



The Log



of the
Squalicum Yacht Club

Bellingham, WA

Coming Events

Christmas Party	December 13
New Year's Eve	December 31

Commodore's Report

by Phil Terzian



Handing over the Gavel

After four years on the Bridge of the Squalicum Yacht Club I have turned over the gavel to our new management team this month. It has been an honor to serve on this Bridge and work with our other bridge members and the membership in general. I have especially enjoyed our cruises and potlucks, special events like bowling night and Bellingham Bells night, and our opening day breakfast event. I've also enjoyed our house projects, like insulating the attic, painting, new windows and the new deck. The place is looking spiffy these days. Going forward the club is fortunate to have a first-class Bridge for next year led by Joyce, who is going to do a fantastic job. Many thanks to everyone who put their trust in me to take the helm for the last couple of years, it's been a real privilege.

Change of Watch Awards

By Lorretta Palagi

As we discussed this year's awards, Joyce and I were pleased that so many members did so many things this year to deserve our serious awards along with our light-hearted ones. In order of presentation, here are this year's winners:

A Cup of Joe to Go: Presented to Marvin Kyle and Jill Mount, whose non-working solenoid resulted in the need to hit up a fellow boater for hot water to jump-start their day and prevent them from starting brawls due to a lack of caffeine.

Towing: Forced upon Rob Wells for ALMOST getting towed due to an ornery non-sinking line that managed to sink just enough to get caught in his prop shaft. The lesson for Rob is that just because you were never towed doesn't mean you're not going to get the Towing award!

Men and Muffins: Presented to Brent Carey because he brought significant crew with him to the Sucia Work Party who added to the ability to do heavy lifting. Then his star rose further when he popped out of the hatch one morning with home-baked or, rather, boat-baked muffins to help fuel his crew and others



Brent & friends at Sucia

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Change of Watch Awards

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Squalicum Award: Presented to Carol Graf not for one accomplishment in one year but for being an amazing ambassador for the club for 45 years!

Sisyphus Syndrome: Presented to Steve Glenn and Wade Hansen for trying and trying to help out at the Sucia Work Party despite being challenged time and time again by their Sisyphean task, which is any task that is repetitive, endless, and thankless!



Steve and Wade before they began their repetitive, endless task

Cruise of the Year: Presented to Jill Mount and Marvin Kyle for successfully captaining the first SYC international cruise in al-

most 50 years to Port Browning on Pender Island, BC.

Family of the Year: Presented to Rob and Debbie Nelson for making the effort to cross the border and brave the Fraser River currents to make it to SYC meetings and cruises.



Rob and Debbie enjoy some cards with Jodi and Jill. Nothing better than playing cards with friends on a boat.

Harbormaster Presentation at October Meeting

By Lorretta Palagi

At the October general meeting, Aaron Bisson, the Squalicum Harbormaster, presented a slideshow and spoke to the club about what the Port has been up to lately. We have a request for a summary of his talk for those members who couldn't make it

He started with some interesting bullet points about the harbor, including the fact that Squalicum Harbor is the third largest marina in Washington State.

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Harbormaster Presentation

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- 1,386 slips over 2 basins and 8 gates
- Users: Recreational, commercial, commercial fishing, and charter/brokerages
- 3rd largest marina in Washington
- 98,000 square feet of indoor commercial storage space
- 1050 lineal feet of dedicated moorage for visitors
- Envirostar and Clean Marina certified

He then segued into a slide showing a montage of dock carts, which got a definite reaction from the members. The backstory: When Aaron first spoke to SYC, not long after he had become harbormaster in 2021, the big discussion surrounded the new dock carts the port had purchased. Most, if not all, port customers thought they didn't work well because of their small size and awkward shape. Apparently, Aaron had heard about that and ... heard about that ... and heard about that. And it seems he kept hearing about it as he tried different types of carts over the years.



He said the “original” dock carts (shown in the middle of the slide) are no longer being made. So, over the years he has tried various types of carts. He polled our members about which ones they prefer and, sure enough, some liked this one, some liked that one. So, his search continues....

He also talked about:

**Parking lot resurfacing:* He talked about the logistics of the parking lot seal coating and re-stripping project from this past summer. It had to be revised a couple of times, but it is now complete.

**Vessel registration:* The Port of Bellingham requires proof of a current Washington State vessel registration or federal documentation to apply for moorage. The Washington State Department of Licensing handles the actual registration process, which includes titling and applying for a registration card and decals. Aaron reported a 99% collection rate for the past year.

Vessel Registration Program

- ✧ Registration collected for all recreational vessels in the harbor (to include vessels registered via Dept. of Revenue for commercial/charter use).
- ✧ Basis for collection derived from Port rules and regs, moorage agreement, and RCW 88.02.
- ✧ 99% collection rate with some very limited exceptions.
- ✧ Moorage cancelled for 3 derelict vessels – on track to be disposed of through DNR program.
- ✧ Collection remains part of initial moorage sign-up, and plan for biennial collection of current customers registration to ensure continued compliance.
- ✧ Department of Licensing remains responsible for compliance of proper display during their annual inspection.

Harbormaster Presentation

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- * *Hilton Harbor project:* As part of the Whatcom Waterway cleanup project, the port dredged parts of Hilton Harbor and reconstructed the docks. This work was recently completed.
- * *Security improvements to ramp gates:* The port has revised the ramp gates to make it harder for people to circumvent security. It is now harder to go around/breach the gates, such as gate 6, making them more secure.
- * *GP pond and breakwater:* Aaron commented on the fact that it would be impossible to construct a breakwater like that nowadays because of permitting and thought that it was unlikely it would ever be used as a Marina.
- * *Pressure washing of docks:* The port is limited in what they can do because runoff from cleaning the docks can't go right into the saltwater and preventing that from happening is expensive.

Rear Window

By Kris Heintz

It was suggested that Mike and I start a regular column for the Log. We often share with other members the view from the rear window of our fifth wheel RV since it's the largest one. This is our third season with it and it has become our home away from home. I plan our site reservations as much as I can around the view that I think we'll have through that window.

One of our favorite places to stay is Reeder

Beach RV Park on Sauvie Island which is a little northwest from Portland Oregon on the Columbia River. The Island is very rural and just has an incredible vibe. There are two farm stores, a lot of bicycling enthusiasts, a small marina and even a nudist beach! We have watched nesting Ospreys and all sorts of river traffic from our rear window. It just never gets old. We can also see Mount Saint Helens from our dining table window. If conditions are just right we can also see Mount Adams and Mount Hood.



There's a cute diner where all the locals eat in the nearest town of Scappoose which also has a Fred Meyer. Dining and shopping is excellent in Hillsboro and Beaverton as well as Portland. We also like to go across the river to Vancouver as there are great restaurants there, too. I'm getting better at meal prep in the RV so we can just soak up the view. You wouldn't believe how much dry goods, refrigeration, and freezer storage we have in just 35 feet! We just returned from our longest adventure of seven and a half weeks. We were both glad to be back, but I'm already planning our next adventure...



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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