

HAPPY NEW YEAR
FYC MEMBERS

January 2023

Volume 1

Editor: *Lauren Corson*



THE POSEIDON

FILDAGO YACHT CLUB ANACORTES, WA
N 48° 29' 41" W 122°41' 12"

FYC CHANGE OF WATCH CEREMONY

Master of Ceremonies for
the Change of Watch
Ceremony was Fred
Kaufhold.

*"May the seas lie smooth
before you;*

*May a gentle breeze
forever fill your sails;*

*May sunshine be warm
upon your face;*

*And kindness fill your
soul;*

*And, as you take the
helm of Fidalgo Yacht
Club in 2023;*

*May God hold you in the
palm of his hand"*

Past Commodore Kathy
Ramsay presented the
2022 Awards:

*2022 Good Samaritans
Fred & Stephanie
Kaufhold*

*2022 Member of the Year
Lauren Corson*

*Special thanks to the Committee
of Lee Patza, Pat Thompson,
Mary & Jerome Robbins and
Dianne Kubn for making the
event so special for all.*

Photos by Lee Patza



“A sailor is an
artist whose
medium is the
wind”
Webb Chiles



MEET COMMODORE JOHN BUCHANAN



- Born in San Diego, CA and resided there until 2013
- Both grandfathers were Naval Academy Graduates and Captains
- Father was an avid sailor and San Diego Yacht Club Member
- John started sailing in the Junior Sailing Program for the SDYC at 6 years old
- John's first experience as Commodore was as Junior Commodore of the SDYC
- John's best friend won 3 Olympic medals in the Star Class
- Professional career was in the finance arena, with his last position as CFO of a 15B public mortgage company. John retired at age 54 during the "Great Recession"
- A sailor at heart; raced for over 50 years in all types of boats
- Sold last sailboat, J105, after moving to Fidalgo
- Went to the Dark Side and bought a Monk 36 Trawler
- Current boat is a Nordic Tug named FELICITY
- Past and Present Passions include: triathlons, marathons, racing outrigger canoes, paddling, hiking, biking and skiing
- Has 28 year old boy/girl twins who reside in CA, and a one year old granddaughter
- Favorite music while being on the water is a blend of jazz, rock and classical; including Jimmy Buffet, The Eagles and Jackson Browne
- Books read on a boating trip recently included Tightwads On The Loose by Wendy Hinman account of a personal sailing adventure of friends and the journey of Ed Gillet in Pacific Alone by Dave Shively, documenting a solo kayaking crossing from California to Hawaii

*"Live in the sunshine,
swim the sea,
drink the wild air"*
Ralph Waldo Emerson



**Vice Commodore
Alan Smith &
First Mate Susan**



**Rear Commodore Mike
Kelley & First Mate
Virginia**



COMMODORE'S LOG John Buchanan

It is a great honor to serve as your Commodore in 2023. I am humbled by the trust and confidence the board has placed in me to carry on the fine traditions of this great Club. I look forward to a busy year ahead and am hoping that we can enjoy a fully opened clubhouse all year. We have a calendar full of events both on and off the water.

The outstanding Board members, appointed officers, committee chairs, and every committee make the tasks ahead manageable and enjoyable. The dedication and pride of countless volunteers make our Club a very special place. Thank you for all of the support and efforts in advance.

If you are asked to lead or assist a dinner, cruise, or special activity, I hope you will accept. This is a great way not only to help the Club function, but to learn how things work and make deeper friendships with your fellow members. There is plenty of support from mentors and step by step procedures for just about every task. Our member-run Club strives to continue to be the best yacht club in the area.

Our January dinner speaker, Karl Kruger, is very informative and interesting. I have enjoyed hearing him speak a couple times. See Karlkrugerofficial.com for his bio. Please come out and join us for this special evening, led by our expert, Mona Hamlin, and her team.

I would like to thank the past Commodores and Board members who provided guidance to me the past two years, allowing me to learn the ropes (or lines) and steer us on a proper course in 2023.

2023 FYC MEMBERSHIP CARDS

Members who have paid their 2023 dues can find their new membership cards at the club. Individual cards will be at the top of the stairs in your name badge holder after New Year's Day. Members should always have your FYC Club card with you when visiting other clubs to attend their dinners and other events. Should you misplace your card and need a new one, please inform Membership Chair, Liz Weideman, to receive a replacement card.





