

# The Barnacle

February 2007

P.O. Box 98700, Des Moines, WA 98198 (206) 824-3674



## Event Calendar

### February 2007

- 6 Spring General Membership Meeting \*
- 10 Vashon Island Race (Windjammer 3)
- 17 Toliva Shoal Race (OYC—SSS3)

### March 2007

- 11 Daylight Savings Time Begins
- 20 Race Fleet Meeting
- 30-31 Blake Island Crab Feed Cruise

### April 2007

- 1 Blake Island Crab Feed Cruise
- 5 Spring Series Races Begin (1)
- 12 Spring Series Race (2)
- 19 Spring Series Race (3)
- 20-22 Daffodil Festival Cruise in Tacoma
- 26 Spring Series Race (4)
- 28-29 Spring Regatta Weekend
- 29 Racing Awards Presentation

### May 2007

- 3 Spring Series Race (5)
- 17 Summer Series Race (1)
- 18-20 Brownsville Cruise
- 31 Summer Series Race (2)

## Commodore's Corner

Our premier race, the Duwamish Head was another big success, thanks to all who pitched in to make this happen. On Friday, the night before the race, boats were parked in gale force winds and driving rain. Thanks also to those racers who braved the conditions to arrive Friday. Luckily, the weather moderated/co-operated on Saturday and a good day it was for all racers.

As you read this, Caroline and I are hoping to be the winners of the Chris Craft speedboat by guessing the final compass course of the boat at the Seattle Boat Show. If not, we still have the Too Fat to Fly. Did you see the James Bond boats? I correctly answered the question on "How does James prefer his martinis"? Can you? The show was fun, and lots of "want to haves" for your boating pleasure. Of special interest was the mobile Internet that is boat friendly. Since our inflatable really inflated in Roche Harbor last year in the 97-degree heat, I spent some time with the fiberglass-bottomed inflatable.

The Sound is beckoning, I am anxious to get out on the water, expect to be out for the annual Crab Feed, if not before.

Larry and Jamie Wheir have planned a fine venue for the annual general membership meeting at the Hydro Museum. This should bring back many, many memories for all who

grew up in Seattle. The Miss Burién has our TTPYC burgee prominently displayed on the tail.

Hug your sweetie on Valentine's Day.  
Remember, "Shaken not stirred".

--Commodore Tim

## Race Corner

The first race of the Windjammer Series, the Blake Island Race, was canceled due to the extreme cold temperatures that created ice on the water surface in the south end of the marina. The Manzanita Buoy Race was held on January 27th with only three boats participating, Cherokee, French Silk and Les Chevaux Blancs. We encountered no wind, great winds, no wind, etc. The race finally ended at the Manzanita Buoy. The Vashon Island race is scheduled for February 10. Please come out and join us. We usually get good winds for the race and it is fun to sail a longer course for a change.

Performance class will be FREE for the Vashon Race! We will give you a handicap based on your experience, sail conditions, bottom condition, etc., which will make you competitive. Also, call me and I will assign a mentor for you if you want to help you get started. Hope to see more of you out there!!

As many of you know, we have lost three buoys this winter so far. We held a race committee meeting last Thursday and came up with an approach to reset and/or replace various marks in the next month or so. If you want to help, please give me a call.

--Pat Waters, Race Chair  
253-529-2873

## Race Team Monthly Speaker Series

Tuesday 1/16 featured guest speaker Chris Kelly of UK Halsey at 7 PM at Milluzzo's restaurant in the Des Moines Marina. Chris spoke on starting, sailing and finishing races, sail trim, new sail technology and anything else the audience wanted to ask him. Mike Clausen has arranged

this as a start to a monthly guest speaker program for our club. You can reach Mike on 253-255-5506(c).

## Barnacle Editor Seeking Race Photos

Hey, Racers – The cruisers have been winning in the photo space. If you have some photos from TTPYC-sponsored races, such as boats under sail, recovered marks or handsome crew, please send to me for publication. Remember – A picture = 1000 words.

And, let me know if you would like to receive your Barnacle via email rather than via USPS.

