

The Log



of the

Squalicum Yacht Club

Bellingham, WA

Coming Events

Christmas Party	December 14
New Year's Eve	December 31

Commodore's Report

by Phil Terzian



Full Speed Ahead

Can it really be the middle of November already? Daylight hours are getting shorter...but only for another month, and then it's full speed ahead into another boating season. Your new Bridge, which looks remarkably like your old Bridge, is enthusiastically hard at work planning events for the rest of this winter and the cruising adventures next year. Christmas party, entertaining speakers, scrumptious potlucks, opening day breakfast and an international cruise to kick off the new season. It's hard to find a dry, sunny day this time of year in the PNW, but I see a light up ahead and I'm eager to tear into another year of fun. We have a great group of members; I am grateful for that. Hold that course and full speed ahead.

Vice Commodore Report

By Joyce Glenn

Change of Watch was a super success! The tables covered in white with red, white and blue decorations were stunning. The food was excellent as usual. Thank you, Kris,

Mike, Linda and John for doing an amazing job. Also, thanks to Rocky, Kristi and Jill for helping set up. We don't always have "entertainment" at Change of Watch, but I must say the Awards Committee did a stellar job of getting some laughs. Thanks to Lorretta, Megan and myself. The following members received the following awards:

Paul: "Community Service" for his efforts organizing the work parties at Sucia

Nico: "Dar Personius" for his efforts to promote boating safety with the CG Auxiliary

Phil: "Engineering" for his failed struggle to provide a boat cover to fit the BBQ

Phil & Jodi: "Cruise of the Year" for Deer Harbor

Rob & Sharon: "Cruise of the Year" for Fisherman Bay

Rob Wells: "Perplexing Puzzler"you had to be there!

Linda Tibbot: "Squalicum" for persevering in her quest to collect \$2400 in rebates

Jill & Marvin: "Family of the Year" for actively engaging in the club & community

Lorretta: "Never Ending Support" for being the club communicator.

Your new Bridge was successfully sworn in but somehow seemed very familiar! I think it is a first in the history of SYC, but we would have to check with Paul, our historian.

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The entire bridge agreed to repeat a year because we had so much fun this past year! Comador Stewart retired as Trustee this year and John Robertson stepped in. We thank Comador for his service over the past two years and welcome John.

Our club is looking good with the refinished oak floor, refinished front door (Rocky, Phil & Steve), an upgraded bathroom with fresh paint and a new vanity (Steve & Joyce) and spiffed up interior (SYC Wm's Aux). What's next.....

As VC again and very excited to be, I will be asking for members to step up for club meeting set-ups as well as BBQs and working on new programs for 2025. If you know of anyone who would present an interesting program, please let know.



Change of Watch Potluck



Phil and Jodi receiving Cruise of Year Award



MC Rocky Champagne



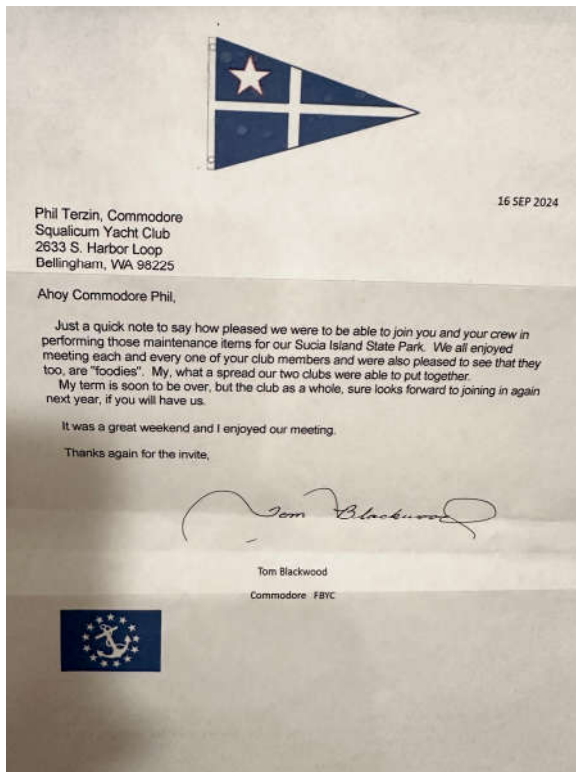
Loretta presenting Engineering Award

KUDOS FOR OUR WORK PARTY

By Lorretta Palagi

Commodore Phil received the letter shown in the photo within days after the Sucia Work Party in September. It's from the commodore of the Flounder Bay Yacht Club and he has some very nice things to say about the work party and our club and its members. As Paul mentioned, there's a very good chance they'll join us again next year.

Thanks again, Paul, for making this happen with the able assistance of Margo, Rocky, and Kristi.



