



Mainsheet

The Corinthian Yacht Club of Tacoma Newsletter

Volume 21, Issue 05

May 2021

CYCT 2021 FLAG OFFICERS





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 Rear Commodore: John Coyne

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MAINSHEET

A publication of The
 Corinthian Yacht Club of
 Tacoma
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 Tacoma, WA 98422
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Commodore Report



I hope you all enjoyed the Daffodil Parade! Hopefully many of you made it down to see our stellar bridge representing the club on La Gitana! Thank you again to Angie and Rich for hosting and letting us decorate their boat! And for Whisper, Raven, and Odin meeting us down at Foss Waterway. We didn't win (nor did any sailboat...), but we certainly gave it one heck of an effort. Thanks also to Tim G. for loaning me his awesome Army Sword to complete my Commodore ensemble!

April also started out great with our spring single/doublehand race. It was my first time hosting an actual club-hosted race on Romeo Charlie (asides from Lidos), and we had a blast out there! We made the best we could of it with changing and light wind conditions, and all of the boats ended up finishing within mere minutes of each other. That's what you get when the wind backs our multiple times throughout the race and fills in completely at the last mark we could make before time expired.

Also, we started on Wednesday night windseekers in AMAZING fashion. Now, I haven't been racing in Windseekers for that long, but I have lived in this area my entire life. Does anyone remember starting Windseekers in April under almost 70 degrees, sunny, gorgeous, and 20+ knots of amazing breeze?! We had to start out with a reef, which was mainly needed due to the high gusts we were seeing at the start. We shook it out just before the first mark, but wow, what a doozy! And the second week was just as beautiful, with a little less wind though.

I hope you all enjoyed your brief faux summer while it lasted, because i'm sure we'll be seeing plenty more rain before it gets back to 80 degrees again (I'm still shocked we saw 80 in early April).

Here is to a hopefully epic, wonderful, early and long-lasting summer!

Jeremy Bush
Commodore
S/V Goes to 11



Vice Commodore Report



Greetings to all, Hope your spring is shaping up the way you have planned.

Speaking of spring, did you have a chance to see the the Daffodil Parade on the water near Ruston Way. Our very own Angie Morales, past Commodore, and Rich "Boom" Morales of La Gitana, they were very gracious to allow us to use their sailboat in the parade. We decorated La Gitana in fine fashion, she looked great. The weather was outstanding, and after docking near the beginning of the waterway with other daffodil boats, we visited with the other sailors, and had a great time. It was soon time to head back to our marina. It was an awesome time. You should plan on it next year.

Have you been out sailing, we have started sailing on Wednesday nights now. So hopefully you have already been out on the water, and want more, or at least signed up to go out the next time. It is a whole bunch of fun, and you meet new friends along the way. While you are there waiting for your next outing on the water. You could be watching videos on sailing, and see what the people do in their respective positions. It is very interesting to say the least.

Become a member of this sailing group CYCT, if your knot already. It is really inexpensive to join and lots of fun. You then can volunteer in any of our committees, and make suggestions to the group or to the board and make it happen.

I have noticed that in our county (pierce) we have rolled back to the phase 2 position with the COVID-19. So, just suggesting that you contact your skipper before you head out the boat, and see what they are requiring along with what the state guide lines are.

Let's get out on the water and have fun. Be sure to check the Mainsheet calendar of events and see where the sail is to and who you can raft up with.

Michael Stanford
Vice Commodore
S/V Lycian



Rear Commodore Report



Hi Friends,

WOW – what a great day for the Daffodil Marine Parade. I got to “break in” my spanking new uniform, and have a great day! Was good to see all of you that came out to cheer us on! My ears are still ringing from Rich’s Canon. LOL

I’m going to try to get some work done on the clubhouse in May, so it’s nice and clean for the summer. I’ll keep you posted on that. I’ll be soliciting for help, so if you have some time to spend an afternoon helping out, let me know please! The Bal-lentines have already offered their help, and I appreciate it. I’m also working on getting a new Fire Pit, as ours seems to have developed a leak. Hope to have that done in the next week or so.

