

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

May 2009

<u>MAY</u>		<u>JUNE</u>	
1,2,3	OPENING DAY AT SEATTLE YC	7	BLESSING OF THE FLEET/MARITIME GIG FESTIVAL
13	GHYC GENERAL MEETING	10	GHYC GENERAL MEETING/CHANGE OF WATCH
16	GHYC COMMODORES' BALL	17	GHYC BOARD MEETING
18	EDUCATION NIGHT	19	TGIF
20	GHYC BOARD MEETING	26,27	CRUISE TO OLYMPIA
22,23,24	MEMORIAL DAY CRUISE		
29	TGIF		
30	LADIES "SHOPPING" TRIP		

EDITOR: Joni Challis Cover 253-857-3818 coxswain@gigharboryc.com
 WEBSITE: www.gigharboryc.com

Gig Harbor Yacht Club General Monthly Meeting & Dinner Wednesday, May 13th, 2009

Cocktails: 6:00 p.m. Dinner: 7:00 p.m. Meeting: 8:00 p.m.
Dinner is by reservation only. All are invited to the meeting.

*Thanks to our Chef...
 Kelly Platt*

For
Reservations / Cancellations

Call GHYC at (253) 851-1807
 and select Option #1

Please call NO LATER than
Sunday, May 10, 2009

MENU

Island Salad & Wild Rice Salad

Hawaiian Chicken

Dessert & Coffee

\$15.00 per person

8209 Stinson Avenue, Gig Harbor, Washington 98335

COMMODORE'S MESSAGE



As we come to the end of a three month membership drive in May and the development of a budget for next year, I thought it would be appropriate to touch base on the purpose and necessity of membership dues and initiation fees.

The membership dues are the lifeblood of the club. An annual budget is created based on the expected full time membership dues to be collected in September of each year. Our dues are used to pay the various expenses of the club. Building related expenses such as cleaning, furnishings, equipment, mortgage, taxes and insurance. Utilities like the gas, garbage, telephone and water. Items including boating associations dues, reciprocal moorage and race events all need to be paid for. This is to mention only a few club expenses, and shows the importance of paying membership dues in a timely fashion to support the daily function of our club.

The one time initiation fee is deposited into an endowment fund to be used toward a major capitol investment. The endowment fund was created for the purpose of allowing the accumulation of funds for long range planning purposes and to know funds would be available. Membership can make contributions to this fund in their behalf for the future of the club.

The future of our club lies in the hands of its members. We have no paid staff to fill the various positions required to facilitate the functions of the club. Volunteers from the ranks of the membership are needed to maintain the club landscape to going through the chairs. It is each and everyone's responsibility to help in some way to insure the continued success of the GHYC.

David Cover 206-295-2861 davidcover@centurytel.net

EDUCATION PROGRAMS

In May, the educational committee will conduct a **Skipper Saver Program**, presented by **Trish Mulligan** of GHYC. The concept is real simple, what does the first mate do if the Captain becomes unavailable in performing his or her tasks controlling your boat? This program could save your lives. Trish will lead a discussion of some of the items needed for safety and practice procedures for you in handling your boat/yacht, bringing it back safely to port.



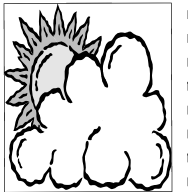
The date of this program has been changed from 1st Thursday to **Monday, May 18th 6:00PM to 9:00PM**. We will have pizza and sodas for those attending. The date was changed so the Thursday night racing sailors can attend. Every boater, sail and power, first mate and skipper should attend.

Our programs are open to our guests, so please invite other boaters. The cost is \$5.00 for Members and reciprocal yacht club members. \$10.00 for guests.

Mike Elwell 253-851-1493 elwell@centurytel.net

SUNSHINE & SHADOWS

A few of our members have gone under the knife recently, but I'm happy to report all are recovering nicely. **Ella Mary Thorpe** had a brush with breast cancer but had a successful surgery and is recovering at home. Our thoughts and prayers are with her. Get well wishes may be sent to her at 8020 Goodman Drive NW Gig Harbor, WA 98332-9513.



