



The Log



of the

Squalicum Yacht Club

Bellingham, WA

Coming Events

General Meeting	February 25
Bowling Night	March 13

Commodore's Log

by Joyce Glenn



The Bridge was recently reminded by Brent Carey what a great building we own in an ideal location and with a membership that has a lot to offer. He knew what he was looking for in a yacht club but found it difficult to find us! Fortunately, he did and will be working on our website, so we are more visible. Thank you, Brent!

I would also like to thank Rob Wells for continuing to do his magic on the Log. He does an amazing job of pulling it all together. Thank you, Rob!

Our current roster of members sits at 29 families which is a bit less than usual. We are always looking for new members who are a good fit. In the past, inviting dock mates, boating friends and marketing at our O.D. benefit breakfast has worked well. Phil and David will be working on member-recruiting this year with Brent focusing on it through our website. As your dock mates return to their boats this spring invite them to a meeting as your guest. Grab a few club brochures from the tables at our meetings to hand out.

I want to encourage all members if you see someone you don't recognize at the clubhouse, please walk over and introduce yourself. It might be someone looking for a new yacht club to join or a newly joined member who doesn't know many members

yet. Let's spread the "friendly"!

I know it is all fun but on a "more" fun note, Phil is organizing our 3rd annual Bowling Night at 20th Century Lanes for Friday March 13th. I bowled there as a teenager, or at least my mom thought I was :) I will be organizing Bingo night for Friday, April 10th at the clubhouse - time to be determined. Save the Dates!

Recycling cans/bottles is coming back to the clubhouse. The separate receptacle will be clearly marked and will need to be emptied at the end of the night. If you wonder why, ask me about the summer fly story....not a pretty one!

As always, if you have any ideas or suggestions, please feel free to chat with me. I will always explore your ideas and discuss them with the bridge. Thank you!

Vice Commodore's Report

By Randy Bilof

Our February potluck meeting will include a presentation by Bob Gudmundson of Desire Fish Company. He is a familiar face to many people in Squalicum Harbor having sold fantastic fish from the F/V *Desire* for years. Bob has been a commercial fisherman since the age of 14, mostly on seiners. From age 18 to the present, he has had his own gillnet operation in Southeast Alaska. In addition to being a fisherman, Bob is an accomplished musician and author and will have his book for sale that covers his life through all the past years.

Rear Commodore Report

by Brent Carey

2026 Cruise Calendar

We were right down to the wire, but have secured captains for every cruise but one. We are leaving the San Juan Cruise on the calendar with the captains TBD, hoping that as we get closer and people's plans firm up, someone will step up and host this event. It's a unique cruise because it is in the early off-season and mid-week, with a flexible destination (either Friday or Roche Harbor).

Tess and I are looking forward to the season and plan to be on every cruise except perhaps one. I'll throw down the gauntlet and challenge anyone to meet or exceed our attendance this year. I will personally make and serve pizza at the October meeting to anyone who bests us. (And I make really good pizza.)

Also, since we like to put up the sails and take our time, we usually prefer to extend our cruises a day or two on either end. We welcome anyone who wants to join us in taking the scenic route to or from cruises. As dates approach, I'll put out more details, but we generally just go with the wind.



Program Recording

Randy has put together some great presenters this year and we've had some feedback that folks who are out of town, particularly for the winter, might want a way to not miss out. We talked about this at a bridge meeting and thought we would try something out.

On request only, if a program is coming up that you don't want to miss and you can't attend, let a bridge officer know that you would like the session recorded. Subject to the presenter's consent and the availability of someone willing and able to record, we will try to make it happen.

We have created <https://www.youtube.com/@squalicumyachtclub> and, if we are able to record the session, we will make it available there. Since we won't record most sessions, you must request this for a particular session. We haven't worked out all of the details regarding whether to make the videos private or public, and this probably depends on the speaker's preferences. But we will try this out and see what interest level is like.

This is really just intended to accommodate special cases and support our members who can't be at a presentation – not as a replacement for being at meetings. We would still much rather see your smiling face and eat your food.

(continued on next page)

Rear Commodore Report (cont.)

Call for Photos

We are making some updates to our website with the goal to have the revisions in place before Opening Day. One of the challenges is getting recent photos – and we need a lot.

If you have good images that you would be willing to let us use, please email them to me. If you have more than a few, we can figure out a better way than emailing. Full-size images are strongly preferred.

Here is a partial list of what we currently need:

- Any good images to feature on the home page. (Nothing specific in mind, just yet.)
- Images showing members gathered on cruises, BBQs, etc. having a good time. Larger gatherings, in particular.
- Wide angle shots of lots of club boats gathered on a cruise (raft-ups, docked, whatever)
- A good representative photo of a program presentation / guest speaker.
- A good representative photo for a section that talks about activities like the Pancake Fundraiser and Sucia Work Party.
- A representative photo for each planned cruise and event this summer.

