



The Bilge Pump

Of the Queen City Yacht Club

2608 BOYER AVENUE EAST

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www.queencity.org

Volume 77, Number 3

March 2012



COMMODORE DON WILSON

✦ COMMODORE'S REPORT ✦ MARCH 2012

Writing this article has been much more difficult than usual this month. "Hawaii Time" is the problem. So, as P/C George Austin and I took off on the first of our morning constitutionals along the shores of Ka'anapali, I looked for inspiration. I found it on our first day's walk

during the start of a pretty major windstorm. We watched, aghast, as a sweet young thing started the engine of a 46' catamaran and then proceeded to untie from a mooring buoy (did I mention the major windstorm?). As she pulled away her engine died! She tried and tried to restart it to no avail. We were then compelled to watch this beautiful water craft make its way, like a magnet was pulling it along, to rest upon BLACK ROCK at the Maui Sheraton. Although others tried to help the captain of the vessel, nothing could be done to help during the storm. There were a number of vessels that ended up on the beach but this case seemed the saddest when on a subsequent walk we saw the salvagers taking it apart with chain saws and loading the pieces on a boat to be taken away!

Since becoming your Commodore I have come to realize how much our club depends on help...help from

the Tarettes Auxiliary and, of course, the spouses of our members. There are many projects and activities at QCYC that would never happen, much less be as successful, if it were not for these very special volunteers. Captains, we should all give them a huge thank you for their efforts!

Springtime events are beginning to take shape for the coming season. If you are a new member please try to take advantage of these opportunities to PARTICIPATE!

Our Fleet Captain, Mike Cochran, has put together a group tour of a Washington State Ferry to take place in March. Touring through the typically unseen parts of a WSF at Winslow promises to be a lot of fun as well as very interesting. Be sure to get signed up for one of the three tours as space is limited and this is one you won't want to miss.

Tacoma's Daffodil Festival will take

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HIGHLIGHTS

March 2012

Mar 3-4	Ranier YC Commodore's Ball
Mar 8 & 15	Fleet Captain's Ferry Tour
Mar 9-11	Novice & Old Timers Race
Mar 10	Edmonds YC Commodore's Ball
Mar 17	St. Patrick's Day
Mar 24-25	Everett YC Commodore's Ball
Mar 31	Day Island Commodore's Ball

place April 20-22. This is always a great event and we hope to have even more boats participate this year. Although this is a Fleet Captain's event, Gary Halvorsen will again be chairing so please contact him for sign up and then get ready for TRIVIA!

If you aren't up for frivolous fun at TYC, then Barb & Eric Wood would love to see you over at WINSLOW for the annual cleanup. You know they will have a very organized list of chores (I wouldn't be surprised to see Edie working too) so that the day will move along in the most efficient way. Hope to see you at one or the other.

April 28th is a date you will want to put on your calendar. That's the day we show our pride in our club. Pride of Queen City co-chairs, John Alving and Dave Svendsen, will have many projects organized and ready for volunteers to clean up and make our club shine. This is a very important event each year and a great way to get our club ready to entertain the Grand XIV on OPENING DAY weekend. PLEASE VOLUNTEER!

P/C Dale & Susie Roberts are busy organizing OPENING DAY. This is a really huge VOLUNTEERING OPPORTUNITY. If you are new to the club you will definitely want to be involved. The festivities are much more fun if you have a vested interest in one or more of the events. It is the perfect way to meet club members and gain new boating buddies. If you can help contact P/C Dale Roberts.

It appears as though our calendar is full so get out there and enjoy your club.

Don Wilson
Commodore

VICE COMMODORE'S REPORT

Did you know that it is halftime? Looking at the calendar it's easy to see that we are approximately half way through the QCYC calendar year. The abundance of club activities continues to remain high, with a lot more to come as we move toward Opening Day on the first Saturday in May. Check out the calendar for all the coming activities.

The Seattle Boat Show provided another excellent opportunity to show off QCYC. Our thanks to membership chairman Capt. Benson and spouse Sandy for their coordination and setting up of the Queen City Boat Show booth. We appreciate all volunteer hours given by our members to cover the booth during this week long event. Thank you.

