



ISLANDER

FROM THE BRIDGE ★★★

CLUB EVENTS:

BOARD MEETING
Tuesday, April 14

BUSINESS MEETING
Meet your Member
Byron Skubi & Jane Mays
Wednesday, April 15
Reservations by April 11

FIESTA TIME!
April 25 -- OLE!!
Tickets by April 23!

LaConner Cruise
April 17-19

THURSDAYS AT THE CLUB
6:00 PM
Games (Bring your own)

Order Food, Come Fed, or Cook a Burger

BRIDGE AT THE CLUB
Every 3rd Friday
10:00 A.M. \$2.00

Call Bev Campbell 682-6104
or Sandi Carrothers 675-1306

BURGERS AT THE CLUB
Friday Nights at 6:30
Come Enjoy YOUR Club

OPENING DAY
MAY 3
Reservations by April 29!

...But Wait! There's more!
See the Web calendar for
more events...

It's that time of year when we can all at least think about getting the boat ready for cruising – it won't be long now. I started my cruising season by hitching a ride on a friend's sailboat for a passage from Panama to the Galapagos Islands last month – a wonderful trip. Jane and I plan to bore you with slides and stories about it at this month's "Meet Your Member" event.



I am already looking forward to our Opening Day celebration, which will take place on Sunday, May 3. As usual, we will start with a spectacular brunch by Vel. This year we have booked Whidbey Island's own Shifty Sailors for your musical entertainment. They have gained considerable acclaim, and have performed all over the world at nautical events. Following our ceremony, we will have the blessing of the fleet and our traditional boat parade. In the past few years, due to weather and other circumstances, participation has dwindled somewhat. I hope we can reverse this trend and make this year's parade, led by Steppe Williford, one to remember. So decorate your boat and come on out. If you don't have a boat, sign up in the Clubhouse so that you can participate on someone's boat.

We have been very fortunate this year to have had a number of great people join our Club. I think even in a stressed economy people are realizing that our Club is a great value. Many thanks to our membership chairmen, Craig and Virginia Cooley, and to all of you who have helped to recruit new Members.

See you at your club

Byron Skubi, Commodore 2009



OPENING DAY, SUNDAY, MAY 3
Vel's Famous Brunch Buffet

Whdbey's Shifty Sailors
\$15/Person

Buffet 11 - 12:30
Program begins at 12:30
Parade of Boats following, weather permitting
Buy tickets at the bar by April 29



FROM THE VICE COMMODORE ★★

As the pages are flying off the calendar, the year 2009 zips past; don't let the fun and excitement pass you by. Our Social Committee provides us, the Members, with ample opportunities for camaraderie.

The Sail Fleet starts the Spring Sailing Series on Wednesday evenings through April. The Clubhouse will be open as usual for steak/chicken dinner night and will be available to the sailors after the races for like meals. Please make your reservations early to help our staff continue its excellent service.

Our business meeting this month will be a "Meet Your Member" event with our own **Doctors Mays** and **Skubi** (aka **Jane** and **Byron**) in the spotlight. Don't miss this one; it should be good!

While our Cruise Fleet is on their Shakedown Cruise to La Conner on April 18, the *Viking Fleet III Pelican Championships* will take place right here in Oak Harbor. **Maria** and **Phil Litrenta** are hosting the fleet at the Clubhouse after racing. If you're as curious about these Pelican racers as I am, come on down and join the fun.

With the month winding down, Oak Harbor celebrates *Holland Happening*. During the parade on April 25, our Pirates will swash-buckle their way through the streets delighting both young and old spectators with their pirate ship, antics and costumes. Later that evening at the Club we'll be having our April social, a Mexican Festival.



Vel and her staff do a wonderful job for us. She has asked for volunteers to assist with different parties she has booked for the Yacht Club, both on-site and off-site functions. The more help she gets the lower our overhead is and the greater the profits realized by us. After you read this, stop Vel and tell her what a great addition she is to our team and ask just what it is that you can do to help.

Thank you all.