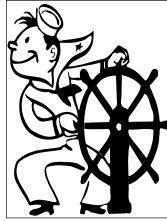
P/C Terry Haddon had emergency surgery due to compressed discs in his lower back. Cathy was a bit concerned when, as she put it, Doogie Houser showed up as the doctor. But he had finished brain surgery before getting to Terry's back so she figured things would be OK. Terry is at home recovering. He is able to walk again but can't lift any weight. The forced inactivity is frustrating for Terry. But, on the bright side, some of the prior patient's brains may have found their way into Terry, because he is developing the capacity to talk out of his backside (just kidding). Give Terry a call or send a get well wish to him at 3417 135th St. Ct. NW Gig Harbor, WA 98332.

Lastly, **P/C Jerry Burton** recently had knee surgery. Everything went well but Jerry has decided to convalesce poolside in Palm Springs where, as he put it, the warm sunshine feels better on his bones than a cold spring in the Pacific Northwest. Liquid medicine goes down easier at 85 degrees too. Give Jerry a call or send get well thoughts to him at 78426 Holister Dr. Palm Desert, CA 92211.

The shadows have passed and all three members are doing well so that's your sunshine!

Myriam Powers Leingang 253-230-3973 powers04@centurytel.net

FLEET CAPTAIN'S REPORT



Greetings mates!!! Our luck is holding.... Weather is perfect for cruising and as always the company superb, fun and outstanding!

Many thanks to Jan and her side kick the PC Bert for organizing a **really really** nice time in Poulsbo. What a great idea to "pull from the hat" for Saturday dinner groups. Super way to meet your club mates!! And, oh by the way we even had "Sailors" yup, at least 4 sailboats including our **new mates Jerry and Linda Lawrence**. And finally, I must report that we have in our midst omelet experts. Yup, if you need lessons contact **Erik and Kathleen Carlson**. WOW!!!

Our next cruise is Memorial day. It will be held at Bremerton Yacht Club and in conjunction with our Rainier Yacht Club partners. Cruise captains **Donna and Dave Printz** (and their stable of PCs assistants) have a "really big show" planned that I know will to be a hum dinger. So get your reservations in now... only 4 weekends left! So give them a call or email.

Check out our website for current cruise information. June in Olympia is right around the corner.

Buzz Curry hooah37@comcast.net 253-265-8533

COMMODORES' BALL



The annual Commodores' Ball in honor of **Commodore David Cover and Joni** is fast approaching. It will be **Saturday, May 16th starting at 1800 hours** at the club. It will be a formal function (Tuxedos and Ball Gowns not required) with hors d'oeuvres, dinner, dancing to The Tropics and an overall celebration and thanks for the **Covers' years of service**. A good number of you have already reserved your spot for this function. Anyone else who would like to attend is encouraged to contact **P/C Alan Leingang** as soon as possible. The cost is \$45.00 per person.

FROM THE VICE COMMODORE



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED:

Coxswain Editor: The Coxswain has been the primary communication tool within the Gig Harbor Yacht Club since the formation of the club. It is the place we go to find-out what Kelly is serving for dinner, remind ourselves of the date of the Poulsbo cruise, look-up the time of the Crab Feed, etc. etc. At this point, we have no editor for next year. So, unless someone steps forward and volunteers to become the editor, this venerable publication is about to disappear (e.g., think Boston Globe, Seattle PI). If we have no Coxswain, we will ALL have to be satisfied with looking-up dates, times and menus on the GHYC website or GHYC Calendar or reading weekly e-mail blasts.