Thank You from Flounder Bay Yacht Club

SYC Women's Auxiliary

By Vice Commodore Joyce Glenn

Our next get together is Tuesday, December 3rd at 10am in the clubhouse to decorate for the Christmas holidays. We will put up the Christmas tree and decorate the building inside. Many of our December renters look forward to not having to decorate for their own events. On Saturday, December 14th at 10am we plan to meet again to do additional decorating specifically for our party that evening. As a last minute addition, Daughters of the American Revolution will be using our club from noon to 3pm that day. They have been excellent annual tenants for many years and typically have their holiday luncheon elsewhere this same Saturday but found themselves in need of a place. They promised we would not even know they had been there.

On October 30th we met at the clubhouse giving the inside a good "scrub". With the help of Lorretta, Linda, Kris, Kristi, Jill, Susan and myself, we scrubbed walls & floors, waxed, washed windows, dusted, cleaned cupboards and WD40'd the squeaky table legs. Thank you Kris!

Anyone interested in joining us please let me know. We currently have 6-8 SYC women who meet 2-3 times a year to brainstorm about projects, organizing fun events, etc.

OPERATION HOMEFRONT

By Vice Commodore Joyce Glenn

In late August/early September we were contacted by Aline Allonas, the Whatcom Country representative for “Operation Homefront” supporting military families at the Whidbey Island Naval Base. Lorretta wrote about this previously in the Log with pictures. We packed 260 backpacks full of back to school supplies.

Mike & I were contacted again approximately 4 weeks ago with a request for space to pack Holiday Fall gift bags for 200 military families. With bridge approval I met Aline & her volunteer Matt on November 10th at the clubhouse as well as Linda Tibbot, my sister Jan and sister in law Janine to help put this together. This is Aline’s email received today:

“Joyce, we really enjoyed working with you and are so grateful to be able to use the beautiful clubhouse and meet new volunteers! Thank you for your continued support! Gift cards will be distributed to families as well each one of the 200 families will receive a Thanksgiving meal, these cookie baking kits and a \$75 Walmart gift card. Our Bellingham operation serves the Whidbey Island Navy Base. You can find more information about the Holiday Meals program here: <https://operationhomefront.org/holiday-meals-for-military/>

I took a couple of cookie baking kit “beauty shots” yesterday and will send pictures from the event on Thursday as well!”

Thank you again,

Aline

It’s my understanding that they plan a spring “Baby support gift pack” event. I asked Aline to keep us posted. It is fun and heartfelt to help contribute to our military families when we can.



Holiday Fall Gift Bags

TREASURER’S NOTE:

Thank you to members who have already paid their dues. If you haven’t yet, please drop off your check (\$100 per family) at the Christmas party next month or mail a check to 2633 S Harbor Loop Drive, Bham, 98225. Thanks, Linda T.

A REMARKABLE Trip to Desolation Sound supported by bearings on both ends. These bearings are often of

By Paul Graf

In 1987 SYC members Jim and Veronica McNamee had not yet been to Desolation Sound in their "Johanna," that I recollect was an Islander 40. As often happens after some friendly conversation, a joint cruise sounded like fun. Both of us with 40' sailboats, seemed like a good match. We finalized plans and by June 15 we headed north. We cleared customs at Bedwell Harbor and stayed the night. While getting organized the next morning, a radio call came. Jim said his engine wouldn't start. I went over to see what might be going on and sure enough, turning the key produced nothing. Recalling that occasionally a starter solenoid could stick, we retrieved a small hammer and tapped the solenoid, and the engine sprang to life. And on we went. The thing was, over the next several days as we made our way north, this little routine was becoming more necessary and a bit of a nuisance, not to mention a little worrisome. Nonetheless, 3 days later we made our way into Desolation Sound and anchored in Squirrel Cove.

When a couple nice play days there turned to rain, I suggested we have a look at the starter. As it was, Jim, a retired executive of a printing ink company, was not exactly mechanically inclined, so he was happy to have me take a look. The starter fortunately was nicely accessible and easy to remove from the Pathfinder diesel engine. However, a look at the solenoid did not reveal a problem. So, I took the end plate off the starter to have a look at the brushes and things inside. Now such devices have an armature which spins on a shaft

solid bronze construction in the shape of a squared off doughnut. To my astonishment, when the end plate came off, what looked like a hand full of un-popped popcorn kernels rolled out into my hand, the remains of the bearing. Whoa!! Now what?!

As it was, we knew the Townsends, longtime SYC members and friends who had shown us around this same area a few years prior, were a day or so behind us on their way to Alaska. They had become acquainted with the proprietors of the Gorge Harbor Resort, so we spoke to John via VHF radio. In short, then, we called the folks at Gorge Harbor, again via VHF and discussed the possibility of getting parts from Campbell River. They said to come on over, they could help. I said, but this is Sunday. They said it didn't matter; they have connections over there. The next trick was getting there from Squirrel Cove. Jim was towing a 12' Boston Whaler with a 25 hp outboard so we reasoned it would be an easy run around the south end of Cortes Is and back up into Gorge Harbor. In retrospect, that would have been a long 16 miles. However, that notion was cut short as we exited Squirrel Cove into a nasty chop and lots of spray. Since we were right next to the village of Squirrel Cove Jim said, "let's go in and call a taxi". I said, "Taxi?! . . .out here?? . . . are you kidding". But nothing would do, we were going to go in and ask at the store. Of course, there was no taxi . . . But! After explaining our predicament, the lady at the counter said she knew a guy in their community who might be willing to drive us over. his pickup and took us to Gorge Harbor. (continued on next page)

She called Arnold, a native American who showed up shortly in his pickup and took us to Gorge Harbor.

