

The West Sounder



Jan-Mar 2008

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Paul Prachyl

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Commodores Corner

By Greg Perkins

Happy New Year!! And welcome to the 2008 Sailing year. I have to say that I am excited to be YOUR 2008 Commodore. I do emphasize the word YOUR, because I'm here (I hope) to try and keep things running smooth and to help you enjoy the year with the club.

We had a great Christmas party, and a big round of thanks goes out to all involved (the list is huge (PO Yacht Club, the Porters, and Jorgensens, the Caterers, the people who helped set up and tear down, Dish Washers, and of course our lovely Wait Staff). This was a GREAT Party. If you have never been to one of our Christmas Party's I encourage you to set aside some time next December and attend. I want to thank those of you who have stepped forward to host Cruises and committee races.

We only have four events left to find hosts\sponsors for (Memorial Day, Sailstace, Rum Run, and the Christmas Party), and we have time to fill them (I have some leads there.. But if you are willing to host\sponsor or be a co-sponsor please let me know we can have more than one host\sponsor). Speaking of Cruises you are in for a real treat this year. We have several people who are new to hosting cruises who have GREAT ideas, they will be taking us to places we have never been to and/or places we have not been to in a long time so stay tuned.

One of the things that Pete and I struggled with last year was articles for the West Sounder.. I'm sure many of you got tired of our Texas stories (We each spent a lot of time back there last year).

You can assist us greatly and possibly inspire others (in the club or not), by writing a small article or recap of a Cruise or Race if you are the Host\Race Committee. If you take off on vacation to the South Sound, Canada or if you are up for the exotic and go to the BVI, or Croatia we would love the hear about it and publish it.

As a final word for this quarter enjoy your boat, your sport, your club and e safe. Please make a point this year to try something new.. If you are a Racer come and try a cruise. If you are a Cruiser come out and enjoy a Race. If you are a power boater come try one of each.. If you want to participate in any of YOUR clubs activities and don't know where to start.. Start by contacting one of YOUR board members, If we don't have the answer we will find one for you.

P.S. Take Pictures.. If you enjoyed the slide show from the Christmas Party Send me pictures.. I enjoyed putting it together.

Words of Vice

By Paul Prachyl

Items of Interest\Upcoming Events

Seattle Boat Show

Cruises

Presidents Day Cruise Feb 16-18

Host Bob Rowe\Dawn Wilcox

St Patty's Day Cruise Mar 16-17

Mardy DeMichele

Races

Single Hand Race Mar 29

Rick Stingle

Rich Passage Ramble April 5

Greg Perkins\Wendell Crim

Greetings and Happy New Year. I appreciate all of the votes that got me promoted from Trustee to Vice Commodore and I look forward to working for our club in that capacity. My main function as it has been explained to me is to facilitate, coordinate, monitor, assist with, and perform those duties related to the club races.

The races is a way not only for our members to get together for some good spirited fun but also a way to interact with members from other clubs around the area. I believe that how we conduct our races reflect directly on the club and our reputation in the boating community. The following is a summary for those who are not familiar with sailboat racing. What we would like to do is encourage all of our members to participate in the race committee (RC). You don't have to be a sailboat racer, you don't even have to be a boater. RC members could be a significant other, older child, or friend. A good way to start is to help the person already signed up to do the RC for our races. The RC can be a great time to hang out on the water, watch the boats, and help out your club.

The race is possible because of the RC. Most often the race committee is on a boat and consists of 2 or more people. The committee ensures that the race starts and finishes according to the race instructions. In our club the committee boat is most often tied up to the breakwater at the PO Marina.

The RC is responsible for collecting the items need to conduct the race, setting up the start line, notifying the coast guard of our permit number, collecting the registration form and fee from the participants, typing the names of the boats into the spreadsheet initiating the start sequence, making sure the start time is recorded, and recording the finish times for the participants. Typically, most of the race participants tie up after the race for a little social time and to find out the results.

After the race, the RC leader sends the result to our webmaster (or to me) who posts these to the website. In addition, we would like to start sending a brief article describing the race to the local newspaper.

As I mentioned, I will be available and involved in all of the activities related to the races, as needed. If you are interested in learning how help the RC, please let me know or contact the person listed in the events page of our website.

Following is a list of website that have more information about sailboat racing.

West Sound Corinthian Yacht Club.

The events page has the races listed as well as the person signed up to lead the RC (they probably could use some help). Also the Race Info link has the "Standard Course Instructions For Sinclair Inlet Races". All of the clubs that sponsor races have something like this. www.wscyc.net

West Sound Sailing Association. Our club belongs to this organization. Some of our races fit in to the WSSA series. There is also the "**West Sound Sailing Association Standard Rules and Racing Instructions**".

<http://bremertonyachtclub.org:80/sail/wssa/>

Pacific International Yachting

Association. This link has a list of the Seattle area sailboat races and also has a comprehensive list of equipment for different levels of sailing, offshore, inshore, etc. www.ussailing.net/piya/