



The Totem Line

Volume 65 | Issue 8 | October 2018

Officers' Reports



Commodore Tim Redding

Ahoy All!

Well summer is winding down and fall is here. What a great summer for cruising. Thanks to all that helped with our cruises. Our Totem families are always fun to hang with on the docks. Our Labor Day was lots of fun -- thank you Jenny & Randy Kenyon for hosting.

Although my boat got a nice "honor the commodore" trashing there was a lot of effort put in to it!!

At our next meeting, Oct. 2nd, we are looking for nominations to fill board and flag officer positions. Please let me or Vice Commodore Debbie know if you are interested. It's a great way to get to know other boaters.

Viking Yacht Club's Commodore Ball is Oct. 6th. See the attached flyer.

See you on the water!





Vice Commodore Debbie Ales

It has been great serving as Totem Yacht Club's Vice Commodore. Being a flag officer has been very rewarding. We are looking for flag officers for next year. If you are interested, we have openings available, including Rear Commodore and 3 board of trustees. We are also looking for a Galley manager. Let me know if you are interested in any of these positions. Elections for 2019 will be held at the Nov. 6th general meeting.

On Saturday Oct. 20th, Totem will be one of the stops on the Ruston Point Defiance Business District's North Pearl Wine Walk. This is a great publicity event for Totem. Three of Cups Woodinville winery will provide tastings, a blues/jazz band is playing for part of the afternoon, there will be an artist displaying their work, and a raffle. We will put up a display to show people what Totem YC is all about and to potentially generate rentals. Totem will offer a boat ride for 4 people with wine and hors d'oeuvres as our part of the raffle. Totem volunteers are needed to promote our membership and rentals. The event is from 2 – 6 pm on Saturday Oct. 20th. We will set up the display in the morning before 2

pm, promote our club during the event and assist with cleanup afterwards. I will have a signup sheet with 1-hour shifts. If you can help, please sign up or contact me. Wear your blue shirt (if you have one) and your nametag. Here is a link to their Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/NorthPearlWineWalk/>

Please remember to bring any clothing or gear you would like to have the Totem logo put on to the Oct. 2nd meeting.



Rear Commodore Kris Huber

Hello all!

Welcome back from your summer excursions... or at least Lisa and I returning from our San Juans voyage. One of the great things about being in a club like Totem is that if it weren't for Totem, our vacation

would have been cut short. A big thanks to VJ for the 'band aide' on our boat, which is still holding by the way, and got us thru our trip. And not to forget to mention the other Totem members on the dock that Monday morning that pitched in to help us as well. You can't find that type of support anywhere else but here. I can thank Bob from last year about a float plan. The list goes on and on. Many of us know the support we can get from our club, we can spread that to other potential boaters out there.

Most recently, with the help we received for the Fall House & Grounds, I send a special thank you to Tim Reding, Matt & Debbie Ales, Cathy Betts, Jim & Nancy Terrell, Linda Harms, Jenny Kenyon, Amy Thomas & her son Casey, all who helped Lisa and I with the cleaning of the club house Saturday morning. A special thanks to Matt and Ron who came and during the week prior to prune the bushes. There are many of us that volunteer their time to make our club work. And it shows!

Thanks to all again for all your help and support!

Other Reports

Galley – JoAnn Kagey

Galley Wench JoAnn Kagey offers the following menu for our general meetings. If you can take the lead or help with any meeting, please contact her at 253-840-9538.

- Oct. Brats with onions and seafood mac & cheese
- Nov. Soup Night, Bread, Dessert
- Dec. Roast beef, gravy, mashed potatoes, rolls, dessert

Clothing – Sally Vraspir

There's an upcoming opportunity to have the TYC logo embroidered on clothing of your choice. Just bring your clothes to the October 2nd meeting. The cost is usually \$20 – 25. Your items will be available at the November or December meeting.

Fleet Captain – Lyle Kagey

The Fall season is upon us and there are still some good cruising days/weekends ahead! There are still a few cruises left on the 2018 calendar too:

October 5 – 7 Port Orchard Fall Roundup Predicted Log Race
See below for details.

October 12-14 Halloween Cruise with Des Moines Yacht Club at Port Orchard Marina

Decorate the boat, decorate your person and have some fun! This cruise is hosted by past commodores. The fun starts Friday at 6 pm with cocktails – bring a ghoulish appetizer to share. Saturday starts at 8:30 with breakfast in a bag. Decorate your boat and carve a pumpkin for prizes. Potluck dinner at 5:30. 7 pm is trick or treating for the kids (be sure to bring treats). Join us at 8 pm for a movie in the shed. There will be coffee and rolls on Sunday morning. RSVP to Lyle Kagey at 253.405.2427 or Ron Reding at 253.279.0314.

