



Pacific Northwest

Summer, 2023

CLASSIC YACHTING

A QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER PRODUCED BY AND FOR THE PACIFIC NORTHWEST FLEET OF THE CLASSIC YACHT ASSOCIATION

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Photo by Jim Paynton

From the Bridge of Grandy

By Commodore Todd Powell



Hopefully this finds you in the midst of some great summer cruising! As I write this, we have just had some of the best weather in May and June that I can remember. In fact, I think the only significant rain was Bell Harbor weekend, which was confirmation that the weather gods think they are pretty funny.

I have to confess, I am already working on my winter projects list, I know I should be just basking in the sun as I chug down the bay, but I cannot help myself. In the winter, I am looking forward to the summer cruising, in the summer I am looking forward to the winter projects. One of the joys of the classic wood boats, 12 months of fun! So, if you are like me and already thinking about the winter project list, remember to take a moment to enjoy the warm sun, calm waters, and quiet anchorages. And I will try to take my own advice!

On a bit more serious note, the PNW Fleet has a significant lack of volunteers that are needed to keep it functioning. We are currently missing a Secretary, and a Rear

Commodore. When my term as Commodore is complete in October, the VC will move up and we will have a bridge with just one position filled. We will also need to replace one of our directors next year. Even if you are just curious about what is involved, please contact me, Rick Randall (Vice Commodore) or Tina Stotz (Past Commodore). We would be happy to chat with no strings attached. We are rapidly getting to a point where the fleet will struggle to function.

As you pass the time cruising from one destination to the next thinking about those winter projects, perhaps volunteering with the fleet is one of them. ■



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of the
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Classic Yacht Association*

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The FO'C'S'LE

By Matt Paynton, Newsletter Editor

As I was going through my LPs the other day, something struck me. Like so many things, something has to survive the period of its existence when it is just “old.” Before it has value again, it has to have gone through a phase when it just collects dust on the shelf. That period when “old” also means “worn out.”

But as with so many other things - often compared to a fine wine that gets *better* with age - there comes a time when something old gets its value back. When coming across it brings back feelings of nostalgia and warm memories of when it was new. Then you say to yourself, “Man, I am so glad I kept this all these years!” In the case of my LP collection, it has actually grown over the years, with LPs suddenly becoming fashionable

again! As a matter of fact, it is pretty remarkable in the age of digital downloads and streaming music services that in 2022, records outsold CDs for the first time since 1987. While certainly not in the numbers they were in 1987, it shows that records have some kind of appeal that CDs were never able to capture. CDs have now been relegated to just being “old” just as records seemed to be in the early boom days of the compact disc. Whole collections either just sat on shelves, were moved into boxes, or even into attics, and into crawlspaces where they could be out of sight and out of mind. They didn't seem to have any value, so selling them wasn't really a viable option, so many of these records ended up in the garbage can. Something new and better had come along to replace them, so what

was the point of keeping them? Cars are another “old” thing that have to survive being considered valueless. That brand new Mustang in 1965 became the old beater that the kids learned to drive in in the 1970s. Those once-ubiquitous late-sixties Dodge Chargers all but disappeared after many of them were destroyed during the filming of *The Dukes of Hazzard*. It was only after the years of neglect that these classic cars became highly sought after collectibles, and their restoration business boomed, saving them from the fate of being gone for good.

So take a moment and look around you as you enjoy your summer boat cruise this year and be grateful to the people who decided that the “old” boat was worth saving and whose story was still worth telling. ■

Post-Bell Harbor Cruise

By Tina Stotz (#931)

Hosted by Larry Benson and Tina Stotz on *Thelonius*, a flotilla of classics from the PNW and Canadian Fleet left Bell Harbor Marina on June 19th and made way to a number of iconic locations in Central Puget Sound. *Compadre*, *Comrade*, *Madera* (Canadian Fleet), *Maranee*, *Marion II*, *Olmaha* (Canadian Fleet) and *Zanzibar* joined in this event.

Our first stop was in Poulsbo, WA, where we shared a hot dog and hamburger barbecue expertly prepared by Bill Shain of *Comrade*. It was rainy and cool that evening – “Juneuary” was in full force - and we were quite glad to have use of the multi-purpose room at the marina.

