



Multnomah Channel Yacht Club

Channel Chatter

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October, 2009

Commodore's Comments

Greetings Fellow Skippers and First Mates, September has come and gone while the first four days of October came in with a whirlwind of activity. How about that MCYC's Lady's Dinner? My hat's off to Chefs Rob, Paul and George. Their wonderful efforts to help make our event a success were noticed by all. To the men of MCYC, your devotion to showing your ladies and all the visiting ladies a wonderful time, will be remembered for a long time to come. There are four individuals I would like to give a special, from the bottom of my heart, thanks and well done to. I won't steal First Lady Linda's thunder. I'll let her put it into her own words.

Friday morning up and early to get Orion and crew ready for the, "slow boat to Camas" run upstream for the closing day events. Joining the crew for the round trip was PCXII Mike White. In no time at all he had his sea legs in order, with the unusually rough water on the Columbia. We had a great time and wonderful conversations about boating. In addition, I learned a great deal about the history of our wonderful club. Thanks Mike you are a fine deck hand as well.

Well, MCYC didn't do too bad at the Closing Day events. We had a respectful 3rd place finish over all. Remember, as I was reminded by one wiser than me, "it's all about the participation".

Finally, let's take some time to celebrate the life of our good friend Janet Huck from WYC. We will all truly miss her. <Commodore Charley>

First Lady's Comments

This has been the busiest month so far this year. I have been blessed with wonderful friends to help me get through it. I have to share with all of

First Lady, Con't

you the extraordinary efforts that Blanche Schneider has contributed to the first lady's dinner. Blanche worked for two weeks on the centerpieces to get them looking perfect, and they were super, thank you Blanche. George has been suffering with back problems yet he has taken Blanche to get all the supplies to make those wonderful centerpieces to thank you George. Mike and Teri White also sacrificed several weekends and a few weekdays to get the clubhouse looking very German to give our guests the best time at our lady's dinner. I believe we were very successful in doing so. My special thanks to Mike and Teri. Your participation and special talents made our Lady's Dinner the best. If all the ladies' dinners were a contest I believe we would have been in the top three and the competition has been fierce. I also want to say thank you to all of you that worked on the decorations at the work party. I am always impressed by the generosity and eagerness to help by all our members. October holds many things to get involved in and I hope to see you all during the month.

<<First Lady Linda>>

Social Director's Comments

Autumn is here with its cool weather, but what a month September was. The weather cooperated for the well attended Golf Tournament and BBQ award lunch. Congratulations to the winning golfers.

After a rain shower the sun shone for the Gilbert River cruise. An after dark game of Pictionary brought to light the artists among us.

Many hands made for light work for Work Day. Thank you to all who participated, particularly those unable to come who cleaned up at the Work Party earlier in the week.

Social Director's Comments, Con't

I was unable to attend the Lady's Dinner, but the clubhouse was all decked out for a grand time. I'm sure the raves will start rolling in regarding the yummy sounding menu.

Closing Day is actually a weekend event so hopefully some of you will be able to catch a portion of it.

The clubhouse goes from Germany to Italy on October 10 when the MCYC Goes Italian dinner is served. Be sure to RSVP and come for pasta.

The middle of October is the Halloween cruise, with the party on Halloween day. Watch for info as the Schafriks and Mardesiches host a Halloween Party on the 31st.

In case you haven't seen it, the 2010 calendar is up and ready for events. If you traditionally host an event or have an idea for a new one, please claim a date and jot it on the calendar. If you do, shoot me an email at jellum@hotmail.com so the clubhouse isn't double booked.

See ya' at the river, <<Susan>>

Editor's Comments

The Chatter is a bit early this month, because the First Mate & I are headed for our timeshare in Puerto Vallarta, Mexico. REAL sunshine, not these wussy Northwest rays you can't tan in after August. Your Editor will also look up some Eastern massage therapies for my torn-up lower back. Maybe a little less tequila this time...naaaaah, SNAP OUT OF IT (shakes self violently to get rid of those dangerous thoughts).

How about that Lady's Dinner? This was, hands down, the best-organized event I have seen at MCYC. This is THE best example of leadership leading and the crew working to their maximum. Above it all, EmCee Teri "The Hammer" White kept it all moving smoothly. The food drew raves from folks who don't usually rave.

Calendar of Events

October:

- Board Meeting – 7th
- Italian Dinner – 10th
- Inter-club Halloween Cr – 16-18th
- General Meeting – 21st
- MCYC Halloween Party – 31st

November:

- Board Meeting – 4th
- 1st Friday – Taco Night – 6th
- St Helens City Cruise – 13-15th
- Annual Meeting – 18th

December:

- Board Meeting – 2d
- Christmas Ships Party – 13th
- General Meeting – 16th

Note: a Men’s Cruise to Gilbert River has been proposed, but it’s not on the calendar yet. Stay tuned.