## Cruise Corner

Well now that the piles of snow on the driveway have melted and my annual trek to the Boat Show is over, my thoughts naturally turn to the cruising season. Keel bolts freshly tightened and bottom newly painted I am ready to cruise! This July Andromeda will be sailing north through the San Juan's and Gulf Islands for a few days at Princess Louisa Inlet followed by a week in Desolation Sound. If any TTYPCers are also heading north let's meet up on the water. We will have Neptune, the sea dog, with us and I have been thinking about the Desolation Sound area and the legend of Cougar Mary. She had a homestead near Lund on Okeover Inlet. Seems she was raising goats that were the favorite dinner for the area cougars. She learned to use a rifle and in the process of defending the goats she killed 22 cougars. We are teaching our dog to bark rather than bleat! I am assured there are fewer cougars today, but we will be camping in the cabin of the boat at night just in case.

We have a really full cruising season planned this year starting with the Blake Island Crab Feed on March 30/April 1. It promises to be the best one yet. Look for the signup sheet in the next Barnacle. The balance of the cruise season will be:

April 20/22 Dock Street Daffodil Parade—  
Wine tasting party with a twist!

May 18/20 Brownsville Cruise—Barbeque  
and beer tasting.

June 1/3 Maritime Gig Festival—Raft up  
and join the festival.

June 22/23 Minto Mingle—Come watch our  
racers demo their PFD's!

July 4 Picnic at KVI Beach then  
sail to Des Moines to watch the fireworks.

July 27/29 Silverdale Whaling Days—Raft  
up and join the celebration ashore.

Aug.31/3 Filucy Fling—Sail over to  
Longbranch and take the Admiral dancing.

Sept. 21/23 Our traditional Sleep and Creep.

Signup sheets for the cruises will appear in the  
Barnacle the month before the cruise. You  
can **volunteer** anytime to make these cruises a  
success by calling me on 206-433-0848.

*-Tom Spohn, Cruise Chair*

## Membership Corner

### ***Introducing Mark and Jan Rider***

*Mark offered the following and we think it's best  
as written by him.*

*-Steve and Janet Sisson, Membership*

I was introduced to sailing by my father more  
than 35 years ago. I remember my first time  
sailing. We motored from the dock and raised  
the main and jib. Once the motor was shut off  
and the wind filled the sails and rigging,  
everything just felt "right." That's exactly the  
way it has been for me since.

Although I lived in Newport Hills, the only  
sailing Sea Scout ship available to me was in Des  
Moines. For nearly a year, I would ride several  
buses early Saturday mornings for an hour and a  
half, followed by a more than half mile run to  
make the boat just as it pulled from the dock at  
8:00. Back then, we sailed on one named  
"Assault," a custom Buchan 39, or "Alai," a 49  
footer that looked to be a Sparkman and  
Stephens design. Some TTPYC members might  
remember those boats.

Later, a neighbor was completing a T-Bird from  
a kit in his back yard. Upon hearing I had been  
sailing out of Des Moines, he asked if I wanted  
to crew for him when it was finished. When I  
answered, "sure!" He replied, "You start  
crewing by bottom sanding," and handed me a  
block and sandpaper, then showed me how to  
sand in the direction of water flow across the  
hull. We raced that T-Bird "Wait for the  
Westwind Too" for a couple of years out of  
Leschi on Lake Washington.

After that, I hopped from boat to boat, joining  
the University of Washington Sailing Club as a  
student, but not finding time to sail between  
work, studies, and rowing for the crew team. I  
then got into sailboarding. It was the '80's, and I  
could haul, rig, sail and race a board on my own.  
I windsurfed anywhere I could find wind, from  
Oregon to Canada, Puget Sound to Montana.

I introduced Jan to sailing when I bought my  
first sailboat, a San Juan 24, which I named  
"Skamokawa" in 1996. She didn't fall in love  
with the sport at first, but grew to like cruising  
about Puget Sound, the San Juan, and Canadian  
Gulf Islands. In fact, she came to enjoy sailing  
so much (just not on a 24 footer with port-a-  
potti) that she found and bought an O'Day 28 in  
1999, and named it "Beso del Sol" (that's "Kiss  
of the Sun"). On our maiden cruise, Jan learned  
why I yelled "DOWN!" so loud during an  
unintended jibe off Point Robinson.  
Unfortunately, she popped "UP" like a prairie  
dog. This resulted in a short tie up in Des  
Moines while we headed to Highline Hospital  
for a few strategically placed stitches. We  
continued to cruise "Beso," while I raced the  
mighty "Ska" for several years. Truth be told,  
the cost of mooring and maintaining two  
keelboats just didn't add up for us (it did for  
others, we're sure) and we sold the O'Day in  
2003.