See you at our club

Rex 'R'

Vice Commodore



MEMBERSHIP APPLICATIONS PENDING:

Brett Ginther & Terica Taylor, OH
William & Marge Chiles, OH
Jack Patterson & Sheri Blessing, OH
Colin Hedrick, OH

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS:

Gerald & Bonnie Suminski, OH
Carl & Karla Freund, OH

FROM THE REAR COMMODORE ★

It was an honor having been chosen Grand Marshal for the 36th annual Oak Harbor St. Patrick's Day parade. This year's parade was the largest with 22 participating entries. (The first parade consisted of just one truck and a half dozen people.) The parade was organized by the Secret Irish Wildlife Society under the supervision of Yacht Club Member **Dutch Strehle**. (Hip, Hip Hooray, **Dutch!**)

The day began at 4:30am, with the Leprechauns, braving cold, wind and dark, painting the parade route with shamrocks. After speeches and the kissing of the Blarney Stone in Windjammer Park, it ended with a sing-along at our Club that was open to the public for celebrating. What a nice way to bring together all the various aspects of our community.

For me, the most memorable moments were the happy faces of the children receiving gold doubloons from my Irish "pot-o-gold," the merriment displayed by the participants throughout the parade, and the enjoyment of our fabulous corned beef

sandwiches at our very own Yacht Club.

It was incredible watching a large group of people (the largest gathering I have witnessed at the Club) singing, dancing and laughing. As they say, "T'was a grand sight."

The Oak Harbor Yacht Club shines once again, as several of our Members comprise the Secret Irish Wildlife Society and our Club hosted the grand celebration after the parade, all to the purpose of bringing a spot of joy and hope of spring to our community!

How lucky we are to be members of the Oak Harbor Yacht Club!

Until next month, Hook'Em!

Jim Byrne
Rear Commodore



*P.S. – Note my new email address:
jim_r_byrne@yahoo.com*



ROSTER UPDATE

We are going to print with the 2009 Roster very soon. Please contact Bob Mitchell with any changes or pictures of you or your boat.

Sail Fleet News

SAIL FLEET — ATTENTION ALL SAILORS – THE OHYC SPRING SERIES STARTS WEDNESDAY, APRIL 1ST. (NO FOOLING).

I know during the last couple of months the conditions have been testing at best – rain, snow, blustery winds, etc. We are looking forward to the changes of spring; an extra hour of daylight, gradually longer days, moderating weather and fewer storms. The Spring Series offers everyone a chance to get out and take a little break mid week. Racing starts at

1800, (6:00 pm). Skippers meeting on the 1st will be at 4:30.



On the first race day the official sunset is 7:39. Don't forget to plan on the race wrap-up/debrief at the club after sailing. Steak, chicken or burgers for dinner, call ahead. See you there.

Larry Munns,
Sail Fleet Captain

PLEASE:

VOLUNTEER: *We need your help. Every little bit helps!*

RESERVE EARLY: *We need to make plans in advance and so we need you to sign up ASAP.*

HOSPITALITY & MEMORIALS: BARBARA SMITH

Please notify her if you know of a member who is ill or has passed away. She will send cards of Get Well or Condolences.

Thanks.

Barb's email is: barbara.smith1@comcast.net.

Phone: (360) 682-5538

OHYC 2009 Racing Calendar

April Fool/Warm-up Series

Apr 1 thru Apr 29 Wed evenings, 1800 Start

Summer Series I

June 3 thru Jul 8; 6 weeks, Wed evenings. 1800 Start

Summer Series II

Jul 22 thru Aug 26; 6 weeks, Wed evenings. 1800 Start

Dinghy Series

Sep 2 thru Sep 23; 4 weeks, Weds, 1800 Start

Scott Cline Regatta

Oct 3-4; 1200 Start. Day one buoys, Day two distance

Notes: OHYC club and grill available post racing every Wed.

WINSA Racing Schedule

Spring Series

May 7 thru May 28; 4 weeks, Thurs Evening. 1800 Start

Round Whidbey

May 9 – 10; Weekend, 0900 Start

Challenge Cup

Aug 8th; Weekend, 0900 Start

Saratoga Sprint

Aug 29th; Weekend, 0900 Start

Fall Series

Sept 5 thru Sept 26; 4 weeks, Saturdays. 1300 Start

----- info on; winsa.org

OHYC Sail Fleet Captain: Larry Munns, 360 675-3019

ljmunns@comcast.net



Adult sailing lessons by Oak Harbor Youth Sailing program

Beginning adult sailing lessons will be offered on six consecutive Tuesday evenings starting April 21st, from 5:30-8:00 PM, at the Oak Harbor Marina as part of the Oak Harbor Youth Sailing program.