At the February 7 P & F meeting, I presented our club's newly updated 5 yr. plan as a part of the QCYC 20-Year Capital Budget plan. The P & F committee will now begin the budget review process of figuring out the funding for next year's budget and funding projections based on the 5 yr. plan.

DOCKS:

- At the Jan meeting Capt. Mike Cochran presented a full-sized aluminum ladder for consideration to be installed on the ends of the finger piers at the Seattle Main Station docks. So far the Docks Committee has previewed three different ladder types and we are close to making a decision.

- Waterfront Construction

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*** FREE HAUL OUT ***

**February 1st thru February 28th
and
July 15th thru September 15th**

submitted the successful bid of \$26,640.00 for the construction of the new work dock #1 work float located on the eastside of Dock

3. Construction of the new work dock should be complete before the end of March.

ELECTRICAL POWER UPGRADE COMMITTEE

• Q C Y C c o n s u l t a n t ELMECCO has had a succession of meetings with Seattle City Light on QCYC's request for (480 volt 3 phase) electrical power service for the Seattle Main Station. Options for both primary and secondary power are being looked at.

• The above information is essential for the committee to know what the projected cost will be to upgrade our electrical system. The committee's progress thus far is good.

• Committee Chair John Alvin is making good progress on his contacts with Electrical Engineers (PE) to discuss their interest in a QCYC power system upgrade. At some point

the Electrical Committee will need to interview a list of qualified applicants to assist with the Seattle Main Station electric power upgrade design.

MOORAGE:

• February Boat Inspections are in, and we are seeing good progress on the reduction of Red Tags being issued.

RED TAG'S AND SNOWBIRDS

• Under the Red Tag plan we have devised the following system to accommodate members who are out of the area for extended periods of time.

• Prior to departure, contact the QCYC Office manager and provide departure date and anticipated date of return.

• No Red Tags will be placed on a vessel during the period of the owner's notification.

• The one exception to the above will be, if at the time of monthly scheduled boat inspections a condition is noted on the owner's vessel that requires immediate attention, then contact by phone or email

will be made to alert the owner. In those instances a Red Tag posting will be placed on the vessel.

• The goal of our Boat Inspection Red Tag Plan is to bring our club's moored vessels into compliance with QCYC By-Laws and the Queen City Yacht Club rules. In my view, the newly adopted Red Tag approach will be able to accomplish both of these objectives. Your cooperation and support are appreciated.

HOUSE:

• Our club bar refrigerator gave out on us after many years of service. A brand new replacement refrigerator was purchased for \$1,200.00 and is now in place in the room behind the bar.

• There is a small water leak that developed in one of the clubhouse pipes behind the wall of the ladies rest room on the main deck. A plumber has been out to correct the problem. By time you read this it will likely be fixed. We apologize for any service disruption that this may have caused.

Kudos and appreciation to Captain Ron Stevenson for the donation of the vintage U.S. Coast Guard lantern mount on the 8 Bells Buoy located outside near the 2nd deck BBQ. Thank you for this thoughtful donation to our club. Also, thank you to Richard McGrew for installing the red flashing 8 sec. light in the lantern. Nice job Captains, thank you both.



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OUTSTATIONS:

- No items to report.

Lois and I look forward to seeing you at the next general meeting on March 14. Please come and join us.

Regards,

Bob Stettner
Vice Commodore

REAR COMMODORE'S REPORT

Grounds: Captain Becky Garvie and I will have a Grounds work party on Saturday March 10th between 10 AM and 1 PM. We will be preparing for spring planting with 3-way mix top soil, weeding, clearing. In reviewing the grounds with our gardener, "Little Man Landscaping", we report the red laurel along the Boyer sidewalk is diseased, to avoid potential loss, Washington Tree Service will be spraying soon. Winter has claimed several shrubs and three trees which we need to replace. We would love to have you give us a hand for a few hours of your time. Please contact Becky or me for more information.

