



OPENING DAY AND TIME TO CRUISE

Seabacs Boating Club is exclusively Boeing and may draw membership only from Boeing Employees, immediate family, contractors and retirees. Members are welcome with or without a boat. Please pass the word to other employees. The Seabacs have been in existence for fifty years and have a rich history and excellent reputation throughout the boating community to earn the privilege of reciprocal moorage with 50 plus yacht clubs. Comparatively, Seabacs dues are some of the lowest in the boating community. *The next Seabacs Meeting is Monday, May 9, at 7 p.m. at the Boeing Oxbow Rec Center located along the Duwamish Waterway on Seattle Boeing property. Seabacs Web site is www.seabacs.org. Your support is needed to keep this Boeing club, which started 50 years ago, afloat.*

The views expressed herein are solely those of the SEABACS Boating Club and do not necessarily reflect those of the Boeing Company.

The featured Cruise this month is Opening Day Seattle and South Sound. Work Party at Blake Island and Seabacs Memorial Day Cruise to Kingston.

NEWS FROM THE BRIDGE

*Commodore's Column
By Steve W. Stroud*



First I would like to thank all those who participated in decorating the boat for the Daffodil Marine Parade. It was a long weekend but very nice weather-wise and truly enjoyable, especially the trivia contest on Saturday afternoon. It was great to participate in the parade on Sunday with all the folks who were watching shouting out their love for Yogi Bear and wondering where Boo-Boo was.

Finally we have reached the start of boating season with Opening Day on the 7th of May. There are lots of activities for Seabacs to participate in that weekend, starting on Friday evening; we are invited to partake in a social at the Puget Sound Yacht Club. And then on Saturday there is the

Opening Ceremonies at the Seattle Yacht Club followed by Puget Sound Yacht Club's Flag Ceremony that we are all invited to attend just before the parade through the Montlake Cut begins. If those activities occur too early in the morning for you then you can always attempt to hook up with us at the Meydenbauer Bay Yacht Club in Bellevue at around 2:00-3:00 pm for some hamburgers and socializing while we wait for the parade to end. It's always entertaining and includes a battle of the bands between the U of W Husky Marching Band and WSU's band with plenty of good-natured ribbing between the alumni of both schools. And then to end the day there is a dinner and dancing at the Puget Sound Yacht Club.

The next weekend is the South Sound Opening at the Des Moines Yacht Club and there are activities along the waterfront all day. It's a more family-oriented event with a BBQ and an antique auto show with a short Opening Day ceremony at four pm. For more details I invite you to come to the May

meeting on the second floor of the Oxbow Recreational Center at 7 pm May 9th or contact me via email closer to the date of the function.

The summer gets its official kick-off with Memorial Day and we will have our first three day cruise with the destination being Kingston. There's always something going on that weekend and I am sure that the cruise lieutenants have a full slate for us and am looking forward to it--whatever it is! It's usually one of the nicest weekends of the year and there's normally enough time for some bocce ball or the like.

*Vice Commodore Column
By Mike Kelley*



I sure enjoyed our time at the Tacoma Y C Daffodil event. They sure know how to have a party. Thanks a bunch to Cathy and Scott for the use of their boat for the Parade. Their creativity was truly awesome. The weather



even cooperated. It sure hasn't since. It will probably snow on Opening Day the way it's going; just kidding. The cruise to Kingston I'm sure will be nice and fun. I'm so looking forward to getting out in the boat. Need to do a little fishing and scuba diving. Be seeing you all at events and on the water.

Vice Commodore, Mike Kelley

Secretary's Study

By Terri-Ann Betancourt



If you're planning to attend the Memorial Day Weekend cruise to the Port of Kingston Marina and haven't made reservations yet – please make them as soon as possible by calling (360) 297-3545. The club has reserved slips from Friday, May 27 – Monday, May 30. For information about the marina's amenities, go to <http://www.portofkingston.org/amenities.html>

Last year, we had more than 16 boats and many drive-in participants. Kingston has lots to offer, including a Saturday Farmer's Market at the marina park (with live music), a free electric cart that can be used to take into town for shopping excursions, and a free shuttle to/from the Clearwater Casino Resort to enjoy a fabulous buffet and/or to try your gaming luck. We'll have several activities planned, as well as some needed "chill time" for relaxing, catching up with friends, and making new friends.

