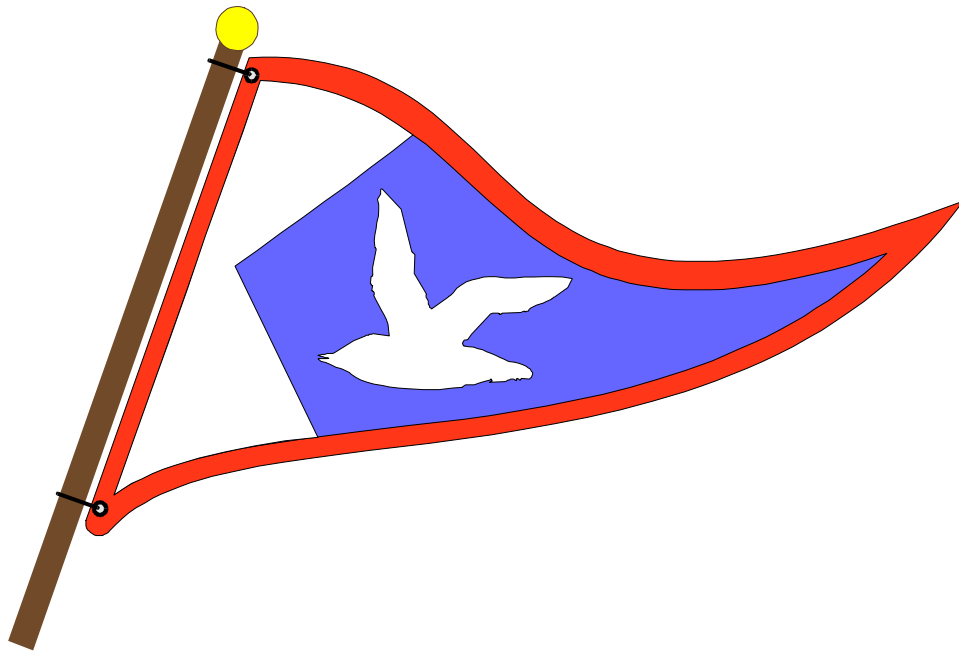


The Log

Newsletter of the Squalicum Yacht Club, Bellingham, Washington



Coming Events

Wednesday March 22

General Meeting 1800 hours





Commodore's Corner

by Rocky Champagne, Commodore

A Trip to Bellingham Cold Storage

This story started about 50 years ago when Kristi and I lived on a farm on the Noon Rd. One day I found an old ice pick on the shop bench and it caught my attention and I have had it ever since. A couple of years ago I looked closely at the wooden handle on the pick and noticed the words "Bell Ice Company" and "Phone 435". The thought of only a three-digit phone number just made me smile. I did a little research on the internet and then called Bellingham Cold Storage to inquire if their company had originally been Bell Ice Company and they said yes. They seemed very interested in the historical value of the ice pick and I said I would donate it to their collection of artifacts.

Fast forward to last week when I invited Steve Glenn to come with me to present the ice pick. We were promised a tour of the facility and were met by Jose, the sales manager. We got to see everything from dockside ship loading to the hustle and bustle of fork lifts scurrying about. The business first started building minesweepers for WWII in 1942 and their first business license for the cold storage business was issued in 1946. Ownership of the company remained constant until 2018 when the majority owner became the Joshua Green Corporation (Trident Sea Foods) but

still managed by the original owners. Bellingham Cold Storage (BCS) employs around 160 people routinely but that number swells upwards to 250 during the summer harvesting season. All told BCS and the 13 companies employ around 1,000 workers at peak times.

BCS is in the business of providing the infrastructure to make and hold things cold, very cold! Approximately 13 other companies rent space in the facility making their finished products from the raw materials stored in the huge freezer lockers. BCS realized that they were good at freezing things that the other companies made and slowly turned over jobs like the unloading of fish from the boats to the company that processed the fish. The tour was a mix of modern buildings to the still-working original freezing lockers. The original ice making house was only rebuilt in 2012. We laughed when told that they never thaw out the original lockers for fear the walls might collapse when not frozen solid! The company goal is to eventually remodel the whole complex to a more cohesive system as it mostly evolved over the years.

As we drove away I was struck by all the jobs that surround us every day. Every building we pass, every space is filled by people just like you and me, all working hard to make a living. All skill sets are not equal and all compensation is not equal but the underlying ethic is to give an honest day's work for an honest day's pay. It is both humbling and refreshing to know that those who follow after us are good workers just as we were to those we followed. I know we have some real problems in the world now but by and large we are surrounded by good people who just want the best for themselves and their families. As most of us are retired now, remember how well we contributed and acknowledge that we all still have real value, just in different ways.