Membership: Huge thank you to Captain Chris and Sandy Benson for their efforts in a successful Boat Show. Many members staffed the QCYC booth and had a great time meeting and introducing folks to QCYC. You may have noticed several potential members at our last general meeting a warm greet and meet by QCYC members makes a vital impression to join and is so appreciated. The Boat Show Special, offering an initial membership fee of \$2,000 instead of the usual \$3,000 is still in effect. This recruiting tool may be used to get that friend or

neighbor off the fence. This offer won't last long, though, so hurry!

Fun, friends and food.....is what makes this club great. If you are interested in hosting a simple gathering for a Friday or Saturday Night Social let me know. Remember "Bob Night"? Or Dock 1 Night? Let's do more of these simple get-togethers. Anyone for a little Karaoke?

The Membership Committee does have a Draft By-Laws Change and as of this writing it needed a little more tweaking, by the time you read this I am sure it will be out for our review. Thank you to the Committee for the many hours of work and review, this was no easy task!

Our date nights continue after 40 years! Laurean and I attended a delightful Meydenbauer Bay YC JO Ball in January (they have a Chihully in the ladies lounge). In February I was transformed into John Travolta for Gig Harbor's "Saturday Night Fever" (envision white polyester, black hair and high heels). In March we go to Tyee YC JO on the 17th with a Sesame Street theme "It ain't easy being green" (any suggestions?). April brings us to Tacoma's YC's Daffodil Festival (we'll be yellow). May is, of course, Opening Day (white pants and shoes) and the Memorial Day Cruise to Winslow (army greens). In June our QCYC JO Ball is based on the 1950's movie "Grease." (It ain't easy being such a pretty boy.)

We are looking for help to put on our lovely Junior Officers Ball in June and would love to have you!

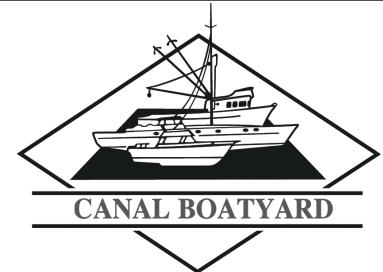
Bob Myers
Rear Commodore

OUTSTATION REPORT

In last month's "Outstation Report" I wrote something about observing early signs of spring. Then, a few days later, record snow covered Puget Sound. I won't make that mistake again!

Actually, the snow was a beautiful sight if you didn't need to go anywhere. Eric broke out the snow blower and, with Edie supervising, cleared a path from the docks to the clubhouse. There is still a large pile of snow in the Town and Country parking lot - it's amazing how long it takes snow to melt when it's in a pile like that.

The Grand Fourteen Officers' cruise in was a success as always. Once again, the place was left tidy and



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ready for another party thanks to Vice Commodore Bob Stettner, Rear Commodore Bob Myers, and their helpers. The Rear Commodore got busy with some cleaning supplies and spent hours cleaning the stove tops and ovens, too!

We cannot believe how many people look online at the Outstation live video camera. Many of you commented on the Christmas lights blocking the camera. Well, the lights are finally removed, and now you too can watch Eric and Edie play all day while I'm at work.

We had a nice visit with the widow of a past member recently. We started to tell her about recent improvements at the Outstation, since she and her husband had winter moorage here for many years. We told her about the new docks, the new patio furniture, benches and flagpole. We told her about the new cabinets, sign-in desk, lighting and paint. We told her about the fireplace and chairs that the Tarettes purchased. Then we told her about the washer and dryer now situated where the water heater used to be. Of course, the new ovens and freezer and countertops were also mentioned. It's quite a list - and made us realize how much has been accomplished just in the past few years.

Already some of you are asking about the Outstation work party scheduled for April 21st and 22nd. A number of projects are planned, including finishing the deck project started last year. The work party is a fun way for new members to get involved and perhaps see the Outstation for the first time. It's amazing how much can get accomplished when 30-40 people show up ready to help with yard work, light construction, or cleaning

the clubhouse. And the weather is guaranteed to be good!