November 23-25 Turkey Cruise to Des Moines Marina

A very fun time plus an opportunity to help plan the 2019 cruising schedule. Mike & Heidi Merrifield are hosting.

November 30 and December 1 Special People's Cruise

One of the most rewarding cruises I've ever participated in. Donate your time and boat to give a thrill of a lifetime to people of all ages with special needs. More details to come.

December 15 Lighted Boat Parade

There is space at the Foss Seaport Dock for 5-8 boats. Watch the parade pass right by you as they cruise the Foss Waterway.

Sunshine – Louise Burns

No news is good news!

Bylaws – Jenny Kenyon

After proposed changes to the bylaws were shared in early September, there have been several questions and additional proposals. They concern how and where “quorum” is defined and how decisions by the board between meetings are approved.

The board will review the proposed changes and make recommendations to approve or reject. Another iteration of the bylaw changes will be offered to members prior to the November or December meeting.

New Members– Mike & Karen Mulcahy

Mike & Karen Mulcahy will be sworn in at the October meeting as our newest Totem members. Please extend your welcome and boating tips to them.

Other 2018 Appointed Chairs:

- Archives Bob Watson
- Bar Linda Harms
- Bylaws..... Jenny Kenyon
- Education..... Bob Watson
- Facebook Doug Gelowitz
- Fleet Surgeon Tony Dulas
- IOBG & RBAW Ron Reding
- Reciprocal Manager Ron Reding
- Rental Manager..... Provi Simpson
- Sergeant at Arms..... Randy Kenyon

Land Lubber Events

Totem General Meetings are the 1st Tuesday of each month, at 6:30 for dinner & 7:30 call to order. Board Meetings are the 3rd Tuesday of each month at 6:30 pm. Meetings are at the club house.

October 2 Totem Meeting

October 6 Viking Yacht Club Commodore's Ball

Honoring Jerry Marzano and First Mate Pam, at Sons of Norway Norden Lodge #2 (1106 S. 15th St, Tacoma). 1700 Commodore Cocktail Party • 1800 Happy Hour • 1900 Officer Introductions, Hors d'oeuvres, and Italian Buffet • 2030 music by [Rockin' Aces](#). Mafia/Roaring 20's theme costume is encouraged for everyone, including officers. Special prize for the club with the most members in attendance. \$35 before 9/21, then \$40. RSVP to Barb Bryn at 253.318.9619. Mail checks to Barb at 1524 102nd St E, Tacoma, WA 98445.

October 20 Des Moines Yacht Club Halloween Party

6 – 6:30 Social Hour • 6:30 – 7:30 Dinner by Apogee • 7:30 – 11:30 Dancing to the [Funaddicts](#). \$30 per person till Oct. 10, then \$35 per person. Costume contest, twist contest, and last couple standing. RSVP to Debbie Minniti at 253.905.6237 or Debbie.minniti@comcast.net. Mail checks to Debbie at PO Box 7091, Kent, WA 98042. BYOB – DMYC will provide mixers.

November 6 Totem General Meeting & Elections

December 1 Christmas Party

December 4 Totem Meeting

Member Profile: Joe & Provi Simpson

I'm a local guy born in University Place back in 1956 (actually Tacoma General Hospital, not University Place at the time).

My father, being a business owner, had high hopes that I would carry on his traditions. Much to his chagrin, I fell into carpentry quite by accident, rather than working down on South Tacoma way at Schneider Simpson Sheet Metal as he had hoped.

I married my high school sweetheart at the tender age of nineteen, in hind sight, much too young, but nothing that I could be told not to back when I still knew everything. My first marriage was almost preordained to fail; however, it did produce my son, Travis. He is a constant source of pride, that led to our beautiful granddaughter Isabella.

Not being accustomed to living alone, I shortly re-bounded into another soon to be failed marriage with a young widow whom I stayed with for years until the eventual end of dealing with the demons left behind from her past husband and lifestyle that took him from her. Ultimately, this again soon ended.

At a time in my life when the last thing I wanted was to meet another gal, I had pretty much had it with loves and losses. Being aware of personal hygiene I realized a haircut was necessary and my sister just "happened to know a little Italian girl that cut hair next to where she worked."