Wild thing is back in the water and the Spring series is well underway. Thanks to the Race Committee for putting on a great show. Reminder that this is YOUR club and the committee needs help. I’m planning to sit out a race or two to assist, and I hope you all will as well.

On the website front, we’ve made some updates to membership payments, to incorporate the new “Associate” level, so keep an eye out for that. I’m also going to be working on getting the R/C volunteer list up there, and some more from Chuck on the Lido Fleet. If you have suggestions for other cool things you’d like to see on the website, just let me know!

Fair Winds,

John Coyne
Rear Commodore
S/V Wild Thing
rearcommodore@cyct.com



Cruising



Well, not much has happened in April except for the Daffodil Parade/Day Cruise to Rock the Dock where Whisper, Odin, and Raven watched the CYCT Flagship, SV La Gitana pass by with a proper gun salute (thanks to Rick Morales). Afterwards we all hung out on the dock and enjoyed the remarkably sunny April afternoon.

As I am writing this report, I am sitting at anchor in Gig Harbor for the DIY Opening Day Cruise. Vessels in attendance are Raven, Odin, Whisper (and Lido "Tally Ho"), Red Splash, La Sirena, Tehilla, and our new Commodore's Flag Ship, SV Zilla. Word also has it that SV Yankee (Clay & Shari Anderson will also be arriving this morning).

Quick update to the Cruise Calendar: The TYC Sponsored Day Sail to Wollochet has been postponed (due to COVID) to the Fall, but no date has been set.

2021 Cruising Schedule so far:

Dates	Theme	Location	Hosts
May 22 POSTPONED unit FALL 2021	CYCT & TYC Day-Sail Rally	Wollochet Bay	Co-hosted with Tacoma Yacht Club. Greg Greene (CYCT) & Rob Nettleton (TYC)
May 28 – 31	Memorial Day Weekend	Penrose Point	Clay & Shari Anderson
June 5-6	GH Maritime Festival	Gig Harbor	Christine Nelson &
June 6	Blessing of the Fleet		Paul Grove
June 26	CYCT Day Sail Rally	The Foss Waterway Seaport Dock	Greg Greene & Rally Committee
July 3-5	DIY – 4th of July	Quartermaster	Unofficial Cruise (no host)
August 20 - 22	Hillbilly Hootenanny	Longbranch	Ed & Sue Pinkham
Sep-26	CYCT Day Sail	The Foss Waterway Seaport Dock	Greg Greene & Rally Committee
November 19 – 21	Le Mans Race / Clam Chowder Cook-Off	Arabella's Landing – Gig Harbor	Gary & Joy Ballentine

Fall Cruise Hosts STILL Needed

We have funds in the 2021 CYCT Budget host at least two more weekend cruises in the fall and we need hosts to step up and plan the events. If you are interested in planning and hosting a cruise please contact me via email. Here are some ideas and places from the past:

Cruise Theme Ideas from the past: Pirate Rendezvous, Crab & Steak Feed, Clam Bake, Taste of Chili, Pow-Wow Salmon Bake, Labor Day Cruise Fiesta

Potential Cruise Locations: Port Orchard Marina, Bremerton Marina, Blake Island, Quartermaster Harbor, Des Moines Marina, Oro Bay, Dockton Park, Dock Street Marina, Gig Harbor, Poulsbo



Cruising—Continued

Open dates to plan from:

Dates	Theme	Location	Hosts
Sep 3 -6	Labor Day Weekend	Open	Open to Host
Oct 1 – 3	Open	Open	Open to Host
Oct 15 – 17	Open	Open	Open to Host

If you are interested in hosting a cruise please reach out to me via email or phone.

Cheers!

Greg Greene
 cruising@cyct.com
 S/V Whisper



Racing

April was jammed-packed with sailboat racing activities. We've had the single/double hand race on April 3rd and I want to say thank you to Commodore Jeremy Bush for running Romeo Charlie. The Spring Series of the Wednesday Night Windseekers racing started on April 14th. We had 21 boats participate. Thank you to Deb McAdams, Joy Ballentine and Past Commodore Gary Ballentine for participating on Romeo Charlie. On April 21 we had 28 boats participate and thank you to Chuck Queen, Christine Nelson and Deb McAdams.

