



The Totem Line

58 years of yachting – 59 years of friendship



In this issue: Flyers for Heavy Weather Cruise and Commodore's Ball; Report from Cruise Director, Heidi Merrifield and Updated Cruise Schedule; Pictures from January General Meeting and Change of Watch.

Upcoming Events

Feb 4.....General Meeting
 Feb 13-15.....Heavy Weather Cruise
 Feb 28.....Commodore's Ball
 March 27-29..Coming Out Cruise to Arabella's
 Landing, Gig Harbor

Leadership

Commodore..... Joe Simpson
 Vice Commodore.....Rich Johnson
 Rear Commodore..... Mike Holman
 Purser.....Sharon Nell
 Yeoman..... Provi Simpson

Commodore's Report



A bit from the past if you don't mind,
 I'm feeling nostalgic with quite a great find,
 'Totem yacht club news' from 55 years behind,
 True then as today, let's keep that in mind.

"TOTEM WORKERS IN RHYME"

(John Bradfield, Commodore. Feb.1960, somewhat modified!)

We've got a great group at our helm this year,
 So let's start at the top and get this in gear,
 First there is **Joe**, a man on the go;
 Then comes **Richard Johnson**,
 A man you all know,
 He puts out the yearbook, as you all know,
Yes, that's *your* picture, now you're in the show.
 Mr. **Mike Holman** follows up from the rear,
 The guy you must reckon with,
 If you rent the club this year!
 He'll keep 'the-ol-girl' all polished with wax,
Then call on us all to pull the weeds growing out back.
 To keep the books and write all the checks,
 We've got **Sharon Nell** manning the decks.
 Keep all those receipts, now don't lose a one,
She can be a real toughy, but still lots of fun.
 Our Commodore of late sits on the side--
 look at that smile on her face!
Carolyn takes it all in her stride.

An A-1 fleet captain the board has found
 In **Heidi Merrifield**; she knows Puget Sound.
 Sign up for a cruise, get in her book,
Maybe it could be Penrose on the hook.
Providenza Simpson is Yeoman,
 Now what kind of name is that?
 It truly means angelic (I could tell ya' all a little about
 that)
 She keeps all the records and reads this and that,
Keeps us informed and stays on her tack.
Dave Longordo gets us all smiling, although with
 spots in our eyes,
His photos are great, flash cubes put aside.
 Our own **Louise Burns** sends out "Get Well Quick"
To any a member who may come up sick.
Carole Mercurio's in the galley to tempt your
 appetite,
Dishing out goodies for our meeting night.
Tim Reding brings us prospects of friends not met yet,
 new members his goal, a tough line for him to tow,

We 'gotta' keep him here, though he loves Mexico.
Need a heavy weather jacket for a cold blustery night?
Val Watson keeps us clothed in Totem garb, what a sight,
Don't know how she does it but they always fit just right.

Bi-laws, shmy-laws but the rules we live by,
Bob Watson keeps us straight, yes he's our guy.
For you to just read this **Patty Chastain's** quick with her quill,
She keeps 'the Line' alive, least I hope she still will.
The board keeps our business running on day-to-day,
Thanks to **Cathy, Rick, Mike...Ron and Ray,**

Joe Simpson, Commodore

Vice Commodore's Report



Well, it is true. January is gone. I am not sure where, but it is already Superbowl weekend and the 1st of February. It is also the beginning of the Yacht Club Commodore Ball season, starting with the TOA (Tacoma Outboard Association) Ball February 7th. All of our members are invited to attend, and this is a good one. We had a great showing last year--can we do it again? The next one is our Ball on the last weekend of the month to welcome in Joe Simpson. If last year's Ball is any indication this one should be through the roof! We had a great evening to be sure.

March is coming soon, and the cruise season is fast approaching. I checked the other day and the price of gas in Brownsville is \$2.85 and Edmond's is \$2.35. Wow! That is about half of last year's cost. Let's get together and cruise this season and get to know Puget Sound and each other better. Who knows when gas and diesel will go up again? Could we have a summer like last year? I am typing this sitting on the back deck and it is really nice out here.