I love sailboat racing; the endless pursuit of  
boat speed, control, trim, and tactics. My  
greatest sailing accomplishment came when my  
team and I won the 2003 San Juan 24 North  
Americans with Skamokawa. Later in 2003, I  
was able to compete in the US Sailing

Championship of Champions, held in Lake Geneva, Wisconsin, where I had a great time getting spanked in an MC Scow in winds that almost never dropped below 20 knots. We've had 5 top 10 North American finishes in the SJ 24 out of 5 tries since 1999, finishing 3<sup>rd</sup> in 2005.

The name "Skamokawa" (skah-moh-kah-way) is a Chinook jargon word meaning "Smoke from Across the Water." It originated among Native Americans living at the mouth of the Columbia River, and was used to describe the Lewis and Clark expedition camp at Fort Clatsop. Perhaps you've driven through the town of Skamokawa on the Washington side of the Columbia, 30 miles upstream from Astoria.

Jan and I still love to "dock hop" from one port to another. Our favorites include Port Townsend, Poulsbo, Gig Harbor, Friday Harbor, Roche Harbor, and Sucia Island in the U.S., and Victoria Harbour, Sidney, Nanaimo, Ganges, and Bedwell Harbour in Canada. We especially like to tour the seaside towns on foot, starting in the morning with Espresso, and ending the evening with a movie. Only heaven knows what we might manage to find in-between.

We moved to Des Moines in 2005 and brought our San Juan 24 to the marina with us. We came here because of the opportunity to be near the water and marina, and look forward to becoming part of the overall community, and especially the sailing community. For us, that meant connecting with and joining the Three Tree Point Yacht Club. As for the near future, we are looking to move into a more cruise-able boat, somewhere around 30 feet, that meets my requirement for being sufficiently competitive (sub-150 PHRF) while satisfying Jan's for having a head with a solid door and a top to the seat (you can't imagine how those last two requirements sloooow a boat down!).

Thank you for the warm welcome we have received so far. We look forward to more adventures on and near the water.

- Mark Rider

## Joke Corner

An old sea captain was sitting on a bench in a popular dockside bar near the wharf when a young man walked up and sat down. The young man was a punker that had spiked hair with each spike was a different color.... green, red, orange, blue, and yellow. His clothes were a tattered mix of rags. His legs were bare and feet shoeless. His skin was covered with much body-piercing jewelry. His earrings had big, bright feathers.

Finding only one vacancy at a table across from the old salt, the punker sat down. The 'ol sailor just stared. After awhile the young man noticed that the captain couldn't keep his eyes off of him.

The punker got self-conscious and barked at the old salt, "What are you looking at? Huh? What's the matter old timer, never done anything wild in your life when you were young?"