THE GALES OF NOVEMBER

By Lorretta Palagi

I recently read a book that I thought some of our members might be interested in. On the fiftieth anniversary of the *Edmund Fitzgerald's* sinking, author John U. Bacon tells the definitive story of the “Mighty Fitz.”

On November 10, 1975, as the “storm of the century” created 100 mile-per-hour winds and 50-foot waves on Lake Superior, the *Mighty Fitz* found itself at the worst possible place at the worst possible time. When she sank, she took the entire crew of 29 men down with her.

The author provides some really amazing statistics about just how big the Great Lakes are and makes clear just how dangerous it has always been to sail Lake Superior because of its surrounding geography. And as he tells the story of the storm’s arrival and the decision making by the captain on that day, you really want to root for them, but you already know it’ll make no difference.

The Bellingham Public Library has print and ebook copies.

SYC LIABILITY INSURANCE UPDATE

By Joyce Glenn

Our insurance company has made significant changes to our insurance policy for 2026. We have clarified the new requirements and are working on implementing them into our rental program. **Since these do affect any SYC members using the club privately, please review the following.**

All renters/users of the club must obtain "Certificate of Liability Insurance" in the amount of 1 million per occurrence/2 million aggregate that lists Squalicum Yacht Club as an additional insured.

Any caterers (any restaurant dropping off food at the venue) for an event must also provide a "Certificate of Liability Insurance" at 1 million per occurrence/2 million aggregate listing Squalicum Yacht Club as an additional insured. Responsibility for obtaining this document is the renter/users.

We have been told by multiple insurers that this is now "industry standard". SYC has their own liability policy in place so all club sponsored events do not require additional coverage. If you have any questions, check with Linda T or myself.

Getting Ready for Spring

By Phil Terzian



Back from our Winter respite in San Diego our thoughts are now turning to the upcoming Boating and fishing seasons. To make Ranger Tug a bit more

useful during the Spring season we decided to enclose the rear deck....that about doubles our temperature-controlled living space. We also opened the drain plug on our checking account and upgraded to a hard bottom dinghy and a new easy-lift dinghy davit. We're ready and eager to explore more of British Columbia and the San Juans during the cooler, wetter shoulder seasons this year. Here are a couple of photos of our new setup.



Joyful's New Canvas Enclosure



New Dinghy and Mount

Rear Window

By Kris Heintz

One of the places I booked in Northern California as we were returning home in October was The Lakes RV and Golf Resort in Chowchilla. The pictures shown on their website made the place look like a verdant, high-end resort and we expected it to be one of the highlights of our trip. From the standpoint that we planned a day trip to Yosemite, it was one of our highlights and it was certainly memorable. When we arrived, they had fancy double gates that opened and it seemed like we were entering RV heaven. Later I discovered those might have been the gates to hell instead!



Looks can be deceiving!

The view from our rear window looked pretty close to that on their website. We had shrubbery on either side which was nice to block the view to the neighboring RVs. However, that's where all resemblance stopped. There wasn't a bit of grass hardly to be found.

There were plenty of Canadian Geese along with their poop though. We've experienced that before and although annoying, we could live with it. It was about an hour after our arrival that we received the "welcoming" committee which consti-

tuted a trail of little ants setting up a processional from our door into the kitchen. By that time the office had closed, so I did the best I could with vacuuming and wiping them up. The next morning, I discovered that what ants I had missed told their friends and relatives to join the party. I went straight to the office and asked why they hadn't sprayed for ants and wondered what they would be doing about the problem. I was told they couldn't afford to stay ahead of them with professional spraying. I also found out their sprinkler system was completely inoperable and that's why there wasn't any grass. I was summarily handed a can of Raid at no charge. The spray instantly killed the ants, to my relief. However, it took the next two hours to clean up the thousands of dead ants and residual left by my overuse of the Raid. I also got to work spraying underneath the RV, on the landing gear, and around the stairs. I spent the next three days keeping up the ant vigil which wasn't nearly as bad before I had the Raid.

The day trip to Yosemite was interesting on October 1st. We were grateful that the park was even open, given that was the first day of the government shutdown. As a result, there were no park rangers at the gate to give us maps or other information, so we were on our own. We were able to find El Capitan, Bridal Veil Falls, Yosemite Falls, and Half Dome. The sun was out most of the time and the park did not disappoint! The scenery was spectacular. The little town of Mariposa on the way to Yosemite looked quaint, but we didn't stop not having budgeted time for that. The entire drive to and from the park was beautiful, too. Coming down from the mountains into the valley on the way back was like a postcard. From now on we will be keeping a can of Raid on board. Now what to do about those geese?



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 articles to the Editor by the second Thursday of each month.*

Log Editor: Rob Wells

Officers



Commodore: Joyce Glenn
Vice Commodore: Randy Bilof
Rear Commodore: Brent Carey
Treasurer: Linda Tibbot
Secretary: Lorretta Palagi



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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.*