



# Channel Marker

December 2016

## Inside this issue

Commodore's Log	1
2016 Event Calendar	2
Vice Commodore's Report	3
Rear Commodore's Report	4
Boats, Bars, and Baseball	5
Christmas Boat Parade	6
Blakely Cookout	7
Commodore's Ball	8

Jan 16-11	Winter cookout
Jan 29- Feb 6	Boat show
Jan 23	Commodores' Ball
Feb 27	Family Fun Night
Mar 12	New membership breakfast
Mar 12	Spring General Membership
Apr 2	Bowling Extravaganza
Apr 9-10	Clubhouse Cleanup & Shakedown
Apr 23	La Conner Pub Crawl & Music Appreciation Night
May 7	Opening Day
May 21-22	Ladies Cruise
Jun 18-19	Steak Fry
Jul 9-10	Kids Cruise
Jul 16-17	Wine and Stein & ShipWreck Days
Aug 13-14	Sucia Campout
Sep 10	Past Commodores' Salmon BBQ
Sep 24-25	Oyster Run
Oct 22	Oktoberfest
Nov 5	Fall General Membership
Dec 3-4	Christmas Decorating Party
Dec 3-4	Reindeer Romp
Dec 10	Christmas Boat Parade



## Commodore's Log ...

Randall Ayers

Is all your Christmas shopping complete? Haven't even started? Somewhere in between? Well, I won't keep you from your charges with a long article. This one will be my last of the 36 that I have written over the last three years.

I also won't bore you with a recap of the last three years, or even the last year or two. We all have fond memories, which are unique to one's own perspective. I know I have some great stories, and had a great time serving the club for the last three years in the chairs, and the year prior on the board. I feel that the club is on an upward path with many new members, different and fun events, and of course the things that made the club such a great thing for many years, such as our clubhouse, and reciprocal dock, along with our strong relationship with the town of La Conner and the many businesses that profit from our club activities and reciprocal dock.

Looking forward, the future of the club looks strong. With all the new members stepping up and volunteering, we will continue to grow and evolve. I hope I have kept the spark of enthusiasm glowing for our new and future members to fan into a blaze and keep the club fires burning for a long time.

I also want to thank everyone that has volunteered his or her time over the past few years. Each and every one of you has contributed to the success of this club. It's sometimes a thankless task, but each one of you have stepped up and done an outstanding job.

Thank you for letting me take the helm for this last year.

Cheers

Randall Ayers  
Commodore  
*Mojito*



**Officers**

Randall Ayers  
Commodore

Bob Davisson  
Vice Commodore

Jeff Marrs  
Rear Commodore

Steve Hoeft  
Past Commodore

Cheryl Stinson  
Treasurer

Craig Sjostrom  
Secretary

Mike Sisk  
Port Captain

**Directors**

Joshua Ellingson  
Fleet Medical Officer

Jeff Saether  
Facilities

Mary Lee  
Newsletter

Shaunna Marrs  
Ship's Store

Randall Ayers  
Website

Dan Irish  
Membership

Jenny Janda  
Advertising

Brent Malone  
Dockmaster

# 2016 Event Calendar

Join us at the clubhouse or an on-the-water event. Invite a neighbor, bring your family, or bring just yourselves. Some events are tried-and-true-traditional, and others

Date	Event	Place	Hosts
Dec 10	Lighted Christmas Boat Parade	Clubhouse	Marrs





## Vice Commodore's Report ...

Bob Davisson



Let me be the 476th person in your lives to wish you all a season full of Happy Holidays!! By the time you see this you will have enjoyed at least one plate full of turkey and all the accoutrements along with at least one piece of pie to top it off. Hopefully those that travelled during Thanksgiving made it back safely and you are all still healthy.

Many of you were at the Fall Membership shindig where we were graced by the fine work of Randy and Wendy Britt as the hosts of the event. After all the Fun Facts had been shared and Baby Announcements made, we were all able to partake in the great meal catered by Coa, the Mexican

Restaurant in La Conner. Of course, there were other meeting items that occurred like the nominations for empty chairs for the board and the announcement of the dues remaining the same for 2017. By the way, keep an eye out for your copy of the dues invoice coming in the mail in December—and please don't forget to consider and pay the donation for RBAW. This is a very necessary voice in Olympia for all of us that participate in recreational boating.

Coming up we have the decorating event at the club along with the Reindeer Romp. Both events are a hoot to participate in and the more that we have the merrier they become. That will happen over December 3rd & 4th and will definitely benefit from your attendance. Then, December 10th is the night of the Boat parade. This is always a great time and if I'm not mistaken there will be time for pictures with a jolly ol' saint with the big white beard. If you get close enough you should be able to smell cookies and cocoa, hopefully. 🎅

After we pass through the holidays we jump right into the January events. These will begin with the annual Winter Bonfire and Campout over the weekend of January 14th & 15th. Blakely Island will be the site of the event and the hosting for the event will be a group effort. Glen Beam may be listed as the host for the event on the calendar, but please see the announcement in the contact information.

We are looking forward to a Fantastically Fun and Festive Holiday Season. Thank you all for your participation (names will be listed in subsequent Channel Markers) and we look forward to seeing you all over the holidays!!

Bob Davisson  
Rear Commodore  
*Happy Day*





## Rear Commodore's Report ...

Jeff Marrs



Hello everyone,

Thanksgiving is behind us and it is time to start thinking about Christmas. Our annual Christmas Boat Parade is less than two weeks away on December 10th. Our theme this year is a Whoville Christmas inspired by the stories and characters of The Grinch Who Stole Christmas by Dr. Seuss. If themes are not your thing that is perfectly fine. You can decorate your boat any way you like. This is a community event and people look forward to coming to LaConner each year to see the parade. Lets give them a great show and get as many boats as possible.