Vice Commodore Alan Smith Notes from the Bridge

I start my Vice Commodore year with very good news and a big thank you! Mona Hamlin, Dinner Host Coordinator, reports that she has Dinner Hosts, cooks and crews for our January, February, March and April Dinner Meetings. As well as members signed up to cook for the May, August, September and October Dinner Meetings. That's a very big deal. We won't be paying catering charges for any of these meals, a big savings for the Club. Even though we have cooks, **Dinner Hosts are still needed for May, August, September and October Dinner Meetings.** These are good volunteer opportunities since the cooks are already committed. My thanks to Mona and all who have said yes.

Another bit of good news is that we've retained our current facilities cleaning person for another year.

Dinner Speakers also fall under the Vice Commodore's umbrella. As Commodore Buchanan mentioned, Karl Kruger is our January 26th dinner speaker. He is not to be missed! He's the first and only person to complete the Race to Alaska on a stand up paddleboard! Come hear about his current multi-year adventure SUP'ing the Northwest Passage. As well, please plan to come to our February 23rd Dinner Meeting to hear retired F18 pilot Jack Curtis.

I will be using this column to report one or two areas of Vice Commodore responsibilities. There are a slew of them, but taken in small chunks, they are quite manageable. Hope you enjoy it.

JANUARY DINNER MEETING Thursday, January 26, 2023

Business Meeting Commences at 6:15PM

Dinner 6:30PM Winter Stew, Salad, Rolls, Dessert

Speaker 7:00PM Karl Kruger *Cruising The Inside Passage To Alaska*

Karl Kruger has over 20 years of cruising experience between Anacortes and Alaska and leads various expeditions and flotilla. He also has completed the R2AK and portion of the NW passage on a paddleboard.

Crew: Mona & George Hamlin, Lisa & Tom Wallace, Shirley & Dave Vacanti.

RESERVATIONS by Friday, January 20th, 2023





STAND ON with Rear Commodore Mike Kelley

Greetings from your new Rear Commodore! I hope everyone had a great Christmas. December, for the club, was a real hit, with bar nights, Seahawks games, and the White Elephant event.

This year's White Elephant gift exchange was a huge success, with lots of laughter, lasagna, and (of course) cake! We had about 36 attendees exchanging their "white elephant" gifts.

According to Pat and Lee (our white elephant hosts) the most popular items, based on the number of steals, were a Leatherman tool and a pair of ceramic shot glasses in the shape of urinals! I'm not sure when these unique shot glasses will come out to play, we will have to keep our ears open to find out. The white elephant mannequin has (once again) found a new home, I'm sure we will see it again next year (and the proud new owner will urge Kim Adams to move up the date of the next white elephant event).

This April, we will be having our biennial garage sale! It's time to start looking around for the things that you don't want any more, but really can't throw out because they are still in great shape. By donating the items to the club, you will help us keep our dues low, make more room for your new good stuff, and provide good quality items to the community that they might not otherwise be able to afford.

FYC 2022 WHITE ELEPHANT GIFT EXCHANGE



THREADS AND YARNS



Threads and Yarns offers FYC members a friendly, no host, studio-style work space at the clubhouse each week on Wednesdays from 1:00 until 3:00PM.. Bring your project to work on, (including knitting, crocheting, cardmaking, etc.) as well as any supplies; including your sewing machine.

We provide tables, extension cords, iron, friendship, inspirations, and advice. January, 4, 2023 will start our winter session. Many group members will be continuing to progress on their fish runners. It is also a good time for others to start one or a project of your choice.

Hope to see you there, Barb Hylton and Mary Robbins.

ONE FATHOM WINE CLUB NOVEMBER TASTING

Bill and I hosted 16 other club members for the November 17, 2022 One Fathom Wine tasting from Tucson. This month was Pinot Noir, 2020. One from *Dreaming Tree* and one from *Erath*. These wines are in the \$15 -\$20 range at Safeway in Anacortes, and both have a 13% alcohol content.

The Dreaming Tree grapes were grown in France and bottled in California. The *Erath* comes from the Willamette Valley in Oregon. These two wines were polarizing for our group. A few found them equally pleasant, others considered the *Dreaming Tree* nearly undrinkable (average Score 12 out of 20). The *Erath* was enjoyed by pretty much everyone and received a score of 14. It is more highly rated by Vivino, too, at 3.6 vs 3.4 out of 5.

