the wind seriously shut off! Mirror flat water but a tiny bit of positive current. After a while the wind filled in from the south and Jeff and Andy took off going west and south. By the time the wind got back to us it became a starboard tack favor so we stayed on Starboard until we were pretty much one tack away from laying Smith Island. We tacked then the wind came up to 12 – 16 knots so we got the rest of the way in a hurry. That was the only really smart thing we did that day! But there's more! The mighty Wild Rumpus came around the island followed by Off Constantly then us. Again we had a wind shift! Where they could hoist their chutes just after clearing the island, by the time we got there the apparent wind was at about 35 degrees off the bow and still around 13 knots so I elected to reach under the #1 until we were far enough down the course that the wind strength lessened and the angle improved so that we were at about 40-45 degrees which worked out perfectly. On the way back we had again wind speeds from 0 to about 14 and it seemed like it would die out completely but by the time we got close to the dreaded Burrows wind hole it filled in so that we actually screamed down the course the last few miles and crossed the finish line fully powered up and smoking! When all was said and done we came in just behind Jeff on Off Constantly, Andy and Mac quit and the Crealock Loa'a Nalu came in last but did finish within the allowed time. All in all it was an absolutely glorious day on the water with enough sun that we should have had sunscreen on and enough breeze to finish. It was a technically difficult day to sail! Anyone can make a sailboat go when the wind blows – not so easy when light and variable! To those of you who stayed home you missed a really great day on the water!!

-Walt Meagher