Landscaping Chair: This is another new position. I want to have a committee (e.g., a chair and approximately 10 members) to take responsibility for the grounds around the clubhouse. Over the past 2-years, we have had a yard service maintain a significant portion of the grounds, but due to budget constraints, we need to move this responsibility back into the membership ranks. The primary tasks to be allocated within the committee are: cutting the grass at the back of the property, blowing the parking lot, weeding in the spring, raking leaves in the fall, trimming trees and planting annuals. The committee chair will likely want to organize a larger club-wide work party in the spring of 2010 to enhance our beds with beauty-bark. I already have 6 volunteers for the committee, so I am looking for a Chair and about 4 more members to round-out the committee and spread the workload around. It promises to be a fun committee and you'll appreciate all of the nice compliments you and your committee will receive from members and guests. They notice!

Galley and Serving Crew Coordinator: This is not a new position, but it is being separated from the volunteers that do the general meeting check-in (e.g., Jim and Lynn Watson). I need someone to coordinate the volunteers that will assist in the galley and serve the meal. This year, I am trying to recruit approximately 80 members to be on the galley crew and ask them to sign-up for a specific monthly meeting well in advance. The primary task of the chair will be to work with Kelly to understand the needs of the galley, remind the volunteers that they have signed-up for the upcoming meeting and recruit additional volunteers if I fall short of my goal. Note: each volunteer will be responsible for finding their own substitute in the event they cannot make the meeting, which they have signed-up for

Richard Sapp

253-853-3021

SappR@pdx.edu

FROM THE REAR COMMODORE



I want to thank **Mike Elwell** for all the wonderful Education Nights he has been putting together this last year. They've been a great success. If you haven't had a chance to attend one, please try and put it on your calendar to attend the next one in May.

Details on each seminar can be found in the Coxswain. This last month, we had a great program on the basics of sailing and racing that was put together by **Michael Mordue, Tom Mitchell, John McPhail** and **Jaime Storkman**. Thanks to all of them for an interesting and informative evening.

They also talked about the Thursday night sailboat races in the harbor held in May and August sponsored by GHYC, usually with a gathering for beer and pizza afterwards to celebrate. It's a great informal way to meet other sailors in the club, so think about coming out and having some fun this summer.

I want to thank **Kevin Kohler** for letting us use his boat for the Daffodil Parade. I'm hoping to get everyone's support at the Marine Trivia Contest as the GHYC trivia token. As you can see, **Dick and Mary Sapp** pulled together a truly unique "bug-infested" Daffodil costume for me to wear! Thank you Dick and Mary for such a stylish outfit!

After Daffodil, we'll be sliding into Opening Day at the Seattle Yacht Club on the first weekend of May. If you can't come by boat, please come by car and enjoy the parade and special dinner Saturday evening held at the Seattle Yacht Club just for GHYC. Our Officers' Boat and Decorated Boat need your support and to cheer us on. This Opening Day is considered one of the largest in the entire country, so we're proud to be part of it! See you there!

Yolanda Essig

253-219-2737

uniqtrav2@cs.com

LETTER FROM NOMINEE DEAN DENNIS

Greetings to my Gig Harbor Yacht Club friends. My name is **Dean Dennis**. I am deeply honored to be nominated to serve as your Rear Commodore. Here's my story.

I was born in Seattle on January 3, 1957. My father was a Marine Corps WWII Veteran who later became a Civil Engineer (you can blame Oakbrook on him) and my mother, a housewife. I graduated from Wilson High School in Tacoma in 1975 where I played football, wrestled, and ran track. Then I went to Pullman and graduated with a BS in Biology (Go Cougs!). Later I entered Graduate School in California (Berkeley) as a Seminary Student.

I am married and the proud father of four. My wife, Kathy, and I fell in love on a sailboat in the Caribbean. She already had two sons so I became an "instant Dad". Our oldest, Nicholas, is in the Navy and serving on the USS Abraham Lincoln. Next is Craig, who is a sophomore at WSU and living in a Fraternity as I did. Then there is Sean (15) who is a freshman at Gig Harbor High School and Charlotte (13) an eighth grader at Kopachuck. Our children love boating as much as we do. We live in Gig Harbor and keep our boat, White Star, at our home on Wollochet.