There at that salon I met my match, the love of my life Ms. Providenza a "Long-Ga, Ise-land" transplant from New York with the effervescence of my favorite Champagne, she literally bubbled over with the attitude and joy I truly needed in my life at that time.

We began dating almost immediately. Putting one foot in front of the other we were living together in no time in the house my father had left me. I had no desire to remain in the house I was raised in, so we began discussions about living aboard. We then looked and looked for a large enough vessel to give us the room we needed for the upcoming years together. After a variety of considerations, we decided on the "Husky" a 1956 54'-6" Chris Craft Constellation that had been lovingly and fully refurbished by D.E Martin, a Tacoma businessman that happened to be the vessel's second owner. He also owned Tacoma Boys. Once the house sold, she was ours, where we lived happily ever until we decided to marry in July of 1988 on the bow of the 'Husky' under the Narrows bridge in view of the home I was raised in and recently sold which made this move possible. We so enjoyed the lifestyle we had begun. The best for me was the lifestyle we built together.

We made Gig Harbor and The Husky our home until April 1990 when I suffered a heart attack but thankfully not a fatal one. But so much for living aboard. We sold the Husky and moved back on land in 1991. There were considerable life changes after that date. My carpentry trade had grown to a superintendents' position with all the added responsibility and I was now traveling city to city installing Nordstrom features. Provi and I, now married, had moved into a duplex in Gig Harbor where one night a knock at the door presented a son that no longer wanted to live with his mother and was moving in. Travis was about

15 years old at this point and Provi was suddenly thrust into full time motherhood of a teenager!

After my son's graduation from Gig Harbor high school, he was off to central state for college and all its pitfalls, affording Provi the freedom to join me on my travels around our great nation. We would move from city to city every 4 months or so until the company I was installing for sold to a conglomerate, Federated Fixtures. I then moved on to another company that utilized what I had been doing, which was traveling installations. The difference being hotels take 8 to 9 months rather than 3 or 4. The office for this new employer was in Woodinville. Provi and I moved north, and in the home search she found us a beautiful all wood log cabin. When I say "all wood" there wasn't a piece of sheet rock in it! The walls were lap cedar, and the ceilings tongue and groove knotty pine. Truly a "Better Home and Garden" location nestled in 5 acres of woods with a creek running on both sides which met into one behind the house. Here we remained for yet another 5 years. While in Woodinville, I inherited an open sloop shaped sail vessel in need of restoration. What a beautiful sailor! This finally gave us the opportunity to get back on the water to a small degree.

The hook was again set, and with the salt back in our veins, as well as our sweat we were in the market for another boat!

Soon we picked up a small Chris Craft ski boat style runabout. It was much too small, considering where we'd come from. We then happened across a 25' Chris Craft Catalina, the *Lucky Charm*, which suited our needs perfectly. It had a head, a place to sleep, and a small galley at Mama's request. Soon after its purchase, my friend and employer at the time, Ron Reding, invited me to a crab feed, where I was exposed to Totem and its membership. We joined and have never looked back. We have since been involved to the point of going through the chairs. I believe we will eventually hit the mark of lifetime membership. Best regards to all who read this...Past Commodore Joe Simpson and Best Mate Provi

Port Orchard Predicted Log Race

The Port Orchard Fall Roundup predicted log race is always a fun event, and this year it is scheduled for Oct 5 - Oct 7 in the waters of Sinclair Inlet and Port Orchard. Materials describing the event are attached. Call Bob Watson, if you have any questions about the race or weekend arrangements.

Port Orchard is easy access whether by boat or car. Moorage for contestants is provided at the Port Orchard Yacht Club and may also be available for observers arriving by boat. Port Orchard marina is a few blocks away. For observers driving and wishing to stay more than one day, a Comfort Inn at a reasonable rate is a short distance from the club. Not sure, but the club may be able to handle RV's. Incidentally, Totem's Halloween Cruise to Port Orchard with Des Moines YC is the following weekend (Oct 12 - 14), so there may be an opportunity to do a

cruise in the area Monday through Thursday (Brownsville, Poulsbo, Blake Island, etc.).

Contestants and Observers will be welcome for the Fall Roundup. This is a relatively simple contest in protected waters without too many technical challenges. It would be a good opportunity for "new racers" to get their feet wet as contestants, and, if we get some commitment in the next week or so, there is ample time for interested Totem members to get together to discuss/plan their race. If interested, e-mail (not text) or call Bob Watson, Totem's Log Race Instigator, 253-925-0751.

If not participating as a contestant, this is another opportunity to participate as an observer. Again, if you have questions or would like information on being an observer, contact Bob.