Race Committee is looking forward to May and we are getting better every day because of your support!

As always we are looking for volunteers for Wednesday Night Series. We have openings for the Late Spring Series (May 19, 26, June 2, 9). We need volunteers to show up at approximately 5:00 PM to drop buoys and attend the Socially Distance Skippers Meeting at Tyee 2.

Brock VanRavenswaay
 Racing Chair
 S/V Tatoosh
 racing@cyct.com



News From The Lido Deck



News from The Lido Deck, National Lido Fleet #82.

Welcome to the CYCT Lido Deck! We have had our first Fun-on-Friday's sail this season. The weather has been a bit wet and windy on Friday's, however that hasn't deterred. Although getting wet is always a possibility, it becomes less likely with some time in the boat. We are planning on sailing every Friday through at least September. All are welcome, contact me (or any Lidos Fleet Member) for details. If the forecast is a little sketchy, check in before you make the drive. We are in Phase 2, so bring a mask although many Lido sailors are vaccinated however it isn't 100%. Folks typically show up at the Lido Dock anywhere between 4 and 7 o'clock in the afternoon. We are excited to break in the new fire pit afterwards.

What else is in the Lido sailing horizon? I know there is an unofficial cruise for the keelboats to Gig Harbor this weekend. Some Lidos are getting towed over or launched there. I'm planning on going over Saturday with Pickle and join the sailing activities. A casual event just for 'messing around in boats'.

I am excited for the last weekend of May. The keelboats are cruising to Penrose State Park over the Memorial Weekend and the Lidos are following along. Greg Greene and Clay Anderson will be providing details elsewhere in this Mainsheet. Some folks are camping and trailering Lidos over. There is a launch ramp at Lakebay Marina. We have 3 or 4 campsites reserved or you can drive over for a day. Launching fee is only \$5. ALL sailing dinghies are welcome. I believe 6 Lidos are going. It's a protected bay and it will be fun. I would look at most Lido activities happening on that Saturday and Sunday. I will be there Friday early afternoon to set up.

If you are thinking about a Lido, they come in all prices. Pickle was \$500. It needed work; all the older boats do. Don McAdams has been doing some surgery on Green Flash. A nice "6000 Series" Lido goes for about \$3000. It all depends on what and how much work you plan to do. Greg Greene, Don McAdams and I can help you look for and evaluate boats. Let us know!

I'd like to reinvent the Rattle Snake Regatta.

Chuck Queen
Pickle - Lido #4226
Lido Fleet #82 Captain



Education



I have decided this month's topic will be about sails we all use. I am starting with the main because it is in use most of the time, we are sailing, must be tough and work in winds from 0 to 30+ knots. Mains have the most controls of any sail to change the shape so our boats are propelled as efficiently as possible. Let's see what is available to us. When we are looking for a main, we have a number of options available. First, we need to choose the material (Dacron, Kevlar, carbon fiber). Then decide on construction (panel, molded, etc.), reef points, batons, and other extras. I would not recommend in-mast reefing, because if the mechanism fails you may not be able to lower the sail. If you are a racer, and want minimum weight aloft, go for a molded sail. Cruisers might want a paneled sail, and it will be less expensive.

Full batten mains are more durable because the batten will keep the sail from flogging. You can have a main that reefs into the boom or mast. These modifications are expensive but make sailing easier. In a mast reefing system, you cannot have battens, which makes the sail less efficient. Lazy jacks can make furling the main less difficult.

The main is controlled by a number of adjustments:

Main halyard – tightens/loosens the luff, moves sail draft forward/aft, reduces camber

Mainsheet – controls the horizontal movement of main, lessens/tightens the leech

Boom vang – controls vertical movement of the boom, tighten/loosen leech

Cunningham – tighten/loosen luff, move draft forward (lower third of sail)

Outhaul – tightens/loosens foot, increases/decreases camber, moves draft forward/aft

Backstay – increases/decreases mast bend, loosens/tightens leech, moves draft aft

Using these controls, you can set up your sail for best performance for the existing condition.