Professionally I am a Registered Investment Advisor. I have been operating as an RIA for over 15 years and I currently manage investments for a select group of clients. I've held senior management positions at financial firms as well as serving on several boards. Kathy, the kids, and I lived in Tampa until 2003. Through hard work and good fortune, we were able to escape the heat and, for me, once again sail on Puget Sound.

With our 47' Beneteau we have sailed up and down the Sound, played in Canada, the San Juan Islands and wherever the winds and tide could take us. We have thoroughly enjoyed participating with the various Puget Sound Yacht Clubs. We are proud of our 2007 "First Place" in Seattle YC's Opening Day for "Best Decorated Sail" and our "Second Place" the year before. We have served Tacoma Yacht Club as membership chair and Daffodil chair. We love sailing with, racing against, and raising a glass with fellow boaters.

In the time I have been a member of GHYC I have found it to be a fun and family friendly Club – traits I hope to emphasize and strengthen. My vision is one of a club whose members cannot wait to get together; that is recognizably important to Gig Harbor, and an indispensable playmate to our fellow Yacht Clubs. Other clubs on the Sound should look forward to our participation and miss us if we aren't there. As a club GHYC brings a lot to the table and our qualities and contributions need to be recognized. It is my hope that the qualities and contributions that I bring to the table can be recognized and put into play as your Rear Commodore.

Thank you,

Dean Dennis

NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

The nominating committee has concluded its work this year. I am pleased to announce our nominees for positions which are becoming vacant. They are:

Rear Commodore – Dean Dennis and Kathy. See his fact sheet on the next page.

Treasurer – Sue Thorpe. Sue has an accounting background with a CPA designation and will do a fine job for the club.

Trustee – Wayne Withrow. Wayne is an enforcement officer for the Tacoma Pierce County Health Department and has served on the executive board for the Pierce County Council's code review committee for twelve years as well as holding other board positions.

Per Article VII, Section 3 of the club by-laws you will be receiving via U.S. mail official notification of nominees for officer and trustee positions for 2009-2010. Elections will be held at the general meeting, May 13, 2009.

My sincere thanks goes out to all our nominees. These volunteers deserve our total support as they prepare to serve the club. Please make a point of thanking them personally.

P/C Alan Leingang

WOMEN'S INTER CLUB (WIC)

Thank you to everyone who helped at the WIC luncheon. I enjoyed our speaker from World Vision and I hope you enjoyed it also. It made me want to sign up. We made some money and I thought it would be nice if our group gave a donation to their organization.

The last luncheon for this year is approaching and it would be wonderful to have a car load or two going with **Margaret Ann** and me to Bremerton. The date is **May 12th** and the speaker will be talking about the Mosquito Fleet. This should be interesting as it takes me, and I am sure others, back to our childhood and the fleet of ships that ran up and down the Puget Sound delivering products. **Please give me or Margaret Ann a call and join us** for the short ride to Bremerton. The cost of the lunch is \$14.00 and the car ride is free!

Linda Kimbrough

Kadelin42@centurytel.net

253-851-8673

Margaret Ann Hardwick 253-858-2664

GALLEY CREW WANTED

How about spending time in the galley? Find some fellow mates and pick the month that you prefer. We need volunteers to help at the General Meeting Dinners. Please sign up to help out. Contact Jim Watson at: **jwatson2410@earthlink.net or 253-858-9709.**

SAILBOAT REPORT



The Gig Harbor Yacht Club's annual Island's Race was held on March 21st. This is the fourth and final race of The Southern Sound Series. Sixty-five boats started outside the entrance to Gig Harbor for the 29 mile course which takes the racers up Colvos Passage to a "rounding mark" north of Blake Island and returns to the start/finish line. Very light breeze prevailed so the race was shortened at the turning mark. Congratulations to The **Storkman's (dad, Jaime, son Ryan and daughter Katie)** aboard *Fandango* for a second place finish in class H and a second (out of 65!) place finish overall. Congratulations also to GHYC member **Marc Jorgenson** who skippered **Tom Mitchell's Wildflower** to a second place finish in class F. The Cruising Division fielded 13 boats! This is largest class in the fleet. No special gear and no "official" handicap. Way to go **Dave McGowen** on s/v *Claymore* for second in the NFS Division of the cruising class.