On Tuesday, June 20th, many participants enjoyed a historic tour of Poulsbo led by a docent from the Poulsbo Historic Society. We learned much about Poulsbo's founding families, and the building

and rebuilding of this very charming town. We closed out the day with appetizers and cocktails, again thankful for the cover of the multipurpose room.

After two nights in Poulsbo, many participants sailed south to Gig Harbor, WA, another favorite place. And as the weather turned again to summer, we dined together outside at the Tides Tavern. On Thursday, June 22nd, Diane Lander hosted us on a tour of the beautiful M.V. *Linmar*. We marveled at her interesting history and

her elegant spaces. We closed out Thursday taking our dinghies to the head of Gig Harbor for happy hour at Anthony's.

It felt really good to cruise together with friends from both fleets. Let's do more of this! ■





Photo by Jim Paynton



Bell Harbor Rendezvous by the Numbers

The 2023 Bell Harbor Rendezvous June 16-18 proved to be another successful outing for CYA members. An increase in attendance in these post-Covid times was heartwarming to witness, with 41 vessels from 1914 to 1970 and representing two Fleets, came together for a weekend of sharing stories with the visiting public and each other. Following are a few more details – by the numbers – each of which contributed to an extraordinary event.

ONE

- Matt Paynton (CYA #1195) created a brand-new Rendezvous logo which will appear in future Rendezvous publicity and memorabilia.

- David Huchthausen (CYA #811) produced another outstanding and collectible Rendezvous poster, his 23rd overall. Posters are available for purchase on the CYA website.

- The Seattle Fireboat *Leshi* led the parade of boats down the Seattle waterfront. It had to leave the parade to attend to a call but returned to put on a water display in the middle of Elliott Bay.

- The food truck In Pizza We Crust provided wood-fired pizza and salad to every boat from the plaza. Coordinating with the Port and the cruise ship schedule was challenging but ultimately successful!

TWO

- The PNW Fleet rolled out the welcome mat for two Canadian Fleet member vessels – *Madera* (Michael and Audrey Topliss, CYA #1389) and *Olmaha* (Garth and Doreen McBride, CYA #1226), who braved challenging conditions crossing the Strait. A third vessel, *Tsona* (Bob and Susan Shaw, CYA #1050), unfortunately had to turn back after discovering a leak that needed attention.

THREE

- Three cruise ships towered above the marina during the weekend, disgorging passengers in the morning, and reloading in the afternoon before departing around dinner time.

- Attendees were treated to three meals during the weekend: pizza on the plaza on Friday night, and breakfast on Saturday and Sunday mornings. Rendezvous sponsor donations paid for these meals.



Madera and Twin Isles lie in the still reflection of the Norwegian Bliss cruise ship

Photo by Jim Paynton
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FOUR

- Four awards were given out this year: People's Choice winner was *Tahoe*, a 55' 1962 Chris-Craft owned by Marcine Hull and Will Ratcliff (CYA #1456).

Two vessels received Honorable Mention: *Unforgettable*, a 57' 1965 Chris-Craft owned by Alan Winningham and Ryan Ihrig (CYA #1484), and *Blue Peter*, a 96' 1928 Lake Union Drydock owned by Chuck and Linda Barbo (CYA #1067) and captained by Scott Gienow. The Engine Preservation Plaque was awarded to *Twin Isles*, owned by Andy and Jo Ellen Hathaway (CYA #272). *Twin Isles* is powered by her original 1940 Twin Vivian six-cylinder Diesels.

SIX

- Your Bell Harbor Rendezvous Committee is chaired by Diane Lander. Previous chairs Chip and Kristin Kochel and Jim and Margie Paynton, plus Bob Irving (Dockmaster) work out all of the details each year, making the event run smoothly and memorably.

SEVEN

- Seven vessels attended their first (but not last) Bell Harbor Rendezvous this year: *Arianna*, *Caroline*, *Halcyon*, *Merva*, *Owl*, *Serafino* and *Twin Isles*.