Barb

REGATTA POWER REPORT

First of the Season Race, Jan 22, 2012

The QCYC FOS race was **NOT** held on the weekend of **January 21st to 23rd**, due to the snow and then ice storms that occurred during the prior week. It has been rescheduled to run on the same day as the Eagle Harbor Race, March 31st, both out of our Out Station. One 8 leg race of 28 NM split into 2 races for scoring with the first 4 legs being the FOS and the last 4 being the EH Race. A race you will surely not want to miss as there will be twice the points awarded.

The **Bremerton YC Heavy Weather Race** on Feb 18th once again did not live up to its name with nice weather finishing with clear skies. The racers went out through Port Washington and Rich Passage. The scores were surprisingly good, with one racer besting 0.5% in the field of 38 Racers with 20 from BYC.

The race was won by BYC's **Owen Ritter** on *Outbound* with an amazing **0.4794%**. MBYC's **Clint Chapin** on *Sojourn* was second with **0.7115%**. Last year's winner P/C **Dick Timmerman** on *Vagabond* was third with **0.9373%**. **Dave Padgett** on

Slipaway with **1.4916%** took 9th overall and First in Class 4. **Ken Klett** and **Marv Elbon** on *Klettitat* were 21st overall with 2.1685%.

BYC also won the P/C **Grady Barrentine** team trophy after having it reside at QCYC for the last 2 years.

Coming Events

Meydenbauer Bay YC
Boomerang Race; March 3rd

QCYC Club Race: Novice and Old Timer's Race; Friday March 9th thru Sun March 11th. This is an informal club event. All club members and friends are invited. Please join us. To inquire or **SIGN UP** - call or email Bob Lindal at 206-892-1234 or or P/C Jeff Ewell at 206-407-1717. There will be a **Burger Bash on Sunday the 11th at 5 PM** when the trophies will be

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awarded. Tell me if you want to come so Willie will have enough food.

Tacoma YC **Jack Hyde Race;**
March 24th

QCYC/SYC **Eagle Harbor Race** combined with the **First of the Season Race (rescheduled);** *Mar 31st* at our Winslow outstation; all members are invited to come over and race, observe or just have a great boating weekend.

Bob Lindal
Regatta Power Chair

DOCKS COMMITTEE

Your Docks Committee is growing. Over the last few years, several people have come on board and volunteered to spearhead some tasks. Care for this large marina is a big deal, but every time some of the task is delegated, it gets a little smaller over-all. It's crucial that we keep this committee growing, especially to make it resilient to whatever comes. It takes many minds to protect it and help it grow stronger for any changes that come.

The progress is good, and the better news is that we still have much distance to go. The committee is getting a steady turnout of nearly 10 persons for the scheduled work parties and sometimes nearly double that. Whoever said that "volunteerism is dead"... simply stated, they are wrong and your yacht club proudly proves it so. You need not lead things to be of

enormous help to the club and to be a real part of the function and future of things here.

We've made good progress under the docks with replacing the badly failing and important draft stop walls. These double planked walls are placed at maximum distances of 150 feet apart, and are rated to survive fire for 60 (30?) minutes or longer. The proven concept is to

stop the air and fire flow lengthwise under the dock in the event of fire. Fire beneath piers can be terribly difficult to extinguish. These critical parts to our fire protection system can be huge life and property savers, by stopping spread of fire. The draft stops are part of the original construction here.

The committee is working hard to achieve a comprehensive plan for



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*References & Photo's
Available Upon Request*

GATE SECURITY: In order to improve club security, the driveway gate will continue to open weekdays at 6 AM, but will now close at 7 PM. The gate will remain closed on weekends.

the replacement of safety ladders all over the marina. The plan includes the addition of a great many new ladders, to assure more reasonable exit from the water in the event of a man-over-board. Women are uninvited to do that, too. It's remarkable how large a project this is and without careful planning and budgeting to begin with it, like many others, is more likely to fail over the long haul. The persons tasked with this procedure are making excellent progress and you may already have heard better information than is in this article, by the time this gets published

Planking tasks remain now and forevermore. We still have a lighting project ahead. Electrical concerns remain, and we should have a new work float to install, perhaps before you read these words. Opening Day comes and we'll have considerable cleaning up type work to do that is a

great way to introduce yourself to us.