That's all for now. Kristi and I went down to the boat to check on it the other day and I felt a sense of calmness. It is time to get back out on the water and I am dreaming of chugging along with a smile on my face. Hope to see you at the club house this month at our regular meeting.

March Meeting Program

by Phil Terzian and Joyce Glenn

We have a little something different planned for our March program. The Clan Heather Dancers will be performing Scottish Highland/Irish Dance for our enjoyment.

Heather Richendrfer formed the Clan Heather Dancers in 1974 and teaches Scottish Highland Dance, Irish step, Ceili dance (Ireland's social dance) and choreography. She trains for competitions through Championship level and her students compete on the international circuit. Heather has taught lessons in our clubhouse for years and is an avid supporter of our building.

On a personal note, Heather is a Bellingham native and lives in the Columbia neighborhood. She was President of the B'ham Navy League (former SYC

tenants) from 2000-2004 and has served in many military related organizations. Her time at sea included a trip on the USS Chandler from San Diego to Everett, a day onboard the nuclear submarine USS Ohio under Puget Sound and many voyages with her dancers for the Seafair Parade of Ships.

In June of 2022, she organized the return of the Scottish Highland Games in Whatcom County at North Bellingham Golf Course. Paul & Margo Graf and Joyce Glenn were volunteers for this amazing event!

Please join us for the Clan Heather Dancers performance at our potluck get-together on Wednesday March 22nd. They will perform at 7:30pm.

Squalicum Yacht Club Hosting

By Phil Terzian

Updated 2/18/2023

March - Phil & Jodi, Dale and Jana Oliver

April - David and Celie

May - Heintz and Robertson/Talbot

June BBQ - Phil & Jodi, Rob and Linda James

July BBQ

August BBQ - Leanne & Comador

September - Lorretta & Randy, Rocky & Kristi

October - Steve and Joyce

November - Change of Watch

Cruise and Event Schedule

by Phil Terzian

May 6th - Opening Day Benefit Breakfast – Chair Joyce Glenn

May 20th - Shakedown Cruise - Chuckanut Bay (Randy Bilof and Lorretta Palagi)

June 17th - Solstice Party - Heintz House - Mike & Kris, John & Linda

June 22nd - 24th Deer Harbor - Phil & Jodi

July 4th - Fourth Of July Clubhouse Event - Dale & Jana Oliver

July 20th - 23rd Reid Harbor - Steve & Joyce, Bret & Joyce

August 4th - 6th Anacortes Arts - Larry & Linda

August 24th - 26th - Fisherman Bay - Islands Marine Center Rod & Susan

September 8th - 10th - Sucia Work Party - Fossil Bay Paul & Margo, Nico & Megan

November 11th - Change Of Watch - SYC Clubhouse

December 9th - Christmas Party - SYC Clubhouse

December 31st - New Year's Eve - SYC Clubhouse

In remembrance of William “Al” Hunter 1944 - 2023

by Joyce Glenn
photos by Paul Graf

Al & Sandy Hunter were members of our club from 2011-2019 having moved to Bellingham from the Snohomish area. Al was a past Commodore having ended his tenure on the Bridge in 2016. They had frequently hosted or co-hosted club cruises and were often in attendance for those they didn't host. I remember the last club cruise to Hunter Bay was hosted by Al & Sandy. They arranged for a local historian to come out to the “Carol Lee” (being the largest boat) to talk about the history of Lopez Island. It was a fascinating evening.

As Commodore for our Opening Day Benefit Breakfast, Al went above and beyond in acquiring raffle gifts, many of them being donated by marinas

throughout the San Juans. That year we sold over \$500 worth of raffle tickets, the most ever. Sandy was also coordinator for several of our breakfasts. Al took it upon himself to completely reorganize our O.D. Handbook that continues to guide us through all of the important details for our successful breakfasts.

Al & Sandy were avid kayakers and I remember their 24' Campion “Betsy” being loaded with their kayaks. He always had a smile on his face and was willing to help in any projects the club had going. They were truly an asset to our club as well as being very involved in the community.

Al will be fondly remembered by all those who knew him.



Hunters receive dead out of water award



Fisherman Bay Cruise 7-4-15



2016 Barbecue



2014 Fisherman Bay Cruise

Anchoring problem

by Jack Bazhaw

Wrapping a line around the prop shaft is never a pleasant experience. Unfortunately, it is one I have had at least three times.