Participants (16 years or older) will learn how to sail on 14' Lido sailboats. They will also learn basics of rigging the boat, steering techniques, sailing rules, trimming sails, racing rules, and boating safety.

The cost of the six week session is \$150 and \$12 for the sailing textbook which can be purchased at the first class session. Registration is on a first come, first served basis. Interested adults can register by sending a check to: OHYS, PO Box 2876, Oak Harbor, WA 98277. Registration forms and class information can be downloaded by going to the website at www.ohyouthsailing.org.

For more info, email kbskubi@whidbey.net.

EMAIL ADDRESSES



Commodore: Byron Skubi:..... kbskubi@whidbey.net
Vice Commodore:..... Rex DuPuis: talisman@pugetsound.net
Rear Commodore: tina_r_byrne@yahoo.com
Secretary: Ellen Harman: ellenharman@yahoo.com
Treasurer:..... Sally Crelly: sally.crelly@comcast.net
Membership Chair:.....Virginia Cooley—vacooley@hotmail.com

NEWSLETTER ADDRESS CHANGES: SEND TO: Sally Crelly—sally.crelly@comcast.net
Newsletter Editors: Tom and Barb Dumit—tbdumit@comcast.net
Newsletter Distribution & Hospitality & Memorials:Barb Smith—barbara.smith1@comcast.net
Electronic Newsletter: Jonie Craig— str82jonie@gmail.com

Website: www.ohyc.org Email info: webmaster@ohyc.org

OHYC Reservations: theyachtclub@comcast.net

SOCIAL EVENTS:

Apr 15 Meet Your Member

Apr 25 Mexican Fiesta

May 3 OPENING DAY!

Offers of help, suggestions, questions:

Ricki Greathead	279-2704
Joan Minckler	679-1891
Melinda White	675-1916
Barb Wright	679-7435

Happy Hour: Saturdays 4-6 -- Drinks 50cents off regular price

REMEMBER, VEL NEEDS OUR HELP!

2009 INFORMATION

P.O. Box 121, Oak Harbor, WA 98277
675-1314-- theyachtclub@comcast.net

2008 Elected Officers:

Commodore

Byron Skubi.....kbskubi@whidbey.net

Vice Commodore

Rex DePuis.....talisman@pugetsound.net

Rear Commodore

Jim Byrne.....tina_r_byrne@yahoo.com

Appointed Officers

Secretary*Ellen Harman*

Treasurer*Sally Crelly*

Port Captain*Keith Hall*

Membership.....*Virigina Cooley*

Newsletter Address Changes:

Sally Crelly: sally.crelly@comcast.net

Newsletter Editors: Tom & Barb Dumit
tbdumit@comcast.net

Newsletter Distribution & hospitality &
Memorials:

Barb Smith: barbara.smith1@comcast.net

Email info: webmaster@ohyc.org

Newsletter Deadline:

18th of the month

Send info to:

Tom & Barb Dumit

tbdumit@comcast.net

E-Newsletter, send to:

Jonie Craig, str82jonie@gmail.com

OHYC Reservations:

theyachtclub@comcast.net

CLUB RESERVATION POLICY

*Tickets must be purchased for all events.
Pay at the Club or by phone with credit
card.*

*Please call 675-1314 or
Email: theyachtclub@comcast.net*

FROM THE E-EDITOR

April showers
bring May
flowers. Hm-
mmm, yet another
way to say rain and
it has been raining and



raining and raining. Those May flowers
better be downright spectacular!

Unfortunately I have been living in
a sick house. Actually I was attacked
on January 31, the afternoon of my
grandson's third birthday party. At
least I can blame it on one of those infec-
tious children! Everyone has been sick
off and on since Christmas, so I guess it
was my turn, but the darn stuff hasn't
gone away! Now I've lost my voice and
am whispering my way through the
past couple of days. The doc put me on
some hefty meds, so I'm trusting it will
knock this out of me. In the meantime,
I'm just being quiet. It's hard.

That means I haven't been to the club
on my usual Friday night excursion into
Oak Harbor's adult world. I miss it!
Please know I'm thinking of you!

First we celebrate with a fiesta on
April 25, then Opening Day on May
3rd. Last year we enjoyed Vel's famous
brunch and I'm hoping to do so again
this year -- it's a meal not to miss with
companionship and food combined.