Sail your boat as much as possible, and note how your sail performs. As you learn your boat, note the settings on gauges or bands (tape or marker). Use a gauge on the backstay, vang, and outhaul. Keep a record of your settings in a note book, so it will be easy to replicate your settings the next time you are in similar conditions.

Ed Pinkham
SV Jeopardy

Gardyloo Consulting LLC

Eric Nelson - Manager

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Membership



Hi Members,

Hooray, May is here with nice weather and beautiful flowers. We are one month into our Membership drive, no new members to report this month. Gary and I have tried to put up fliers in different Marina's but haven't been able to locate a bulletin board that was accessible. If you know of any and would be willing to put up a flyer please let us know. Please be sure to talk to your Marina neighbors about joining our fun club.

It is also still time to pay dues, go to CYCT.Com and pay through PayPal it is that easy. If you are having a hard time financially, be sure to contact myself or Ken Whitney as the bylaws do provide for accommodations in this area.

I'm sure there are other articles about how much fun we had at the Daffodil Parade this year. La Gitana looked great all decorated, and it was very fun to be able to join in doing that. The Commodore, Vice, Rear and Past Commodore all looked very good in their uniforms. And, Captain Rich scared us all by firing the cannon as they motored by. What a perfect day to be outside too.

I am looking forward to the Memorial Day Cruise to Penrose Point. Hopefully you can all join in by boat or land cruiser. I am certain we will have a good time.

I want to wish all the Mom's out there a Very Happy Mother's Day!

Happy Birthday to our May Birthday Club Members

May	
Jay Pyles	3rd
Jen Ihlen	4th
Angie Morales	5th
Brenda Bethards	6th
Michael Meyers	7th
Gene Brown	11th
Cheryl White	19th
Renee Paine	21st
Ken Whitney	24th

See you out on the water,

Joy Ballentine
 CYCT Membership
 S/V Raven



Why I Joined CYCT

By

Ken Whitney

As a child I did a lot of racing and cruising with my parents, who had Hush (a Cal 34) and La Joya (a C&C 27) out of TYC. I did as much as a 9 year old could do on a race boat (ballast) and eventually at 16 was allowed to race the C&C 27 with my skilled friends (no adults!) on the Olympia Toliva Shoal.

The TYC fleet had over 100 boats at the time, and we also enjoyed the Seattle Yacht Club Tri-Island Series and the Great Equalizer, a multiple day race out of Shilshole that circled the sound. Sometimes a group of us teens raced the south sound in a Columbia 21 out of Olympia called Stubby. The corrected time advantage we got over the big boys was fantastic.

My family liked to do summer cruises of the San Juans and Gulf Islands, the last of which I believe was in 1971 after we lost our mast in the Seattle Vashon. Our only sail propulsion that summer was in a Minto, and we powered our way up to Princess Louisa, meeting up with fellow TYC members when we could along the way.



Eventually I left for college, my parents lost their crew and sold the boat, and I took 40 years off from racing. Then in 2016 I



met Matt Thomas at a neighborhood party and he mentioned he needed help. So that year I joined him for a Windseekers race on his J/29 Maria Cristina, just Matt and his dog who liked licking me when we tacked. This was a different kind of racing than I remembered (racing was how I learned my mother knew how to swear) and it was a blast. Very low key, a tiny crew, not all that competitive, just beautiful nights on the water. That first season our racing goal was to stay safe and - not always achieved - avoid being dead last.



Back then the thing that impressed me most was the hard work of the Romeo Charlie crew, both on the water and on the radio. After a full season of racing I joined CYCT as a crew member because I decided I wanted to support the people who made it possible for us to race. It's why I've continued to stay involved in trying to keep racing viable. Old fashioned clubs were physically centered around a clubhouse. Ours is centered on the water, and because of our far-flung membership in a way Romeo Charlie is our clubhouse. I'm glad to see the club make decisions and take actions to help us be prepared for the eventual replacement or major repair of the committee boat, and I say to those who work so hard to keep her on the water and keep CYCT's fleet racing, THANK YOU!

Due to COVID it's been 20 months since my last race, and I look forward to joining Maria Cristina and Romeo Charlie on May 12th for another night of coasting around the bay.

