



FHSC Working Jib



Friday Harbor Sailing Club

View from the Helm – Don Hendrix, Commodore **February 2014**

Considering the Upcoming Cruising Season

With the boat put away for the winter it is time to think about places we have been and those to which we have not yet been in order to plan our boating trips for the coming year. Susie and I have only been south in the boat on two occasions and not below Point No Point, so such a trip sounds appealing for next summer. We have also not gone north of Nanaimo in *Polaris*, largely due to concern about the ability to communicate with Susie’s elderly mother. However, her mom is now in assisted living which makes us feel better about traveling out of cell phone reach, at least for a couple of days.

Today small boat sailors seem to take for granted electronic devices such as cell phones, GPS, radar, etc. My first cruising experience was on my father-in-law’s 42' Cascade, *Finale*. For several years beginning in 1967 I helped crew this sloop from Portland to Port Angeles. By way of electronics we only had a radio direction finder and a depth sounder to feel our way across the Columbia River bar and up the coast of Washington, often in thick fog. This made for some uneasy passages in the shipping lanes, especially near Cape Flattery. We motored up the coast rather than sailing due to the prevailing headwinds. One year, when I was not on

board, they tried making progress up the coast of Washington by tacking out about 100 miles from shore but when they tacked back to the coast the next day they were within sight of where they started. Sailing down the Strait of Juan de Fuca, however, was no problem and on more than one occasion on these sails *Finale* would surf on the large waves traveling eastward which became even more exciting when the rudder failed to respond because it was out of the water.

It took about a day and a half for us to travel from Ilwaco, Washington or Warrenton, Oregon to Port Angeles. On my first few trips there were still lightships at both the entrance to the Columbia River and at Umatilla Reef. In seeing one of these ships in the nautical museum in Astoria, OR I was surprised at how tiny they were. During the winter storms

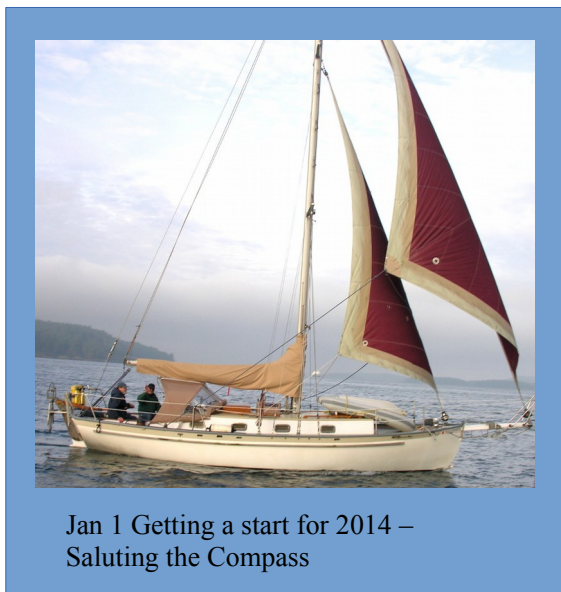
Upcoming Events

Tuesday, February 11

General meeting at the Grange

The Orcas Island “Shaw Island Classic” is scheduled for **Sunday February 16th** (<http://oiyc.org/>)

If any members have club announcements they wish to have considered for posting in the *Working Jib*, please email them to me at: fhscclub@gmail.com
Thanks, Val Veirs, Editor



Jan 1 Getting a start for 2014 – Saluting the Compass

it must have been a wild ride for the crew. After Susie and I were married I taught high school for three years in Yakima before heading to graduate school. One of my high school students joined the Coast Guard and was stationed on the lightship at the entrance to New York harbor. He told me there was an alarm on this lightship which went off when any vessel approached within one mile of its station. When it sounded all personnel were to put on their life jackets. My student asked the purpose of this alarm and was told that this was because this ship was anchored over its two predecessors both of which were run down by ships which had homed onto their beacon.

The electronic aids we have today on *Polaris* do make traveling in the fog or in the dark much easier than my years of crewing on *Finale* but over the years I have lost all interest in taking on the water beyond of the Strait of Juan de Fuca in a boat with only a 23' waterline. I think I will limit my possible cruising destinations for the upcoming season in mostly protected waters.



Jan 1 Ship yard Cove – Saluting the Compass

Announcement!! – Thank Gloria and HELP THE HISTORIAN!