We are working on the yearbook. If you need to update your boat information, address, or other information please email Bob Watson or me and we will attempt to get this information updated. So in short, let's get involved with the club you built and help out when needed and have a blast along the way

Rich Johnson, Vice Commodore

Rear Commodore's Report



As your new Rear Commodore I want to start by thanking you for the opportunity to contribute to Totem in this fashion.

Rentals:

As you are aware the primary responsibility of the RC is to oversee the clubhouse, grounds and the club rentals. First, I want to take this chance to thank Rich Johnson for his efforts in securing a number of rentals this past year that had a significant impact on income to the club. Rental income makes up a significant portion of club revenue, without which the club would operate at a significant fiscal deficit and be faced with a need for a significant dues increase. So, in that vein, please make sure to refer us to friends and business associates for their needs for a hall to host events such as wedding receptions, anniversary, birthday, and retirement parties and company events such as Christmas parties and other company or association functions. They can contact me directly at [253-222-4461](tel:253-222-4461).

If it weren't for all them we might not be here today.
Last but not least is our Sergeant at Arms,
Mary Johnson's the girl, and she's lots of fun,
Don't get out of line (she might have a gun) 😊

There are committees to man and many things to do,
So come to the meetings and give us your view.

Last but not least...it may be a crime,
For a new Commodore to try to write such a rhyme.
If I've left anyone out, forgive me, my friend,
I sure didn't mean to, and this is...THE END. Whew!

Club Improvements - Volunteers Needed ASAP:

Recently we were able to replace the last of our heavy wooden and metal tables with new rectangular, folding plastic tables that are much lighter and more easily stored and moved. We were also able to replace the outdated, unsafe and unmovable stage with a larger stage that breaks down into three sections and can be easily moved or stored when not in use. Both of these additions increase both our flexibility for club use and our marketing position for club rentals.

Our spring clean up is scheduled for April 18th, but before then we have the annual Commodore's Ball on February 28th and want to make improvements in the club house before that event. The following items are on the list to accomplish before that event so that we truly shine when the other clubs attend and we celebrate our new Commodore. Among the items that I am looking to accomplish are the following:

1. Sewing a new skirt for the new stage. This will require someone with both a good sewing machine that can handle heavier fabric, and sewing talent. Easy project for the right person. I need a volunteer.
2. Kitchen clean up. It has been a while since the kitchen equipment such as the stoves, ice-maker, and refrigerator have been moved and all has been cleaned around them. This will require about four folks, including a couple of men to move items. This is a project that can easily be handled by two couples.
3. Painting the inside walls. Every facility needs to be refreshed periodically. It's time we do this. This is a project that four couples could accomplish in a day. If you have a talent for painting, please let me know and I will coordinate and be present to oversee and push a roller.
4. Outside awning. The metal structure for the entryway awning is rusting and really doesn't look very good. We need to remove rust, prime, and repaint this, which might prove difficult before the Commodore's Ball, depending upon weather, but should be done. Also we need to replace the tape at the edges as the existing tape has dried out and is peeling. Again, this is also weather dependent.
5. We are hoping to repaint the bookcase and the sign-in desk so that they match and look good together. This is a small project that can be accomplished by a single good painter.
6. We are hoping that with the help of several members we can get the chairs cleaned, as they really need it. Most home carpet cleaners have attachments for cleaning upholstery, and if several people could volunteer themselves and the machines we can make short work of cleaning chairs.
7. Finally, in preparation for the Ball we would like to re-wax the floor. While this will not require many folks I could use a little help, as those waxing machines give you a GOOD WORKOUT.

While my work requires me to travel, I am not scheduled to travel during February and am willing to meet with volunteers at the club as needed, and to participate in all work. But I can't do it alone, so I hope that many of you call me at [253-222-4461](tel:253-222-4461) or send me an e-mail at Mike@pensionlabs.com. The sooner we start, the sooner we finish and the club looks great for the Ball.