At the resort we received a friendly welcome. As promised, they called their parts store in Campbell River. Now, ordinarily there was no problem doing this, but! . . . this happened to be inventory day at the parts house, so parts could not be ordered. Thus, we discovered how the people living here, out of the reach of the conveniences we are used to, have learned to be very creative and how to improvise. Rather than send us on our way, they started brainstorming among themselves and said "what about Mike Talbot down the road. He has a metal lathe. Maybe he could make one." So, they called Mike. He said, "indeed, he had recently acquired a piece of the proper kind of metal, called "Oilite", and he could do the job". But there was a problem. He needed his siesta first. Our hosts were gracious as we sat and visited over coffee for the next hour or so until we could go over to Mike's. There, again, we had a friendly reception. With tools I had aboard and parts we had along we had all the information Mike needed and in short order a new bearing was crafted. Jim asked, "what do I owe you?" Oh, he said a bottle, so Jim handed him a twenty dollar bill, which was satisfactory. Arnold took us back to our dinghy at the store dock and Jim gave Arnold another twenty. Not bad, all considered.

Reassembly with the new part went well and Jim appeared to be back in business. However, the bearing was not to be the end of problems. Starting continued to be balky, but we pressed on with our exploration of Desolation

Sound anyway and getting by. Toward the end of our time in Desolation, Jim wanted to show some appreciation for my monkey-wrenching time. He decided he wanted to take Margo, Carol and I out to dinner. Well, I certainly couldn't sell him short on what happened next. One of our last stops was to be at Rebecca Spit Marine Park on Quadra Island. Somehow, he had made arrangements to take us to dinner at the very up-scale April Point Resort on the other side of the Island. AND, this time, he did arrange for a taxi who met us at the base of the spit and took us for an outstanding salmon dinner. It was a wonderful evening.

But this was still not the end of the story. When we had arrived at Rebecca Spit earlier, Carol Lee anchored in Drew Harbor and Johanna tied to her, a routine procedure where I always ensure the anchor is set. However, when we arrived back at our dinghies, you know that feeling when things just don't look quite right. It was something about the boats positions. At that point while there was no real need to hurry back to the boats, there was an element of anxiety about what was going on. We climbed aboard Carol Lee, and all appeared to be in order. When Jim got aboard Johanna, however, he found a note. It said the boats had been dragging, Carol Lee was all locked up, but they were able to start Johanna (The one with continuing starter problems!) reposition the boats and reset the anchor. Another Wow and a thank you to some good boating Samaritan.

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So now we are working our way homeward retracing our steps toward Pender Harbor and Nanaimo with a detour to see Princess Louisa, which pleasantly went without a hitch. As usual we communicated each evening before retiring and each morning before casting off either by radio or on the dock. As a rule, Jim liked to be plugged into shore power so given the option he would opt to stay at a dock. And so, it was at Pender Harbor which turned out to be a good thing. As we were preparing to leave, Jim came on the radio and said we are not going anywhere. I said, "Now what?" He said, "the alternator is in the bilge ". I went over and sure enough his alternator was literally laying on the bottom of the boat! The bracket and the bolts holding it had fatigued and broken. Luckily the lead wires were long enough and were not damaged. I said, "Well you are a diesel boat, you don't need electrical power to run your engine, your batteries are fully charged, we're going to Nanaimo where needed resources can be found." Indeed, we did just that. They actually have taxis there which took us to a welding shop, and a parts house for bolts, and an "easy-out". Happily, the broken bolts came out easy and once again we're under way. While not quite the last visit to the "Johanna's" engine room, this was thankfully the last of significance.

It was not an ordinary trip. It was, indeed, a REMARKABLE trip! And despite the twists and turns, it was an enjoyable adventure in beautiful surroundings with friends to make it a great trip.



Arizona Christmas...

Here is a song to get you in the Holiday Spirit...
Green Valley words to: "Winter Wonderland"

Palm trees wave, are you listenin'?
In the pool, water's glistenin'
A beautiful sight, we're happy tonight
Livin' in a desert wonderland.

Gone away, is the blizzard
Here to stay, is the lizard
A warm sunny day, we like it that way
Livin' in a desert wonderland.

In the desert we will have a picnic,
Cactus, sand, rattlesnakes, and sun.
Christmas dinner is an old tradition,
It's pinto beans and tacos by the ton.

Later on, we'll perspire,
Temperatures rise, even higher
A warm sunny day, we like it that way,
Livin' in a desert wonderland.

Happy Holiday everyone!

Rob & Sharon Wells



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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Officers



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Vice Commodore: Joyce Glenn
Rear Commodore: Jill Mount
Treasurer: Linda Tibbot
Secretary: Lorretta Palagi



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