TEN

- Quite literally, this event would NOT exist were it not for ten generous sponsors. Their donations included raffle prizes and also covered the cost of moorage, meals, and printing. When you visit any of these businesses, please thank them for their generous support of our premier PNW Fleet event: Canvas Supply, Port Townsend Shipwrights, Fisheries Supply, Haven Boatworks, CSR Marine, Morrison's North Star Marine, Lake Union Drydock Company, Northwest School of Wooden Boat Building, the Center for Wooden Boats, and the Port of Seattle/Bell Harbor Marina.

- The estimated number of rain showers during the weekend, keeping our attendance to about 800. Those welcomed included cruise ship passengers and employees, visitors from around the globe, and Patrick Welch and his friend Bren from the NC Fleet. Educating the public about this bygone era of boat building is the reason we put in the time and effort to make it memorable and hopefully attract future generations of wooden boat owners.

If you would like to be counted among these 'numbers,' make plans to attend the 2024 Bell Harbor Rendezvous, June 14-16. ■



▲ All that wood is always an impressive sight on the Seattle waterfront.

Jon Bengtsson's cup runneth over at the Saturday night dinner at Anthony's Pier 66



Photo by Kristin Kochel



◀ Diane Lander presents Marcine Hull and William Ratcliff the "People's Choice" trophy for their 1962 Chris-Craft Tahoe.



South Sound's "Dynamic Duo" Shows

By Jim Paynton #427

Scheduled one week apart, and right at the beginning of the cruising season, the Olympia Wooden Boat Fair and the Gig Harbor Tides Tavern Wooden Boat Show are popular attractions every year.

The Olympia show is put on annually by the Olympia Wooden Boat Society. It is a massive undertaking at Percival Landing, including dozens of wooden yachts, entertainment, vendor booths, food trucks and formal ceremonies. The crowds are typically enormous. This year's event took place under sunny warm weather on May 13-14, and five CYA vessels were in attendance, *Comrade*, *Riptide*, *El Mistico*, *Phantom*, and *Maranee*. Dockmaster Ed Docherty, long time CYA member, did his usual masterful job of assembling and executing the dock plan. Dennis Ballard and Peter Riess were awarded the prestigious



▲ Visitors filled the Percival Landing docks for the Olympia Wooden Boat Fair.

“Maritime Persons of the Year” award, and Bill Shain and Kathy Weber were presented a plaque in recognition of *Comrade* being designated as the Featured Boat.

On May 20-21, the Tides Tavern “Fish and Ships” wooden boat rendezvous took place in Gig Harbor. The Tides has hosted this event for a number of years, and welcomes not only wooden motoryachts, but also vintage sailboats, historic replicas and notable classic boats from the Eddon Boatyard in the harbor. The docks were pleasantly full all weekend long as visitors came down in the warm sunshine to view the boats before or after enjoying their meal at the Tides. *Riptide*, *Thelonius*, and *Maranee* represented the CYA, and longtime CYA member Randy Mueller is to be congratulated for once again coordinating a wonderful and well organized event. ■

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▲ Visitors to the Tides Tavern docks enjoyed the wooden boats and the warm May sunshine.



▲ Bill Shain and Kathy Weber proudly display their plaque recognizing Comrade as the Featured Boat at the Olympia Wooden Boat Fair.

▼ Dennis Ballard and Peter Riess accepting the "Maritime Persons of the Year" plaque at the Olympia Wooden Boat Fair awards breakfast.



WELCOME TO THE NEWEST MEMBERS OF THE PNW FLEET!



NOOTKA
 Tim Robison and Sandra Clavero
 38' 1957 B. Williams
 Lummi Island, WA
 Diane Lander, sponsor



ARIANNA
 Leroy Lewis and Elizabeth Hames-Lewis
 50' 1970 American Marine
 Port Orchard, WA
 Michael Merta, sponsor



SWIETENIA
 Jason and Daryl Hicks
 30' 1941 Chris-Craft
 La Conner, WA
 Rick Reeves, sponsor

9608 NE 31st Street
Clyde Hill, WA 98004

WELCOME TO THE NEWEST MEMBERS OF THE PNW FLEET! (continued)



SERAFINO
Erik Rhyne and Rashree Patram
46' 1963 Chris-Craft
Seattle, WA
Tim Balzer, sponsor



CLASS ACT
Michael and Karen Loram
42' 1946 Hubert Elliss
Seattle, WA
Tim Robison, sponsor