Greetings, fellow sailors! My name is Dino Pick, the poor soul trying to fill the huge shoes of Gloria Bentzen as your Club Historian. I look forward to continuing the terrific work Gloria has been doing to catalog and celebrate the history of our great club. Of course, she did most of the hard work by building the books we currently enjoy. I think my task is mainly to record our history as it unfolds. I also hope to delve into the past from time to time with articles for the Working Jib. I will also work to make our club history available online. In the meantime, since we live in Pebble Beach and will miss lots of festivities, I would appreciate any and all photos, clippings, and stories you have to share. You may email them to dinopick@gmail.com. Since I am still getting to know many of you, I would appreciate including the names of the people in the photos you send, so I can give credit where credit is due for whatever is happening in the picture. Thanks!

Dino Pick

Cruising in 2014 – Bill Severson, Rear Commodore

Rear Commodore Report

Thank you all who attended the January meeting and participated in the cruising survey. Folks had fun and the runner ups are all great destinations for future cruises. The results are tabulated here:

Cruise Locations	Opening Day	June	July	August
Fishermans Bay	8	0	1	0
Anacortes	4	5	1	3
Spencer Spit	2	0	1	5
Ganges	0	5	9	3
Otter Bay	0	2	5	6
Puget Sound	0	0	9	0
Bellingham	0	4	0	0
Rosario	2	2	0	0
Sidney	0	2	0	0
Nanimo	0	0	0	1
Ladysmith	0	0	0	1
Desolation	0	0	0	1
Friday Harbor	2	0	0	0
Conover Cove	0	0	2	0
Broken Group	0	0	0	2
Pt. Town Wooden Boat	0	0	0	0
Montegue	0	0	0	1
Wallace	0	0	0	1
McKay Bay	0	1	0	0
Deer harbor	0	1	0	0

1. The March cruise is set for March 15-16 at Deer Harbor with Cruise Captains Ken and Ruth Frazee working on the plans.
2. May 2-4, Opening Day at Fisherman's Bay got the most votes.
3. June Cruise on 6/20 to Anacortes was the winning destination
4. July Cruise is a dead heat for Ganges and trip with SJIYC to Puget Sound. So how about we do both? The Puget Sound cruise begins 7/9 and the Ganges cruise is 7/25
5. Otter Bay edged out Spencer Spit for an August 15-17 Cruise. Maybe we could stop at Spenser Spit on the way back from the Anacortes cruise in June.
6. And then back to Orcas for the Crab Feast on 9/13.

Please contact me soon to grab a Cruise Captain or Co-Captain slot.

Report from the Vice Commodore – Don Jarrell

At our February meeting, we will have our local Customs and Border Protection agency give us a review of the process and procedures required for transiting our northern border with Canada. What should we have with us in the way of documentation? What items can we take, and what can't we take with us and in which direction? This is information even racers should have at their fingertips.

We are having fun!! – Jenny Wilson, Social Chair

First of all, congratulations to our new Commodore Don Hendrix and the rest of the Incoming Board on this their first meeting of 2014. Special thanks also to Mary Bacon for stepping up to continue, one more time, her role as the decorator and creating yet more creative table pieces, vegetable sailboats, to sail us healthily into the new year.

Howard and Rebecca sent their hellos from WARM Thailand. Lucky ducks! Jon and Tweety Holbrook celebrated their 35th wedding anniversary. Don Jarrell announced that he and Ann had had 39 years of a happy marriage, which was fine until Ann reminded him that they are in their 49th year of marriage. Whoops! All kidding aside, congratulations goes to all of you.



Marie DiCristina and new member Jo King. Welcome Jo!



Travis Smith and our Vice Commodore

Travis Smith of the Power Squadron gave us a slide show overview of marine radar and showed us that if one ventures out at night in the Salish Sea, it is helpful (1) to have radar and (2) to have lots of experience looking at the radar display and comparing it with a nautical chart

A grateful note of appreciation to our Galley Crew this month; we were fortunate that Val and Leslie Veirs and Mary Bacon stepped up to take care of the kitchen. As was announced, at all future meetings, the evening's speakers, decoration team and galley crew will get to fill their plates first before the rest of the gang. It's a nice way to show our appreciation for their service in making the meeting night special and organized.

Among all the great food at the meeting, a new dish appeared on the buffet line. A delicious kale salad was enjoyed by all who got the chance to try it. Please step up and share the recipe and we will publish it the next newsletter as soon as possible. You can email it to Jenny Wilson at jswils5849@otmail.com.