The cruise is a favorite in this club. If you're able to join us – either boating in or driving in – you're welcome and encouraged to participate.

Jr Past Commodore's Column

By Hiram Betancourt

Fleet Captain

Patrick Forbes



I would like to report to you what people in our club do to enhance their boating experience. Send me what you do to add to your boating safety, pleasure, and ease of boating. I'll be glad to include them in my monthly articles.

To start this off ... Karen and I have always had drills on board. Our children's favorite has been the "Man overboard" drill. As we are cruising along and everyone is lulled in to the routine of travel I throw a cushion over the side and yell "Man overboard". I then throw the wheel over and when the boat has turned about 45 degrees off course I throw it the other way and try to come back down our track. I expect my crew to be at the rail ready to find the "man" with life ring and pike pole in hand. First to see the "man" sings out and point at it. They keep pointing until we are alongside. Drills can make for a tight crew. The girls in my crew complained when we did it but always insisted on a drill when we had their friends aboard.

♦♦For New Members♦♦

To attend a cruise, contact a Cruise Lieutenant or sign up at a meeting. The cruise lieutenant will let you know if reservations are your responsibility which is usually the case. Please be sure to

remember that you did sign up and confirm with the cruise lieutenant(s) that you will attend. If something comes up that you cannot attend, please let the cruise lieutenant know as far in advance as possible. This is to preserve our reputation as a boating group as well as being courteous to our volunteer cruise lieutenant(s). Thanks.

More Information for Cruise Planning

Boeing Employees Recreational Clubs and Services (<http://www.boeing.com/companyoffices/aboutus/recreation/>) Phone number 206-655-1941 has items which can be checked out to be used on Seabacs Cruises. Additionally, Seabacs has cruise items in the cupboards at Oxbow Recreation Center which can be used on cruises (please do check with Ardis about what is for a cruise and what is for refreshments).

Do check out these resources when planning a cruise or event.



Reciprocal Moorages

Reciprocals: For reciprocal data please contact George Wilson.

Please visit the Seabacs website, www.seabacs.org, for a list of current Seabacs reciprocal locations.

Did you know that your Seabacs current membership card can be used to enjoy Tacoma Yacht Club's Restaurant? The Sunday brunch is a particularly nice way to enjoy the reciprocal. It is credit card only and making reservations in advance is suggested.

Please note that a current Seabac membership card and a burgee are needed to take



advantage of reciprocal moorage.

Upcoming CRUISES & EVENTS

FUN WEEKEND, FUN WEEKEND,

**SEATTLE YACHT CLUB
OPENING DAY
MAY 7, 2011**

The Trio is proud to announce the 2011 Opening Day Theme...

"SALISH SEA TREASURES"



In November of 2009 the United States and Canada formally adopted the name of "The Salish Sea" for the inland marine waters of Washington and British Columbia. With its rich history, unparalleled beauty, and limitless cruising opportunities all who live near or visit the sea have taken home one of its treasures.

What's your treasure, the adventure of cruising to new destinations, a beautiful anchorage, favorite port of call, family memories new and old, mountains rising from the sea, fishing, crabbing...?

Join us as we Celebrate *The Salish Sea* and all its treasures.

Opening Day
May 7th, 2011

Bob McConnell, Admiral
Bonnie Foti, Admiralette
Dick Bell, Vice-Admiral

Tap and Sue Ames have again generously offered their boat to use as the Seabacs Flag Ship for the Seattle Opening Parade. It is a tight schedule to attend all the events but worth the effort. Traditionally we gather at Puget Sound Yacht Club on Saturday morning after attending the Opening Ceremonies at Seattle Yacht Club for the PSYC opening ceremonies and recognition of Seabac Bridge in attendance. We then board the boat for the parade bringing our own beverages and an appetizer to share. Friday night at PSYC is a barbecue; Saturday morning is a breakfast, Saturday night is a dinner and dance, dress is casual.

On Saturday for lunch, those on the boat will go to Meydenbauer Yacht Club where Huskies and Cougars offer entertainment and the yacht club has a hamburger lunch and beverages available. On Sunday, Queen City Yacht Club sponsors a breakfast. In past years, some members have booked a hotel room from Friday through Sunday and attend all the activities, drive-ins is another good option. Seattle Yacht Club's event has been billed as the largest opening day in the world drawing local dignitaries, the Navy Band and Canadian participants as well.