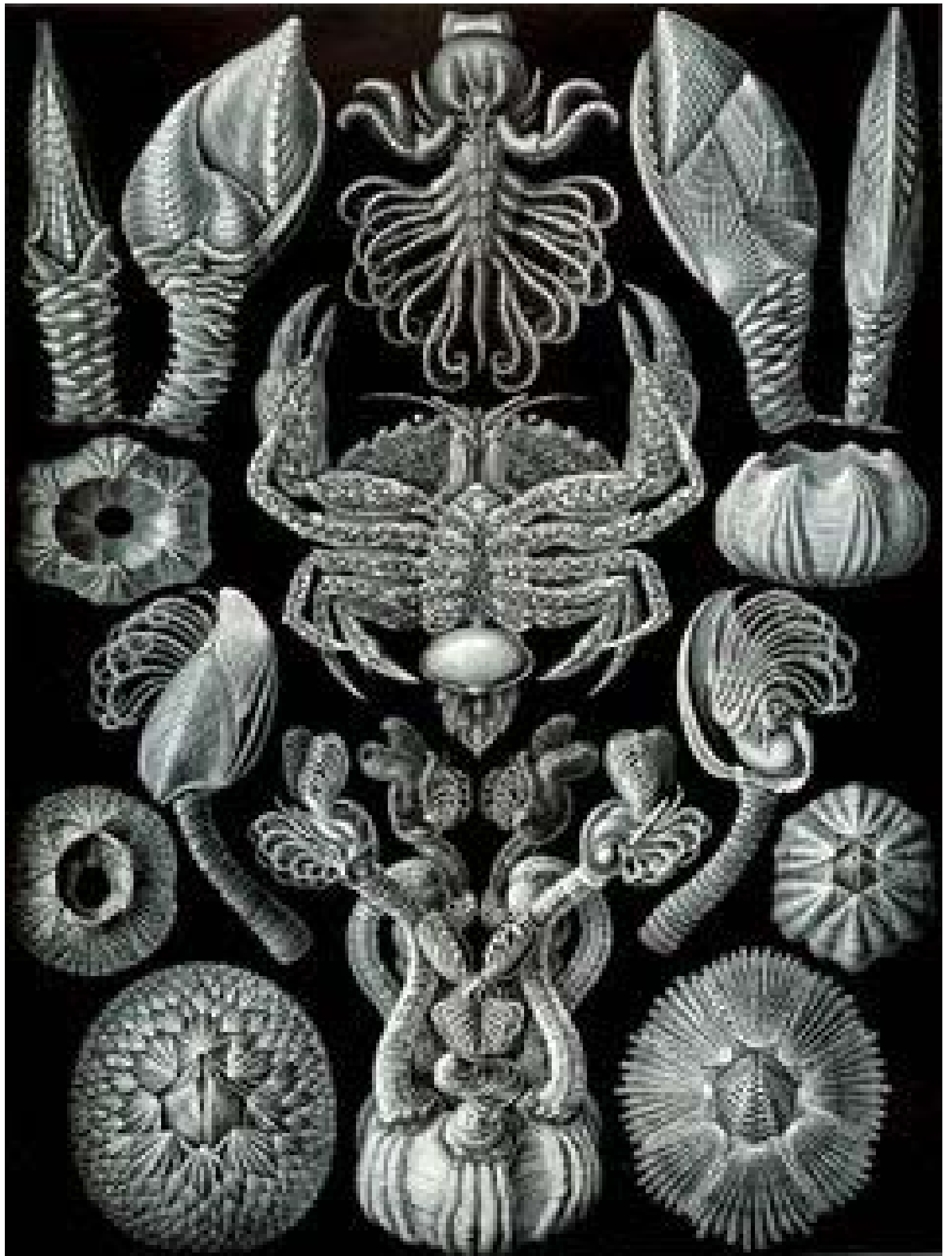
Without missing a beat, the old captain replied, "Yeah! Got really drunk once and married a parrot. I was just wondering if maybe you were my son

## Marine Life Corner

Here is another of my favorite sea critter stories. Just like crabs and lobsters, barnacles are crustaceans that have jointed legs and shells of connected overlapping plates. Instead of crawling after food, they glue themselves to rocks, ships, pilings, abalones, and maybe even whales and wait for food to wash by. So they spend their entire adulthood living upside down, standing on their head.

When barnacles are under water or when a wave washes over them, they reach out little feathery barbed legs to strain out plankton and absorb oxygen. A barnacle's fertilized eggs hatch into larva, then they leave the parents' shells. They spend their youth swimming. After many molts they settle down to adulthood, held permanently by one of the strongest known natural adhesives.

The barnacle's enemies are worms, snails, sea stars, fish like sheephead, certain shorebirds, and oil spills. Some are parasites inside crabs or in other animals.



BARNACLE COLLAGE

Three Tree Point Yacht Club  
P.O. Box 98700  
Des Moines, WA 98198  
(206) 824-3674  
[www.ttpyc.org](http://www.ttpyc.org)

**Officers**

COMMODORE Tim McShane  
VICE COMMODORE Paul Jones  
TREASURER Caroline McShane  
SECRETARY Joe Thomas  
PAST COMMODORE Ray Valpey

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Peter Gelinas  
Gordon Kells-Murphy  
Jim Redmond  
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**Appointed Officers**

CRUISE Tom Spohn SHIPS STORE Pat Ellison MEMBERSHIP Janet Sisson  
REGISTRAR Bob Post SCORER Tom Davis HISTORIAN Rose Edmiston  
BARNACLE Jean Spohn SOCIAL Larry & Jamie Wheir WEBMASTER Tom Schacht

The **Barnacle** is published almost monthly by the Three Tree Point Yacht Club.

Material for the **Barnacle** must be submitted by the 1<sup>st</sup> of each month of publication to:  
Jean Spohn at [jeanspohn@comcast.net](mailto:jeanspohn@comcast.net) or 11925 Marine View Dr SW, Burien, WA 98146



Three Tree Point Yacht Club  
P. O. BOX 98700  
Des Moines, WA 98198