Moorage is provided on the main guest dock for boats that are decorated.

The schedule for the events is:

Saturday December 10th

5pm: Captains Meeting at the Clubhouse. We ask that the captain of each vessel attend the meeting to get important updates on the parade route, communications, weather, tides, etc. Immediately following the meeting we will return to our boats and prepare for the start of the parade.

6pm: The Parade starts.

Following the parade we will gather at the clubhouse for a desert social. We are asking everyone to bring a desert to share. We will have music playing, a fire going, and santa may make an appearance as he has in years past. This is always such a great event and hopefully this year the weather will cooperate so we have a pleasant evening on the water.

Prior to the boat parade, we need to decorate our clubhouse. This Saturday December 2nd we will be decorating the clubhouse for the holiday season. The doors will be open by 10am and goodies will be provided. We will be putting up our Christmas tree and it would be great if you have an ornament that you would like to add to the collection of many families and members throughout the years have done.

Please RSVP to [jeffm1721@gmail.com](mailto:jeffm1721@gmail.com) if you are planning on entering your boat in the parade. We look forward to seeing everyone soon. In the coming days I will be emailing out more information regarding the parade details.

Happy Holidays Everyone

Jeff Marrs  
Rear Commodore  
*Catawba*



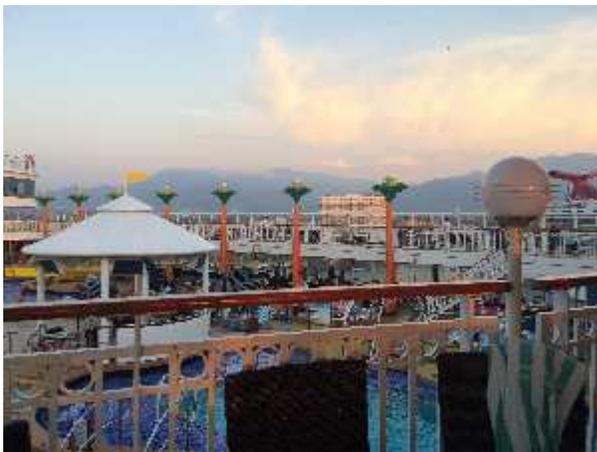
# Boats, Bars, and Baseball ...

Glen Beam



## Baseball on a Big Boat

Take your dinghy down to Bell Harbor in Seattle, leave your dinghy and get onboard a cruise ship and watch a baseball game. I got on the Norwegian cruise



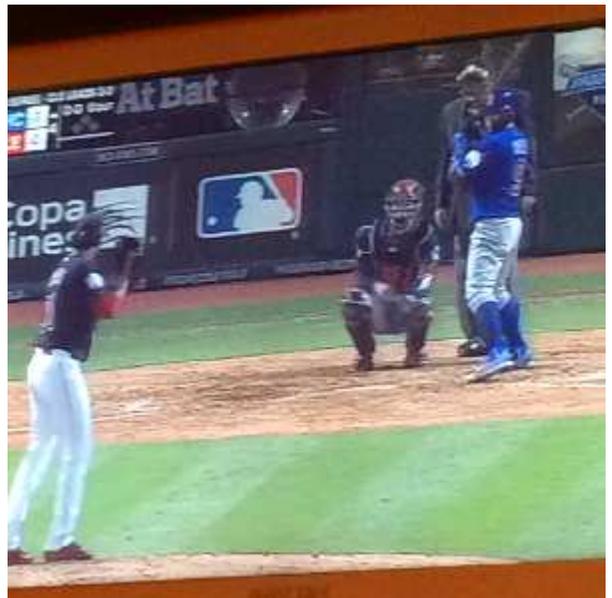
ship called the Jewel. It costs about \$400 a week. For that \$400, I received a cabin, free meals, and get this--free beer.

There is and cute little Irish pub onboard called O'Sheehan's, where they have a 16-foot TV on which to watch baseball. And, did I mention free beer?

I was at O'Sheehan's when the Cubs won the Series in overtime, drinking beer and eating

Shepard's pie. Too bad it wasn't the Mariners.

I highly recommend this cruise ship for good baseball. Pretty cheap for a cabin, food, beer, and baseball. The bikinis weren't bad, either.



I give it my highest rating of 5 out of 5 dinghies. And it is right here in Puget Sound.

# Christmas Boat Parade

Dec 10 @ Clubhouse

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# Blakely Cookout

Jan 14 @ Blakely Island

There will be an outdoor cookout at Blakely Island Marina on Saturday, January 14th. Everyone can bring something to cook AND cook with (Dutch ovens work best). The cooking starts at noon and will continue all day. We really need lots-o-firewood. Plan on staying overnight for breakfast the next morning.

Please either confirm your presence at this event by email or call Bob Davisson by the end of December 2016. We will lock in the spaces by that time. His contact information is: **(206) 898-7433** or **[vicecommodore@swinomishyachtclub.org](mailto:vicecommodore@swinomishyachtclub.org)**.



# Commodore's Ball

Jan 21 @ Clubhouse

**Theme: the spirit of the Kentucky Derby**

**Dinner: La Conner Seafood and Prime Rib**

**Music: Chris Eager Band**



# Swinomish Yacht Club

P.O. Box 602  
La Conner, WA 98257

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**Shaunna Marrs**  
**Ship's Store Manager**



*Be sure to get the latest from the Ship's Store!*

**Our club was formed to promote safe boating and sponsor marine events to stimulate interest and family involvement in boating.**