As always, a gentle reminder that we need to pack out whatever we pack in. This includes all bottles, plastic bags, cake pans, foil trays and any other packing materials. If you bring a small plastic bag of your own, you can just throw everything in it that you brought and take it home to wash it or throw it away in your bin at home. We don't want to have to pay 50 dollars a month to have our garbage hauled out at the Grange. So if everyone takes care of their own, it will save that money for something more fun!

A link for your Christmas picture should have been sent to your email. Please see our Treasurer Susan

Eberhart (eberhard@rockisland.com) for the link if you did not receive it. Copies of the photo are available for sale from the photographer. One copy is free upon request.

Ann Jarrell, our Social Committee Co-Chair, has the key to the storage shed that has all the goodies we have for decorating. Please see her for what is in there and when to get it if you were kind enough to sign up to decorate one meeting.

Thanks so much to all the people who volunteered for Decorations and Galley in the meetings to come. We only asked for sign-ups through May. Thanks also to Jan for signing up so far ahead into September, as well as Roger and Marilyn Kline for stepping all the way to next July 8 to set up and clean up at Howard's. Many hands make light work!

Date	Decorations	Galley Crew
02/11/14	Karen Palmer	Tweety Holbrook Marie DiCristina
03/11/14	Bill and Laura Jo Severson	Ruth and Ken Frazee
04/08/14	Susie Hendrix	Roxanne and Mike Skeen
05/13/14	Pat McGraw	Pat and Wayne McGraw Torry and Joyce Johnson
07/08/14		Roger and Marilyn Kline (set up and cleanup at Howard's)
09/09/14	Jan Champlin	

See you all at the next meeting, if not around town or down at the Marina!

Financials – Susan Eberard, Treasurer

It's getting closer to Roster printing time, so now is the time to make sure the club has all of your current contact and boat information as well as your renewal dues for 2014 so you will be included in the Roster! If you have any input on cruises or races also make sure that you have given that information to our Rear Commodore Bill Severson for cruises and Fleet Captain Howard Lewis for races. The Roster is used often throughout the year to keep us all on track for club activities and events. As a club member, you can also pay to have an ad for your business placed in the Roster. If you are interested in advertising your business to club members this year, give me a call to arrange the details. All changes for the 2014 Roster must be to me by February 15. Our club finances are in good shape as we start the year, but our yearly dues make sure that we can support all the planned activities as we move forward into another year of racing, cruising, and having fun. So if you just haven't gotten around to mailing in your 2014 dues, please do so soon.

Saluting the Compass on New Year's Day

By Norris Palmer

*A **compass** is a navigational instrument that shows directions in a frame of reference that is stationary relative to the surface of the Earth.*



Starting the year off right is an important thing on the water. Those of us who have lots of time and you-know-what invested in our boats know that there are many sea-related mysteries that can make or break your boating season.

To make sure all will be well, boaters in the Pacific Northwest joined forces at Shipyard Cove Marina in beautiful Friday Harbor, Washington to brave whatever wind and seas to “make their year right” by performing a 50 year old tradition started by two local boatwrights, Arne and John Bentzen, called “Salute the Compass”.

This year over 25 sailboats, tugboats, motor yachts, motorsailers, and trawlers braved the unexpectedly calm sunshine seas for the event. It was *glorious* to watch all of the vessels at the command of Capt. Arne on VHF 68 proceed to the sun-lit waters of San Juan Channel. The event started just outside of the opening between Brown Island and San Juan Island. Everyone headed north, blowing horns, making a toast to Neptune, then heading East, then South, then West and finally back home to food and beverage at the “Bilge” at the Cove. It was like a ballet on the water, all boats doing an arabesque.

This event was first organized by the Bentzen brothers at Maple Bay Marina located on the Cowichan Region of Vancouver Island and then established at Silva Bay Marina located on the Southern end of Gabriola Island, British Colombia and still goes on today.

The original event was attended by three refurbished retired tug boats. The International Tug Boat Association evolved from this event.



One of the original organizers had to miss the event, this year being thousands of miles away stuck in a

rental car. So, instead of commanding a vessel, he and his wife saluted the compass in a cul-de-sac in Hawaii and did their own land-based rental car salute. “You always do your quarters, no matter what”, said John Bentzen.

At this year's event, we had great food, great company, spontaneity, and most importantly -- Fun!
A great kick-off to a fruitful and fun year of boating!

Norris Palmer is a free-lance contributor promoting free/safe boating in the Pacific Northwest.

Photo of the month – Any FHSC member

Please consider sending in a nautically themed local photo that could grace this newsletter. Email your entry to fhsclub@gmail.com and I will pick one each month for the *Working Jib*.

No photos were submitted for this month. Sad face :(