Editor’s Comments, Con’t

For those of you who aren’t convinced that AFTER Labor Day is the best cruising time, I present Exhibit A, this first full week of October. Sure, it’s a bit nippy in the mornings, but it warms up nicely by afternoon, and the BEST thing – you can pick just about any marine park and have your choice of moorings! Get out there and use that boat, or you’ll be tempted to follow the Chaplain down his path of error and sell it.

I’m scooping the Social Director on some of this, but all’s fair in war and journalism (love is never fair), as I’ve been told. PCX2 Mike and 1LX2 Teri tell me that not only IS the New Year’s Eve Party at MCYC on for sure, another club will join us (NOTS). What this means is that the seating (50 couples) will be maxxed out, and whoever gets their rezzes in first will get ducats, and those who lag behind will find it Sold Out quickly. When that flyer comes out, be ready to JUMP!

In other news, the Annual Meeting and Elections are rushing toward us on the calendar. PC John Waikart just sent out an email with a nomination form attached. If you didn’t get it, email him or your Editor for a copy.

From the OSMB comes word of a Columbia River hazard, up at the mouth of the Deschutes. If you’re going to cruise that way, be careful of shoaling. A jet tour boat ran aground at

full speed there recently, injuring some passengers (and likely making an opening for another Captain in that fleet). Closer to home, the shoaling at the mouth of the Sandy River across from Port of Camas-Washougal is severe this year. Some years ago, that shoal also caught itself a tour boat running flat out, and I worked that grounding as a River Patrol Deputy.

BOAT WANTED: PC Scott of St Helens YC is in the market for a 26-28 foot express cruiser. Has to fit in his boathouse. His budget is in the low \$30Ks for the right boat. He’d prefer to buy from a club member, so make your pitch.

One of the more annoying things we ran into this summer was the voracious yellow jackets and wasps, both at the club and away, while cruising. Aside from total chemical warfare on these critters, any suggestions as to how to either get along with them (difficult) or keep them at a distance will be appreciated. Both yours truly and Donna Clark have read about a method to keep these annoying little buzzers at a distance, and in fact, if it works, it should work for flies as well.

Equipment needed is clear zip-style bags, they can be as small as the sandwich bags, and twine or tape for suspending the bags.

The method is to fill the bags with enough water to make them rounded, seal and hang up in areas of direct sunlight.

The system works (I’ll take their word for it) because bees and flies have eyes made up a cluster of many facets, and each facet is allowed only a small nerve pathway to their little bee brains. Sunlight hitting the bags is refracted into the colors of the rainbow, and all those colors try to register separately on the little insect brains, but it’s too much information and it can’t be processed, which causes that part of their brain to not function so that they can’t fly and sting and annoy us. The result is that they stay away from the sources of the multicolor light. If we are surrounded by these light sources, we are in a bee-free area, supposedly. We should try this out next year. If the system works, hanging either the water bags or maybe little crystals from the edges of our sun

shades should keep those areas bee free. Also if it works, we might want to do this around the open deck areas of our moored boats. It’s going to look hokie, but if it keeps the bees away, no one will laugh long, they’ll be busy outfitting their areas with the system.

Some Nautical Terminology

“Adrift” A method of moving across the water when nothing on your boat works. You normally do not have a lot of input as to where you are actually going, but you can get there.

“Astern” A type of look. Your spouse gives you astern look when you attempt to buy things for your new boat.

“Bow” This is what you do in front of your banker when you are asking for more money to spend on your boat. As your boat will surely cost much more than what you initially asked for, it is imperative that you learn how to do this quickly.

“Cleave” A template used to practice knot tying that allows knots to easily slip off.

“Crew” This term refers to the people working on your boat. They are usually friends or acquaintances that do not find out about the "work" part of the ride until you are away from the dock. Crews have a high turnover rate, they normally will never want to see you again, let alone set foot on your boat.

“Hatch” A device similar in nature to a mousetrap, in that it will drop down on your head or hand without warning. Also an opening for admitting water into the boat.

“Keel” A stopping device for your boat. It works by contacting the bottom of the water body you are in, thus inhibiting forward motion.

“No Wake Zone” (esp: Multnomah Channel) An area of a waterway in which you are prohibited from waking people who may be sleeping.

Humor courtesy of BostonBoating.com