Many (many times a million) thanks to **Dary Alford** aboard his m/v *Bellatrix* with crew **Debbie Ploeger** and **Dave Stevens** at the start/finish line and to **Bert Beneville** aboard his boat *Berjango* with crew **Eric Carlson** and **Scott Hauter** who were stationed at the turning mark. The GHYC served a delicious lasagna meal to over 200 sailors at the post race party. Thanks to **Cheryl Mitchell** and **Kelly Platt** for managing the kitchen.

The GHYC *In Harbor* May Series is scheduled for every Thursday evening in May. First Start is at 1830. This is a low-keyed sailing event. Any boat with a sail is welcome. You do not need a handicap and do not need to belong to a yacht club. We usually have 4 or 5 boats in the 35 foot range, 6 or 7 boats around 25 feet and several small (6' to 12') centerboard boats. We always gather at Spiro's for a post race get together. If you have any questions about how to participate in this event, please do not hesitate to give me a call.

Tom Mitchell

253-225-1846 sailwildflower@gmail.com

MEMBERSHIP VOTE NOTICE

Gig Harbor Yacht Club Bylaws Proposed Changes

May 13, 2009

Article V, Section 1 of the GHYC Bylaws provides that the government of the Club is vested in the Board of Trustees. Under Article V, Sections 3 & 4, the Board of Trustees has created and appointed membership to the Bylaws Review Committee for the purpose of making recommendations to the Board of Trustees, relating to the updating and possible amendments to the Club's Bylaws.

Following a thorough review of the Bylaws the Review Committee presented proposed updates and changes to the Board of Trustees at their March 2009 regular meeting. The Board of Trustees, after requesting a few minor changes to the Committee's draft, ratified the proposed updates and has sent the proposals to the membership for consideration.

Article X of our Bylaws requires that any proposed amendments to the Bylaws be read to the membership prior to a meeting at which the amendments to the Bylaws will be voted upon by all interested voting members. This requirement to read the proposed amendments was met at the April 08, 2009 General Meeting.

The complete proposed changes & updates to the affected Sections of Article's IV, V and VI of the Gig Harbor Yacht Club's Bylaws will be mailed via U.S. Mail to each Membership address as required by Article X of the Bylaws. These proposed amendments are what will be considered by all interested "Voting Eligible" Members at the May 13, 2009 General Meeting of Gig Harbor Yacht Club.

Please contact Jim Anderson (Committee Chair) or any of the Committee members listed in the mailed report, to obtain clarifications to the proposed amendments between now and the May 13 General Meeting.

Bylaws Committee Chair

Jim Anderson

253-857-3306

Jamesa101@centurytel.net

MEN'S LUNCHEONS CATERED BY KELLY PLATT

If you plan on attending the Men's Luncheon, please RSVP to Kelly Platt at 253-312-9814 or email me at kellyjar@comcast.net by **noon Sunday prior to each luncheon. 15 reservations are needed by Sunday for the luncheon to be scheduled that week.**

DINNER RESERVATION PROCEDURE

If you would like to make dinner reservations at any of the upcoming GHYC General Meetings, you must call (253) 851-1807 and select Option 1 to leave your information. Dinner reservations and/or cancellations are due the Sunday before the meeting. Any unused reservations which have not been cancelled will be billed to the member.

New address??

New email address??

New phone number??

Please keep your information current by sending an email to: treasurer@gigharboryc.com



MEMBERSHIP REPORT



At the April 8th dinner meeting we inducted **Ted and Yvonne Neal** and **Jerry and Linda Lawrence** into our club. Please join me in giving them a warm welcome when you see them around the club or on a cruise or any other club event.