I look forward to serving you and getting to know each of you.

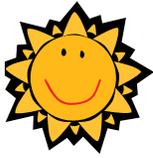
Wishing you all calm seas.

Mike Holman, Rear Commodore



Galley Report

Last names beginning with A-K, please bring a dessert to share to February's General Meeting.



Sunshine Report

Sharon Wallace suffered a stroke. I don't have too much information yet. Will try to get more before the meeting. Guess the rest of us are in good health. Please call me at 1-253-845-4326 or email me, Louise Burns, at FBurns5105@aol.com if you have any news on club members

Commodore's Ball is Coming Up Soon!

If you are attending, please let Carolyn Hershberger know as soon as possible, 360.981.0727 or Email hersh Kahn68@gmail.com (see the attached flyer for more info.)

Members who have gift items or donations to be used for the Commodores Ball raffle, please bring to February's general meeting! If you have any questions contact: Virginia Allard (206) 824-8211 or (206) 948-4766

Report from Cruise Director, Heidi Merrifield

It's time to review club cruise opportunities for 2015 and start reserving a space in the sign-up book. See the cruise schedule on the next page with timelines, costs and contact info. Bob has a flyer for the Feb 13-15 Heavy Weather Log Race at Bremerton Yacht Club. The next event is our "Coming Out" Cruise which will be at Arabella's in Gig Harbor this year the last weekend of March. If you are interested in attending Tacoma Yacht Club's Daffodil Weekend in April, moorage is free but reserving space using their on-line form needs to be done soon. Seattle Yacht Club's "Opening Day" the first weekend in May has similar requirements.

Our most popular cruise last year was Memorial Day weekend to Poulsbo and we've reserved 22 slips – be sure to sign up as soon as you know you'll be able to attend as holiday weekends are high demand. You'll find a few changes to some of the traditional cruise locations, but hopefully it will be a pleasant surprise. One unpleasant surprise was the discovery that after over 25 years of going to Fair Harbor for Labor Day weekend, Susan and Vern have decided to limit club space and rent out more slips for permanent moorage. We've decided to keep the South Sound cruise opportunity that begins with the Penrose anchor out the end of August by going to Swantown in Olympia.

I hope to hear from you soon and look forward to a fun year of cruising together. As always, drive-in attendees are welcome to join us as most of our locations are accessible by car – I'll add space in the sign-up book to capture your interest in attending an event and assist hosts with planning.

Please Note: 2015 general membership meetings will be on the first Tuesday of each month at 7:30 pm, and Board meetings will be on the third Tuesday of each month at 6:30 pm, except in July and August, when no general membership or Board meetings are scheduled, and except in September when the general membership and Board meetings will be held concurrently on the third Tuesday beginning at 6:30 pm.