Kim Adams & Bill Montefore

JANUARY TASTING

The One-Fathom Wine Tasting meets again on Thursday, January 19, 2023 at 5:30PM via Zoom. We will be tasting two old-vine Zinfandels from two distinct California appellations:



OZV Zinfandel-Lodi

St. Francis Old Vine Zinfandel-Sonoma

For those of you planning your meal around the tasting, *OZV* carries dark fruit flavors of blackberry, plum and vanilla. *St. Francis* gifts us with hints of raspberry, blackberry, dried cranberry; notes of cinnamon, black pepper and a lengthy finish. To join us for our January 19th virtual gathering, please email Joanne Wilshin (JoanneWilshin@gmail.com) by January 18th to receive the Zoom link



FYC SHIP'S STORE

Follow this [Ship's Store](#) link for quick access or find us on the member side of the FYC website. Your Ship's Store crew has stocked a selection of hats, vests and jackets for your winter cruising and wearing about town.

[Go to T-Shirts by Design Order Page](#)

Click through to see our collection of shirts, ¼ zips, hoodies, vests, jackets, caps and bags. Ordering is super easy, and you can choose to pick up your orders or have them shipped to your home. Don't forget to shop in the clubhouse too. Choose drinkware, clothing, cards, books, burgees and even license plate frames for you, your boat and RV.

Attention shoppers! Sue and Virginia will be busy First Mates assisting their Vice and Rear Commodore husbands next year. We're looking for new Ship's Store helpers. Would you like to manage or help with our clubhouse store and online retailer? Contact Sue at 206.819.3418 or sunshinent37@gmail.com Let's go shopping to show our FYC spirit!

Sue Smith and Virginia Kelley

FYC CLUB CRUISES

DECEMBER 2022 VICTORIA CRUISE by Colleen McIntyre

Four boats heralded their FYC burgee and weathered the challenging seas from Anacortes to Victoria, BC in mid December for some festive comradery, lights of Butchart Gardens and majestic views of Victoria Harbor with the Empress as a backdrop. Colleen and John McIntire, Joyce McNeil and Ken Goodwin, Red and Ann Bennett, as well as Fred and Stephanie Kaufhold bonded even further as these eight FYC members enjoyed the friendship of each other amongst the festive atmosphere of stunning Victoria.

The first night in Victoria, everyone enjoyed dinner at the Scottish Pub, "Bard & Banker". Saturday was an awesome day of exploring Victoria and watching the filming of a Hallmark Holiday Movie on Government Street, in downtown Victoria.

Saturday night provided perfect evening weather for the group's adventure to Butchart Gardens to see the fun theme, "12 Days of Christmas". Yes, the FYCers had the song down, as everyone enjoyed all the garden light displays. Despite the weather warnings from the marine forecast, those who cruised over on Thursday and returned home on Sunday had safe cruising seas.



FYC UPCOMING CRUISES



La Conner *SHAKE DOWN* Cruise **March 24-26, 2023**

Remember all the fun at last year's Shake Down Cruise and the opportunity to see if all was in working order for your boat's summer cruising? We are doing this cruise again!

The crew of PC Jerome & Mary Robbins, Red & Ann Bennett, and Yvonne Bates & Randy Miller have already started planning by reserving dock space and the Swinomish YC clubhouse.

PLACE THIS ON YOUR CRUISING CALENDAR

May 19th – 22nd, 2023 for a rendezvous at Port Browning with Capital City Yacht Club. Some of you may remember this as CAPIDALGO. I'm working with the Fleet Captain at CCYC on the details. We're looking forward to meeting up with our friends at CCYC after a couple years hiatus. If you haven't had the opportunity to participate in one of these gatherings, you're in for a treat.

Heading north this summer? This would be a perfect jumping off event. Past Commodore Tom Kuhn

DOCKSIDE DISCUSSION *Featured Columnist, FYC Member Red Bennett*

As featured in the Waggoner's eNews, September 15, 2022. Illustrations by Lorena Landon

NITINAT NARROWS, A MARINER'S CHALLENGE ON WEST COAST VANCOUVER ISLAND



Nitinat Narrows, located on the West Coast of Vancouver Island between Port San Juan and Barkley Sound, connects Nitinat Lake with the Pacific Ocean. Entrance to the narrows is obstructed by rocks and a shallow bar; only a few boats each year attempt to make it through. Many years ago, Don and Reanne Douglass took their 32 Nordic Tug across the bar, through the narrows, and into Nitinat Lake. In their guidebook, *Exploring Vancouver Island's West Coast*, Don describes the experience, including the comment that crew refused to ever try it again. More recently, another brave soul from the Fidalgo Yacht Club in Anacortes, Red Bennett, made it through in his Ranger Tug 29, Honey Badger.