FUN WEEKEND, FUN WEEKEND,

SOUTH SOUND OPENING
May 14
Des Moines Yacht Club



Theme: Fabulous 50's

Flag Ceremony 4pm-5
Happy Hour Social 5-6:30
Dinner \$20 6:30-8
Dance to the *Rockadiles* 8-11
Reservations requested by 5/6/11

Call Robin at (206)824-5485 or e-mail hubinrall@comcast.net.

Flag Ceremony is dress whites with hats and gloves. Evening's attire is casual.

*Blake Island
Clean - Up Still Alive*

Hi to all our NBC members. After announcing that NBC would not be able to sponsor the Clean up at Blake Is. due to conflicting dates the Totem Yacht Club has stepped up to sponsor the event. Big kudos go out to Commodore Gene Mossberger of Totem Yacht Club and his team in being able to work the dates of

May 13, 14, and 15th for the clean up. Not only is the event going to take place but NBC has been invited to participate by the Parks Department and Blake Island. We are invited to participate with all the rights and privileges for mooring that we have enjoyed in previous years. This is not an event sponsored by NBC but rather sponsorship is the Totem Yacht Club. NBC thanks them for sponsoring this. So, get your boats ready and if you don't have something else planned cruise up to Blake Is. on May the 13th, participate in the clean up May 14th and cruise on home on the 15th. The weather should be great in mid May.

Next year the sponsorship of this event will again be the Northwestern Boating Council. Thank you so much, Robert W. Rothwell NBC President

FUN WEEKEND, FUN WEEKEND,

MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND CRUISE
May 27-30
KINGSTON MARINA



Make reservations Now!



We're hosting the three-day Memorial weekend club cruise to Kingston Marina - a favorite. There are so many things to do within walking distance of the full-service marina; on Saturday there is the Farmer's Market at the marina park, complete with live musical performances. The marina has an electric cart they lend boaters (it's free).

If you are planning to join the fun, please call the marina (360.297.3545) and



point for burgees (flags) and hats which are available at the meetings.

BOATING NEWS

VESSEL SAFETY CHECK 2011
Seabacs Member, Paul Hunter is qualified to do a free vessel check for you. There is still time to get a Vessel Check before summer cruising begins. Paul is ready with VSC decals to do a Vessel Safety Check on your boat. Paul will bring his kit to all cruises. Anyone interested in a VSC, can have Paul perform it on a cruise or he will meet at your own moorage, if it is no further north than Des Moines. Contact Paul Hunter: pcjaeger@msn.com

Boating Organizations

NBC, RBAW, IOBG, NBF

AKA, Northwest Boating Council, Recreational Boating Association of Washington, International Order of the Blue Gavel and National Boating Federation. These organizations represent most yacht clubs in the area and work to keep Puget Sound waters friendly to boaters. RBAW (www.rbaw.org) is active in working for positive legislation at the State level in Olympia. NBF monitors things on a Federal level. Seabac individuals may join these organizations. Seabacs Boating Club itself cannot have a membership due to Boeing restrictions but you are urged to participate individually in these organizations to help keep a "united front" for favorable boating conditions.

*Vessel Regulations to Protect Puget Sound
Killer Whales*

NOAA Fisheries issued new rules in April 2011, on vessel traffic, aimed at protecting Southern Resident killer whales in Washington's Puget Sound. These charismatic marine mammals, popular with tourists, whale-watch operators and the general public, were added to the Endangered Species list in late 2005.

The Southern Resident population peaked at 97 animals in the 1990s, and then declined to 79 in 2001. It has seen slow growth since then, and now stands at an estimated 86 killer whales, about half of which are sexually mature. Scientists have identified the major threats facing the population as a shortage of its preferred prey of Chinook salmon, disturbance from vessels, and water pollution.