On a single-handed trip while weighing anchor in Annette Inlet, Prevost Island, I managed to back down over a crab pot line. I rapidly redeployed the anchor and set about figuring out how to clear the shaft. There was only one other boat nearby and as luck would have it, they were willing to help. They had scuba gear onboard and made quick work of the problem.

I had purchased a wet suit a while back just for such emergencies. But the salt water had caused it to shrink and it no longer fits me.

Years later Cassandra and I had a similar problem in Deer Harbor. We were making stern way after dropping the anchor when some inconsiderate pinhead passed very close across our stern. To avoid hitting him I shifted gear and revved the engine. Oops, did it again.

Just then Bob and Connie Diehl arrived on scene. He donned a wet suit and cleared the prop.

Fast forward some more years, while Cassandra and I were anchoring in Melanie Cove in Prideaux Haven, we managed to get the floating dinghy painter wrapped around the shaft. It brought the engine to a dead stop. Cassandra tried for about an hour to free the shaft using the boat hook while I cleared out the quarter berth to try and budge the transmission out of reverse as it was locking the shaft. I couldn't budge it or turn the shaft. Cassandra did manage to get several wraps off. While she was working on the problem, I noticed the engine bilge pump cycle several times. Since only ice melt water is normally in that bilge (engine has a drip-less shaft log) I was immediately concerned. When I stuck my head into the engine compartment, I could see that the shaft log was spewing water.

There is a stainless collar on the shaft and a carbon seal is pressed against it by a rubber bellows so no drip, normally. Somehow the alignment of the seal against the collar was off. I jiggled things and got the leak to stop. Cassandra decided she needed to get into

the water to finish the shaft seal job and she put on her bikini. Alas she is a southern California native, and the 63 degrees water temp was too cold.

I put out a call on the radio for a diver and *Mystic Isles* answered. He said he is in the area on a charter and is a commercial diver; will be by in half an hour. A short while later, a fellow called on the radio and asked if we have been helped yet. "Not yet," I said. About twenty minutes later three guys showed up in a dinghy, took a look and said they would be back. Right after they left, *Mystic Isles* arrived. His boat had a bunch of people on board, most of them young women in bathing suits. He said \$50 to fix, nothing if he can't fix it. I told him to go ahead, so he anchored and came over in his Zodiac. It took him about two minutes to clear; he simply tied his dinghy to our boat, rolled out into the water wearing only short pants and a face mask/snorkel. He said the shaft, strut and prop looked fine and that Cassandra almost had it done. I paid him.

Just then, the three fellows, Paul, Richard and Rob from a Grand Banks 36 showed up again. I invited them aboard for a beer for their troubles. After we have all had a couple of beers, three wives in kayaks came by to see what their men were up to.

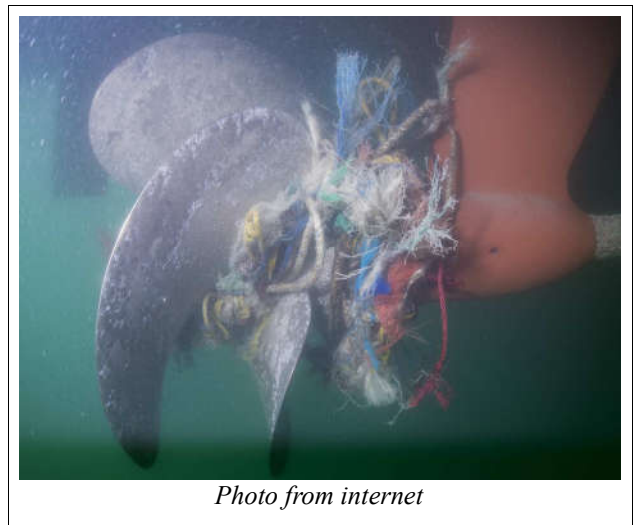


Photo from internet



The Log has been published continuously since 1981 by the Squalicum Yacht Club, 2633 South Harbor Loop Drive, Bellingham, WA 98225. The club ordinarily meets at 1800 on the fourth Wednesday of each month, September-May, at our building adjacent to the Seaview North boatyard. Potluck format—bring a dish to pass, your own table service, and a beverage.

Members are encouraged to submit boating-related stories to the *Log*. Please submit to editor@squalicumyc.org by the second Thursday of each month.

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Ask for their yacht club discount.

Discount varies from item to item.

Cash, check, or credit card—must show membership card.