Here's his story:

'I was heading to the Broken Group in Barkley Sound to go fishing with my Ranger Tug 29 and crew partner Carlos. When we realized that we would not make it to Barkley Sound before dark, we decided to duck into Nitinat Bar, which appeared to have a place to drop the hook for the night. It turned out to be rolling and rough, so we entered the Narrows (and I mean NARROW) on a swift flood tide. Once committed, there was no turning back. We had about 8 knots of current and powered through to avoid the rocks. Just inside the Narrows is Cannery Bay, a large, mostly shallow bay where we hoped to drop the hook. Beyond Cannery Bay is the very large Lake of Nitinat.

As we motored into the bay, a lady standing at what turned out to be Carl's Crab Shack, waved us over. We were invited to spend the night tied up at the dock. Carl said they serve both dinner and breakfast, but we were too late for dinner; however, Carl did offer to cook some crab for us, what a treat! After a restful night at the dock, we followed Carl's advice and left before breakfast for slack water at the Narrows. Like Douglass' crew, my crew partner, Carlos, said "never again!" For those interested in an exciting, unique adventure into Nitinat, I recommend contacting Carl on VHF Ch68 or phone 250-701-1016 for local advice on timing slack at Nitinat Narrows. The Nitinat area is popular with kite sailors, campers, and hikers that access the West Coast Trail.





RBAW UPDATE Marshall Corson, FYC RBAW Delegate

RBAW's Annual Organizational Meeting was held on December 3rd at the Tye Outstation on Bainbridge Island. I was one of over 50 individuals who participated virtually via Zoom or in-person, representing 29 RBAW Affiliated Yacht Clubs. There was in-depth discussion of the organization's missions, to promote Advocacy, Awareness, Preservation and Expansion of boating opportunities, with efforts directed at local, state, federal and international levels. Examples of RBAW's recent Advocacy Efforts include:

- Working with public agencies to maintain adequate staffing of the Seattle Harbor Patrol;
- Participating in the creation of "ground rules" for recreational boaters wishing to moor overnight in Andrews Bay near Seward Park in Lake Washington;
- Increasing the number of vessel pump-out facilities, especially in the southern reaches of Puget Sound.

Over the past 18 months, RBAW received 2-year grant funding of \$61,000 per year from the Seattle City Council to create the "Mind the Zone" campaign, which has proven to be highly successful in educating recreational marine users about the seaplane advisory buoys on Lake Union, as evidenced by there being NO adverse events this past boating season.

In an earlier era RBAW was instrumental in creating the facilities at Sucia, while more recent success has been achieved in rehabilitating the Lakebay Marina, that is now in RBAW's stewardship. RBAW leadership continues working with the WA Department of Natural Resources as well as the Nature Conservancy to raise additional funds to support boat ramp and dock reconstruction as well as improved parking and restroom facilities, with ongoing fundraising targeting approximately \$2 million to complete this project through these ongoing public/private partnerships. A long-term RBAW goal is to support a network of boating destinations throughout the Salish Sea.

RBAW's most important work that benefits us directly as recreational boaters is its lobbying with state agencies to ensure that funds raised through exercise tax and other user fees are appropriate in scope and channeled primarily to support boater services. On the collections side, in 2021 the WA State Transportation Committee proposed a doubling of marine vessel excise tax rates, but this proposal was defeated through RBAW's work with Committee legislators. Continuing efforts led to more favorable revisions of the depreciation schedule for boats owned less than 10 years, while the schedule for boats owned greater than 10 years remains under active review. With regard to expenditures, RBAW's efforts have resulted in increased flow of collected funds towards the State's Derelict Vessels and Structures Removal program and greater availability of grant funding for marina/dock construction and/or rehabilitation. On Thursday January 26th RBAW leadership will again team up with representatives of the NW Marine Trade Association for their annual day of meetings with State legislators to review both organizations' legislative priorities.

RBAW's scope of attention is also national, with monitoring of changes that may have bearing on regulations in our region, such as proposed East Coast limitation of vessel speed limits for craft over 30 feet in length due to wildlife and environmental concerns, as well as potential massive increases in user fees and insurance costs for boaters in jurisdictions in the southeast US. Internationally, RBAW remains an active partner with the Council of Canadian Yacht Clubs, to continue working toward shared goals for utilization of all that the Salish Sea has to offer.

There is currently a major shortage of members in the pipeline for RBAW's Director, Officer and Committee Chair positions, thus participation of new RBAW members in these functions will be critical; ***please consider joining in these efforts.*** In the next Poseidon issue, I will review in detail how FYC can make a simple additional contribution to continue our Club's commitment to supporting RBAW in its broad mission.

FYC PHOTO MOMENT

Soleil Corson

2022 Past Commodore's Cruise Blaine, WA