The new rules prohibit vessels from approaching any killer whale closer than 200 yards and forbid vessels from intercepting a whale or positioning the vessel in its path. This doubles the current approach distance of 100 yards. The rules go into effect in early May and apply to all types of boats, including motor boats, sail boats and kayaks, in Washington's inland waters. Exemptions to the rules for safety include vessels actively fishing commercially, cargo vessels traveling in established shipping lanes, and government and research vessels. The whales, which depend on their highly sophisticated natural sonar to navigate and find food, can be affected by underwater noise from boats and disturbed by vessels, including non-motorized ones, that approach too close or block their paths. The agency's killer whale recovery plan, released in early 2008, calls for actions to reduce disturbance from vessels.

When the regulations were originally proposed in July 2009, they included a half-mile wide no-go zone along the west side of San Juan Island from May 1 through the end of September, where vessels were prohibited. Because of the extensive responses that were received during the public comment period, the final regulations do not include the no-go zone, and NOAA Fisheries will instead continue to gather information to consider the concept in future rulemaking.

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Regional Receptionist:
503-230-5400

MOORING BOUYS AT BLAKE ISLAND STATE PARK

Message from Recreational Boating Association of Washington (RBAW)

(Washington) State Parks has advised RBAW that after further review of the mooring buoy situation at Blake Island State Park they are going to revise the length restrictions for the buoys. Right now the restriction is at 36 feet maximum boat size on all buoys at Blake Island.

A few of the buoys (2 or 3) on the Southwest corner of the Island will still be restricted to a maximum boat length of 36 feet. However the length restriction on the balance of the buoys will be increased back up to 45 feet.

Normal rafting restrictions will remain the same. The Parks website and information tape message will be revised to reflect the change.

Parks will continue to monitor the buoy losses that were the original cause for the more restrictive mooring lengths.



John Dawson, RBAW State Parks Rep

BOAT FOR SALE



26 foot Tollycraft Cruiser for sale.
Contact Bill Balyeat at (360) 895-8415

SUNSHINE

New Grandma, Lea Hickman, welcomes her first grandchild, Elisabeth Jean who was born on April 18 weighing 7 pounds and 14 ounces. Congratulations Lea and new mom, Karen.

Please contact Sharron Horn with any Sunshine news.

BIRTHDAYS



May

Mark Stokes-Foster	05/05
Cathy Petite	05/06
Sandi Allen	05/06
Tap Ames	05/10
Lee Frost	05/11
Mark Richey	05/15
Steve Stroud	05/24
Sue Ames	05/31

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The SEABACS Newsletter is available on the web site www.seabacs.org or at the meeting. If you wish to have it e-mailed to you, please do request that via Mary Ann. **Please submit newsletter information to Mary Ann by May 24.**
Wm.mab@wavecable.com

SEABACS CALENDAR

2011	CRUISES AND EVENTS	Location	Contact
May 7	Opening Day cruise or drive-in Theme: Salish Sea. Parade aboard the Viking Princess with Captain Tap and First Mate Sue Ames	Seattle Yacht Club & Puget Sound Yacht C.	Stroud/Ames
May 14	Work Party to clean up Blake Island hosted by Totem Yacht Club	Blake Island	Robert Rothwell
May 14	South Sound Opening Day cruise or drive-in	Des Moines YC	Stroud
May 27-30	Memorial Day Weekend Cruise	Kingston Marina	Horn/Betancourt
June 3-5	Northwest Boating Council Picnic	Brownsville Marina	Stroud
June 24-26	Taste of Tacoma Cruise	Dock Street	Jackson
July 1-4	July 4 th Weekend Cruise	Port Orchard	Ames /Hunter
July 16	IOBG District 1 Summer Picnic	Brownsville Marina	
July 23, 24	Bainbridge Island BYO Everything Cruise	Winslow Wharf Marina	Forbes
Aug 5, 6, 7* new date	Anchor Out in San Juans Cruise	Westcott Bay	Forbes/Horn/Lavagetto
August 27-28	Redneck Weekend Anchor-Out Cruise	Blakely Bay or Silverdale	Kelley
Sept 2-5	Labor Day Weekend Cruise	Poulsbo Marina	Jackson
Sept 17	Past Commodore Surprise Cruise	Surprise!	Betancourt
Sept 24	NBC Do Nothing Cruise	Dockton County Park	NBC
Oct 8	Viking Yacht Club Commodore Ball (dress whites)	Tacoma Yacht Club	Stroud
Oct 21-23	Halloween Cruise	Gig Harbor Arbela's	Kelley and Waffle

Seabacs Boating Club
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