I've been practicing with the Whidbey
Community Chorus for their Spring
concern. **Donna Grate** and I show up
each Sunday evening to sing Broadway
tunes and it has been a joy. Their con-
cert dates are May 1 and 3 -- look in the
Marketplace for further information as
the time nears. Should be a hoot!

So, as the rain splatters against my
window, I still marvel at the beauty of
this place. It is a good life and I'm lucky
to be here with you.

Jonie Craig
E-Editor

YOUTH SAILING LESSONS OFFERED BY OH YOUTH SAILING PROGRAM

Three sessions of youth sailing lessons will be offered by the Oak Harbor Youth Sailing Foundation this summer at the Oak Harbor Marina.

Participants (9 years or older) will learn how to sail on El Toro and the newly purchased Opti sailboats. Students will learn the basics of rigging the boat, steering techniques, sailing rules, sail trim, racing rules, and boating safety.

The cost of each session is \$95 and \$12 for the sailing textbook which can be purchased at the first class session.

Session 1 – a weekend session – will be held June 13, 14, 20, 21, 27, & 28;

Session 2 – a sailing camp – will be held June 22 – June 26;

Session 3 – a weekend session – will be held July 18, 19, 25, 26, August 1, and 2.

Classes take place from 10 AM until 3:30 PM.

Registration is on a first come-first served basis by sending a check to: OHYS, PO Box 2876, Oak Harbor, WA 98277. Registration forms and class information can be downloaded by going to the website at www.ohyouthsailing.org.

For more information, email or call **Dave French** at grins@whidbey.net or 678-1799.



OHYC COOKBOOK!

Linda Flomerfelt and **Karen Nelson** are compiling an *OHYC Cookbook* with recipes from our Members. Please bring a printout of some of your favorite recipes to the club (there is a folder at the bar) or email them to either Linda at lindaflo@comcast.net or to Karen at knelson2007@gmail.com. Don't forget to put your name on the recipes!



Thanks, and, YUM



APRIL DEADLINE: April 18
SEND TO: tbdumit@comcast.net



OHYC BUSINESS MEETING & SPEAKER



Wednesday, April 15
Social 5:30 Dinner 6:30 UPSTAIRS

Menu: Spaghetti & Meatballs \$11/person

JANES MAYS & BYRON SKUBI
Sailing from Panama to the Galapagos
Buy your tickets at the bar by April 11



Marine Swap Meet

Deception Pass Sail & Power Squadron will be holding its annual marine (boats and related gear) swap meet on May 2nd from 8 AM to 3 PM across from the Oak Harbor Marina parking lot. There is no established charge to have a table and participate; donations are encouraged.

If you want space along the fence line please contact **Mark Casteel** 360-682-5112 or markcasteel@peoplepc.com



OHYC WEB SITE

Check it out at: www.ohyc.org

Members only section:

Username: *ohycmember*
Password: *boating4u*

Featuring:
Newsletter; On-line Membership Roster;
Galleries;
On-line reservations
Calendar of Events



CRUISE SCHEDULE

Dan Wright and Bob Mitchell

2009 Cruise Fleet Coordinators

One of the blessings of living in the North West is that we get a long cruising season in what many consider the most beautiful cruising waters available. And this year we have numerous events you can join to justify owning a boat. Below are the next few months' opportunities:

Apr 17-19	La Conner Shakedown	J.J. Jones 675-7911
Apr 24	Mad Crab Dinner Cruise WINSA	Bob Mitchell 675-9460
May 3	Opening Day	Steppe & Mary Williford 279-1551
May 9-10	Round Whidbey Island Race WINSA	Bob Mitchell 675-9460
May 16-17	Holmes Harbor	Steppe & Mary Williford 279-1551
May 22-25	Fisherman's Bay	Bob Nelson/Ralph Young
June	OPEN	
Jul 4	Home Port Party, OH	Andy Loehr
Jul 23-27	Sequim/Port Angeles	Bob & Karen Nelson
Aug 14-17	Reid Harbor (+scuba)	Pat & Ellen Harman

NOTES: **Bob Mitchell** is investigating the possibility of a trip to the Port Townsend Wooden Boat Festival during the September 11-13 time frame. This would probably be a bus/ferry trip.

Also, June is open. If you have an idea for a cruise in June or any other time frame, please contact **Dan Wright** or **Bob Mitchell**. We will apportion the Cruise Fleet budget to help defray the cost for each approved Cruise.