Committee Meetings: the Four Tuesday of every month: March 27, April 24. 6:00 PM

Next work parties: The second Saturday of every month: March 10, April 14, & May 12

Your Docks Committee

FRAMES

Those of you who have visited the clubhouse recently have noticed the new table frames for holding flyers and other announcements. They are topped by silhouettes of sailing craft and are far more attractive than the clear plastic frames they replace. For those who don't already know, they are a gift from Fleet Captain Mike Cochran. You may want to thank him next time you see him.

FLEET CAPTAIN'S FERRY TOUR

Last Call for sign-ups for Fleet Captain's Washington State Ferry engine room tours.

Dates: March 1st, 8th, and 15th. All at 1 PM, all start from Outstation at 12:30 and we walk over to the ferry maintenance yard.

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Mike Cochran
Fleet Captain

Tarettes' Corner

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Here's wishing you the smiles o' life and not a single grumble.

Here's wishing you the best o' life and not a claw about it.

Here's wishing you the joy in life and not a day without it.

- Irish Blessing

May St Patrick's Day see you in good health and merry cheer.

Our news is brief but much is happening. Our general meetings will be changed to the last Friday of the month, following Friday lunch.

We will meet on the 3rd floor at 1:30 PM. As many of our members are captains and we also have ladies that would like to sit in on the captains' meetings, this change will accommodate all of those that wish to attend the QCYC general meetings.

On March 24th at 2:30 PM we will be celebrating at a Mother Daughter Tea on the third floor of the club house. At this time we will honor our past Tarette presidents and raise a toast to the Tarettes' 69th birthday.

March 7th will see us working at Treehouse, an organization that

helps nurture foster children. We will be working from 10 AM to 2 PM. If you would like to come with us please contact Mary Jo Svendsen.

As always my deepest Regards
Renee Kimes
Tarette President





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MARCH 20, 2012 05:14

An **equinox** occurs twice a year, when the *tilt* of the *Earth's* axis is inclined neither away from nor towards the *Sun*, the center of the *Sun* being in the same plane as the *Earth's equator*. The term equinox can also be used in a broader sense, meaning the date when such a passage happens. The name "equinox" is derived from the Latin *aequus* (equal) and *nox* (night), because around the equinox, the night and day have approximately equal length.

Woo Hoo! Closer and closer to Summer in Seattle, July 5!!

Here are a couple ways to celebrate the equinox:

World Storytelling Day is a global celebration of the art of oral storytelling, celebrated every year on the spring equinox in the northern hemisphere. (*Sounds like just another day at QCYC*).

In Annapolis, MD, boatyard employees and sailboat owners celebrate the spring equinox with the **Burning Of The Socks** festival.

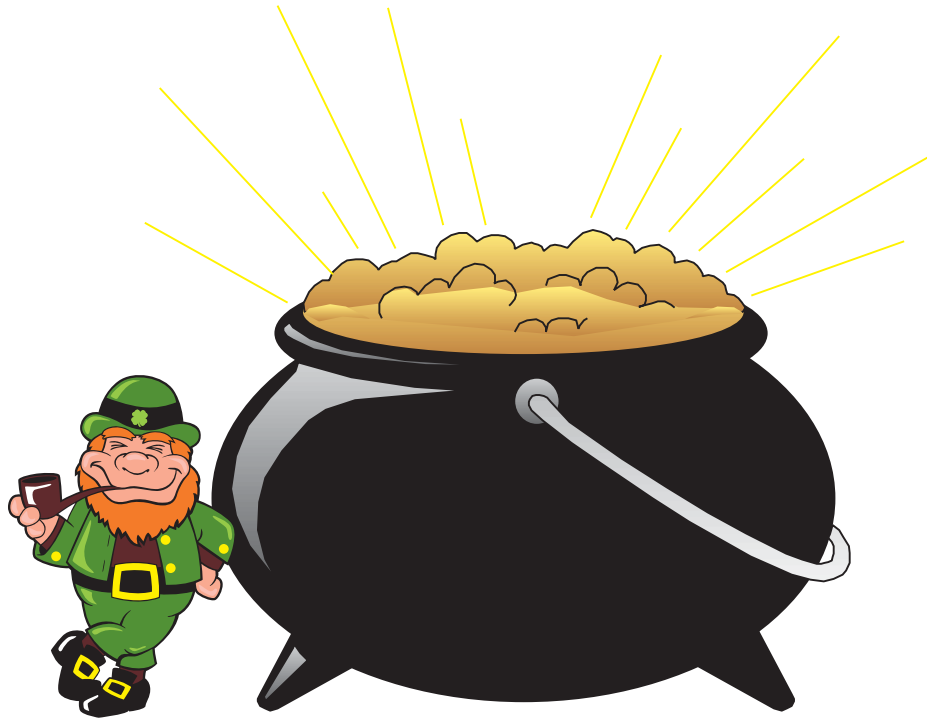
Traditionally, the boating community wears socks only during the winter. These are burned at the approach of warmer weather which brings more customers and work to the area. Officially, nobody then wears socks until the next equinox. (Are you listening "socks and sandals guy"?)