2015 Totem Cruise Schedule

Dates	Cruise - Destination	Reserved #	Details
Feb 13-15	Heavy Weather Bremerton Yacht Club		Contact Bob Watson 253-925-0751 or robertwatson6@comcast.net
Mar 27-29	Coming Out Arabella's Marina, Gig Harbor	10	253-851-1793 to reserve slips by Thurs, Mar 19, \$1/ft; no per boat fee (Net Shed for Sat Night potluck \$75);
Apr 10-12	Marine Daffodil Tacoma Yacht Club		Reserve slip by Fri, Mar 13 - see form at www.tacomayachtclub.org (click on Daffodil logo). Moorage is complimentary; optional meal deal \$68 per person for the weekend)
May 1-3	Seattle Open Seattle Yacht Club		Reserve slip by Thurs, Apr 16 - see form at www.seattleyachtclub.org (click on Opening Day logo). Moorage is complimentary.
May 15-17	Boyscouts Blake Island Marina		Heidi Merrifield 253-219-8108 will coordinate Totem participants with scouts
May 22-25	Memorial Day Port of Poulsbo Marina	22	Heidi Merrifield will coordinate Totem slip reservations. Slips \$0.90/ft (min 30'); \$5 per boat fee; (Activity float free if 20 boats); 360-779-9905 ext1;
June 5-7	Blessing of the Fleet - Gig Harbor (<i>Anchor Out</i>)		
June 12-14	First Mates Bell Harbor Marina, Seattle	10	206-615-3952 to prepay first night by May 29, \$1.35/ft; \$5 per boat fee
July 3-5	Independence Day - Quartermaster Harbor (<i>Anchor Out</i>)		
July 18-19	Tacoma Maritime Festival Foss Waterway		(Foss waterway event - membership booth)
July 25-27	Commodore's Port Orchard Marina	10	360-876-5535 to confirm 48 hours prior; \$36 per night + \$0.90/ft >40ft; \$5 per boat fee
July 27-Aug 8	Summer Cruise - TBD		
Aug 14-16	Bremerton Marina	15	360-373-1035 to confirm 48 hours prior; \$36 per night + \$0.90/ft >40ft; \$5 per boat fee
Aug 28-30	Penrose State Park (<i>Anchor Out</i>)		
Aug 31-Sept 3	South Sound Cruise - TBD		
Sept 4-7	Labor Day Swantown Marina, Olympia	15	Moorage .80/ft includes power; \$5 per boat fee due by July 14
Sept 18-20	Bainbridge Island (<i>Anchor Out</i>)		
Oct 9-11	Halloween w/DMYC Port Orchard Marina	5	360-876-5535 to confirm 48 hours prior; \$36 per night + \$0.90/ft >40ft; \$5 per boat fee
Nov 26-29	Turkey Des Moines Marina	10	206-824-5700 for Moorage: 0'-30'=\$20; 31'-50'= .75/ft; \$5 per boat fee due by Oct 26
Dec 4-5	Special People's Foss Waterway (event)		Heidi Merrifield 253-219-8108 will coordinate Totem participants w/Tacoma & Day Island YC
Dec 18-19	Lighted Boat Parade - Dock Street Marina, Tacoma		Heidi Merrifield 253-219-8108 will coordinate Totem participants w/Tacoma YC

Heavy Weather Cruise And Predicted Log Race

February 13 - 15, 2015

Bremerton Yacht Club



Friday

Arrival of Guest Boats Noon - 1900 hrs
Evening Dinner and Social Hour 1800 hrs \$10

Saturday

Complimentary Continental Breakfast 0830 hrs
Log Race Registration and Observer Training 0830 - 1030 hrs
Heavy Weather Predicted Log Race 1100 - 1500 hrs
Dinner \$15 (Observers no charge) 1700 hrs
Skit Presentations 1800 hrs
Dockettes 1930 hrs
Followed by Awards for Race and Skits
Sea Tales and Cocktails until 2300 hrs (socializing, no music)

Sunday

Hosted Continental Breakfast 0800 - 1000 hrs

Free Moorage and Power! Observers Welcome! (No Experience Necessary) Boat-in or Drive-in!

BYOB (Beer and Wine Available for Purchase at the Club)

Come join in the fun of log racing or just relax with other boaters

For More Info or to Sign Up
Contact Bob Watson
253-925-0751 or robertwatson6@comcast.net



**Totem Yacht Club's
2015 Commodore's Ball**



Honoring Commodore Joe Simpson



Saturday February 28, 2015

No-host Cocktail Hour at Clubhouse 6:00pm

Introduction of Commodores 7:00pm

Dinner Catered by "Papa Eddie" 7:30pm

Dancing to Michael Crain Band 8:30pm to Midnight

Cost \$40 Per Person or \$80 Per Couple

Dress is Semi-Formal, Dress Whites for Officers

Seating is limited – For reservations and tickets, please contact

Carolyn Hershberger 360.981.0727

Email hershkahn68@gmail.com

Or

Mail Checks by 2/16/14 to 5045 North Highland, Tacoma, WA 98407

Payable to Totem Yacht Club

Pictures from the January 2015 meeting and some of the Board Members and Volunteers