Ken Whitney

Calendar

For additional events, please check
Upcoming Events on CYCT Website

<https://cyct.com/>

OR

CYCT Facebook page

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/257572770984529/>

On The Cover:
2021 Flag Officers



Submitted by:
Angie Morales

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Basic Rules

- You must be a CYCT member or sponsored by a CYCT member to post an item.
- Each month the CYCT posting member must submit their items for sale before the 25th of the month (send your post to jmainsheet@cyct.com).
- **Items must be submitted each month or they will not be reposted.**
- You are responsible to sell your item so you must include your contact information (items without contact information will not be posted).

SHOVING OFF Different Strokes



You hear things hanging out on a boat. Especially when you live on a boat and you're always there. The other day I saw and heard another sailor in the marina coming down the dock with what I assumed was a guest, pointing out boats and how they were tied. The statement I heard from him was "That's an abortion there! (Pointing at a knot) Probably some weekend warrior, doesn't know what the hell they're doing." I thought "Wow!" and I was wondering what his comments might have been on me and my boat. I'm not sure he could see me. I mean, my boat is tied in four places with two breast lines and two spring lines. The cleat knots are properly done (I'm a bit of a stickler on knots) and the lines are properly sized and in good shape. Still, I don't Flemish my coils like he does (those nice little nautical spirals of line laying there). Was I acceptable to him?

He turned without commenting so I don't know what he thought but I know I started thinking. It's one thing to have a different way to do something and another to label a fellow sailor a weekend warrior who doesn't know what they're doing when you know nothing about them. We tend to do that though. Some of us. Some of us men mostly. We measure everything against ourselves and we always handicap the measurement to win. But really, there are lots of types of sailors and lots of reasons for sailing and one yardstick won't measure us all. For example, having a nice, newish boat does not guarantee you know what you're doing. Nor does a PHRF rating! (Sorry) Some folks are just at different points in their sailing journey or they have different destinations.

The lovely and gracious Mrs. St. John and I have always been cruisers first, racers a distant second. Same for our boats. When we purchased La Sirena, we did look at some boats that would have been competitive in Windseekers and maybe even PHRF. They would not have been comfortable in December tied to a dock though, and right now, we spend the majority of our time tied to a dock. The downside is that we don't race the house. Heck, we hardly sail her at all but I'm trying to remedy that. Still, for our purpose, she suits us as well as Goes to 11 suits Jeremy.

And let's not forget that people, as with boats, are "built" for different purposes. I've heard complaints of offshore sailors who don't adjust their jib sheet cars while a racer going out for two hours on a Wednesday night may adjust their cars a half dozen times. They're both competent sailors but with different desires and goals. I can bet that if we ever get the chance to sail to Alaska together, Ron and Connie will tweak their sails constantly and fly the spinnaker whenever possible. I'll hope to maybe get all of the sails up and shut off the engine. Are they better sailors? Well yes, of course they are, but that's not the point. They have different goals than me.

Then there is the subject of boat upkeep. As Gary and Joy can attest, you could polish Naughty by Nature until the cows came home and it wouldn't shine. But we sailed her. Her upkeep reflected my time available and her age. The same goes for La Sirena – she's a lot to upkeep. Now I look out at a beautiful trawler that has had more professional work done on her in a week than I will ever hire out for a boat of mine. And she leaves the dock about once a year. I have no idea the ability of her skipper but the condition of the boat says more about budget as it does ability.

What am I trying to say? You can't judge a book by its cover? You can't judge a wine by its label? Or maybe, what does it matter? I can proudly maneuver my single screw beast of a boat in pretty tight spaces but Gene Brown can sail my ass off in Mystic single handed. Does that make him the better sailor? Ok, yes, but again, does it matter? We are at different places in different journeys with different destinations.

And here is what I want to say, the point I'm struggling to make - **be kind to one another**. Let's help each other become better sailors. Let's appreciate that La Sirena is not Gardyloo and Ken St. John is not Eric Nelson. Nor I'm guessing do either of us want to be. What I would guess is that Eric, Jeremy, Ron and Connie, Joy and Gary, Jeremy and Gene and I share a love of the water and an amazement and appreciation for the power of the wind – and isn't that enough?

Ken St. John
S/V La Sirena