All that said, on March 20, raise a glass to warmer weather, tell a few good stories, and burn those old winter socks!

Then we'll be there to hear all about it at the QCYC Ship's Store. Those stories had better be good! No stinky feet allowed.

As my friend Donna says, "remember to take those vitamins", it's still winter out there.

THE CREW AT THE QCYC SHIP'S STORE



Happy St. Patrick's Day



QCYC CHILDREN'S EASTER PARTY

Saturday, April 7, 2012

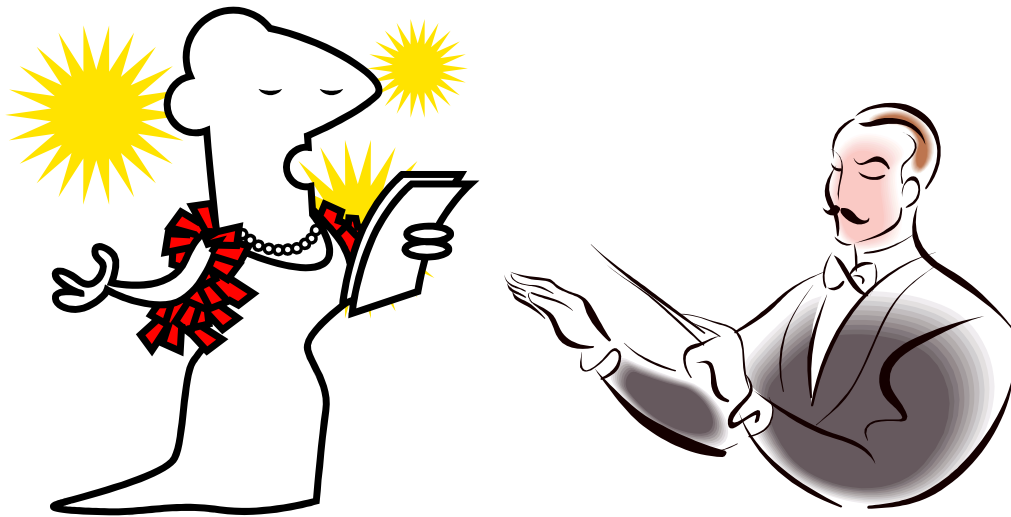
12:00 P.M. – 2:00 P.M.

EASTER BUNNY, ENTERTAINMENT, EGG HUNT

2608 BOYER AVE E

QUESTIONS, PLEASE CALL: SHERRY WEISS

(206) 284-0520



Hey, Queen City Members!

Looking for a new way to participate at Queen City? Been watching “Glee” and wanting to leap up out of your chair in song?