The May 29th TGIF will be another Open House for prospective new members. You may bring anyone who you think might be interested in joining the club. This is a great opportunity for them to enjoy a casual evening with us, ask questions and just see what we are all about. We ask that members attending this **TGIF to please bring an appetizer to share with our prospective members.**

Louise Babbitt

253-857-8687

lbabbitt@centurytel.net

LADIES NOT A MYSTERY TRIP

At the April general meeting, with a show of hands, it was decided that instead of a Mystery Trip we will have a **SHOPPING trip.** The location will be.....**BELLEVUE SQUARE!!!**



We will **meet at the Kimball Park & Ride on Saturday, May 30, 2009, at 8:15 a.m.** The bus will leave at 8:30 a.m. for our destination. We will return about 5:00 PM, just in time for our husbands to take us out for dinner. After a full day of shopping, we will be much too tired to cook dinner, don't you think?

We only have room for 36 on the bus. The cost is \$25.00 per person. Your check will be your reservation. Please make your checks payable to GHYC and **mail them to Nancy Ransford at 4214 67th Ave NW, Gig Harbor, WA 98335.**

POWER BOAT REPORT



Gig Harbor Yacht Club Invitational March 28, 2009

The storm gods were threatening all week prior to this event and the Coast Guard even called George Babbitt Friday about the predicted gale force winds and our obligation to call the event if needed for safety. By Saturday morning, however, the predicted storms calmed and we had a great day out on the waters around the Narrows and Tacoma. Of course the currents were as predictable as ever.....NOT, at least according to the resulting scores following the contest's completion.

GHYC Results:

- 2nd Place Class 3: **Jerry & Shirley Downer** aboard Norwester
- 2nd Place Class 1: **V/C Richard Sapp with Michael Gaines** aboard Cascadia
- 1st Place Class 1: **Jim & Linda Anderson** aboard Fidalgo
- 3rd Overall: **Mike Burton with Harry Hovey** aboard Royal Chinook
- 1st Overall: **George Babbitt with son Ian Babbitt** aboard General Quarters

Thanks so much to the following people who helped:

Our City Dock Team for holding space for out-of-town contestants: Harry Hovey, Dary Alford, V/C Richard Sapp, George Babbitt (Thursday/Friday) and Dick Bennison, Chuck Irwin, Steve Schultz (Saturday). Also thanks to Louise Babbitt, Dottie Elwell, Alisa Dillon, Andrew Welch, Mike Elwell, Don Poulsen, Rod Norman, Scott & Rhonda Hauter and George Babbitt. How could it possibly have gone wrong with all this help.

Eagle Harbor by QCYC and SYC April 4, 2009

- We had another great day out on Puget Sound with little to no wind. The sail-boaters competing in the Blakely Rock Benefit Race out of Shilshole, provided some great color at the finish of the navigation contest – what else.....Blakely Rock. Sure glad we finished on the south side of the rock since they rounded it from the north.
- Well.....there were two of us from GHYC participating in this contest and yours truly didn't do so well however.....
- 1st Place in their Class was **George & Louise Babbitt** aboard General Quarters. George's score of 0.9996% put them at 6th overall out of 26 contestants. Congratulations and a great race for George & Louise.

Upcoming reminders:

Filucy Bay Challenge June 13, 2009

- This is our laid-back, low key and fun event held out of the Longbranch Marina in Filucy Bay on the Key Peninsula in June. This is an event we put on without cost to the Club to provide another contest for South Sound IPBA and it is one that is highly regarded by many participants from around the Sound.

July 18, 2009 – International Cruiser Race Event (ICR)

- Don't forget to put this event on your calendars, just in case you are planning to be in or around Friday Harbor on the 18th of July this year. Just so you know, this is not an "invite only" contest and anyone can enter as a contestant. All you need is a boat (virtually any speed) that otherwise meets the IPBA requirements of having cooking, sleeping and bathroom facilities (the Head).

Learn what it's all about

- Please feel free to call me if you have an interest in learning about predicted log racing and I (along with many other GHYC Racers) would be happy to go out with you on your boat to "run the mile" and help you with obtaining your boat's "flat water speed".

Check out the IPBA web site: www.ipbalogracing.org

Jim Anderson – 253-857-3306 – e-mail: JamesA101@centurytel.net