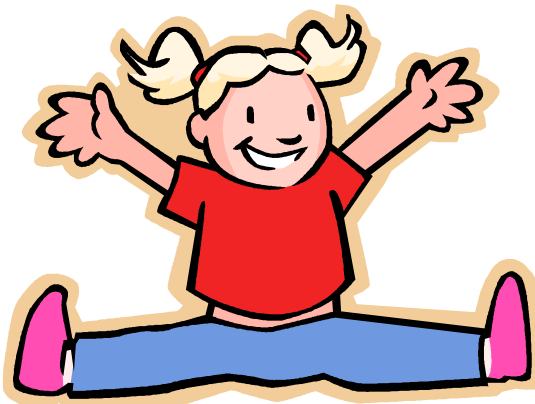
Well, here's your chance! Consider joining the new “Queen City Quire!”

We are in the process of starting a singing group which will participate in the festivities for opening day in May, singing some sea chanties or other songs of the sea. If the group is successful and interest continues, we will look at future performances. We will meet for rehearsals a couple of times prior to Opening Day, once on Saturday, April 21st at 4pm and Sunday, April 29th, also at 4pm. Times are subject to change.

The Queen City Quire is being formed and conducted by Scott Peterson, Director of Choral Activities at Yakima Valley College, and he conducts the Yakima Symphony Chorus.

The purpose is to have fun singing together. If you have an interest, please email Scott at choralc@gmail.com and let him know that you want to be part of this new and exciting venture. Even if you have spoken to him, please send an email again so he can keep an accurate count.

And then tune up your voice for some fun!





QCYC announces Opening Day 2012!

Thursday, May 3rd to Sunday, May 6th

Plan to attend the festivities which include tasty meals prepared by the Opening Day committee, Willie, and the Tarettes, as well as libations, music, the *Queen City Quire*, the Boat Parade, and hanging out with your boating friends.

Dance to the sounds of two of Queen City's favorite bands~the TROPICS on Friday night, and Didi Law on Saturday night!

Like to volunteer? There are lots of opportunities to help make Opening Day a great event! Call or email P/C Dale Roberts at 425.775. 6247; ddrconstruction@gmail.com.

MARCH 2012

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 Fleet Captain's Ferry Tour Start: 1300	2 Friday Lunch Start: 1130	3 MBYC Boomerang IPBA Saturday Breakfast-0900 Rainier YC Commodore's Ball
4 Rainier YC Commodore's Ball MBYC Boomerang IPBA	5	6 SSPS Public Boating Class - 3rd Deck - 1830 Skull - 1900	7	8 Fleet Captain's Ferry Tour Start: 1300	9 Friday Lunch-Start: 1130 Novice & Old Timers' Race - All Day	10 Saturday Breakfast-0900 Novice & Old Timers' Race - All Day Edmonds YC Comm. Ball
11 Edmonds YC Comm. Bal Novice & Old Timers' Race - All Day Novice & Old Timers' Awards & Burger Bash Start: 1700	12 Board Meeting - 1900	13 SSPS Public Boating Class - 3rd Deck - 1830	14 Dinner - Start: 1800 General Membership Meeting - Start: 1930	15 Fleet Captain's Ferry Tour - Start: 1300 SSPS Dinner/Meeting Start: 1900	16 Friday Lunch Start: 1130	17 Tyee YC JO Ball Tyee Grand 14 Scrapbooking - Capt Conf Room QCYC - 1000 Saturday Breakfast-0900
18 Tyee YC JO Ball	19	20 Skull - 1900 SSPS Public Boating Class - 3rd Deck - 1830	21 Power Regatta Class 3rd Deck Start: 1730	22 Power Regatta Class 3rd Deck Start: 1730	23 Friday Lunch Start: 1130	24 Saturday Breakfast-0900 Tacoma YC Jack Hyde Race Everett YC Commodore's Ball Olympia YC PC Cruise In Tarette Mother Daughter Tea - 1430
25 Everett YC Commodore's Ball Olympia YC PC Cruise In	26	27	28 Tarette Board Meeting Start: 1700 Dinner - 1800 General Members Meeting - 1900	29	30 Friday Lunch - 1130 Eagle Harbor Race Winslow Tarette Gen Meet - 1330	31 Saturday Breakfast-0900 Eagle Harbor Race Winslow-Awards Banq 1700 Day Island YC Comm Ball Private Event - Paul Grimm Seafair Clowns

The Queen City Yacht Club

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