



SAUVIE ISLAND YACHT CLUB NEWSLETTER

P. O. Box 2524, Portland, OR 97208-2524

www.siyc.org

No. 350, May, 2014

SIYC OFFICERS '14 -'15

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Craig Johnston

Vice Commodore
Richard Sandefur

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Sue Stonecliffe

Treasurer
George Stonecliffe

Asst. Treasurer
Terry O'Shea

Rear Commodore
George Stonecliffe

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Membership
Ed Daugherty

Database Editor
George Stonecliffe

Newsletter Editor
Barbara Johnston

Website
Mark Nerczuk

Annual Race-Drift Cruise *May 18-19*

There's still time to sign up for SIYC's annual (and only) racing event. Join us in this just slightly competitive trip down the river, or at least for the award ceremony, dinner and companionship on Sand Island afterwards. Details inside at page 2.



Annual Picnic

June 7, 2014, 12 pm

Kelley Point Park (new location)

Don't miss this annual event - A great chance to catch up with cruisers from afar, retired cruisers, and all your boating friends. Details inside, page 2.

This month's cruising reports
start on page 13.

Commodore's Comments Spring into Summer

- Craig Johnston



First off, thanks for re-electing me your Commodore for another year. I have enjoyed serving and I hope to contribute more in the coming year. Also in order are congratulations

to the other officers: George and Sue have provided thoughtful and consistent support, and as Mark retires as Vice-Commodore, kudos to him for the hard work in finding interesting speakers. We look forward to Richard's efforts in that position next year.

This newsletter is the last of this season, and thus the last before both the Race/Drift Cruise next weekend (May 17-18) and the Picnic on June 7th. Be sure and check out the articles inside for more details.

The responses for the Summer Cruise (new this year!) are coalescing around a cruise down to Cathlamet for the weekend of July 12-13. We will be staying at the Elochman Marina, which offers a wide range of facilities. Cathlamet is 2/3 of the way to Astoria and many of us will be able to make it down there in one day. Portland boats may want to plan a longer return but there are many other interesting spots to visit nearby, such as Prairie Channel. This is a great opportunity to spend 4 or more days on your boat in the warm weather. We will have more information at the Picnic, then via email, and you can always call or email me.

Finally, keep the ideas coming about how we can make the Club more interesting. The picnic will be a great time to kick some

thoughts around as we catch up with our old and new friends. Have a great summer with fair winds!

Annual Picnic

June 7 12-3PM, Kelley Pt. Park

This year's picnic is in a new location for us, a little less developed than Blue Lake Park but with the advantage of being a Portland City Park, which means it is okay to bring your favorite adult beverage. A sign-up sheet was circulated at the May general meeting for the various items to bring to make it all happen. An email will be sent with a reminder the week before the picnic. (We still need several lines for stringing tarps or your self-standing canopy in case of rain.) If you didn't sign up, then just bring yourself and a potluck contribution.



Kelley Pt. Park is right at the confluence of the Willamette and Columbia rivers, and our reserved site (Site F) is right on the Columbia. There is a sandy beach there but there have been several drownings due to strong currents so swimming is not allowed. The river bottom is steep-to there, with two rows of old pilings; it may be possible to bring a boat in there, but extreme caution would be needed.

There is plenty of parking in the last lot for the more conventional approach by automobile. Picnic details and directions to the park can be found at page 10, along with a map.

Race-Drift Cruise May 17-18

This coming weekend will be the 34th Annual Race-Drift cruise. If you haven't raced in years, you don't often race, or you've never raced before, this is your race. It's a no

pressure/no protests race that's focused on having fun. After the event, we all get together for a potluck dinner and awards festivities at Sand Island (across the channel from St. Helens). Stay the night and join us on Sunday morning for a potluck breakfast. If you don't fancy racing at all, consider joining us just for the socializing, festivities and meals (just like a regular cruise!)



This year's Race will start 1.9 nm upriver from Warrior Rock and end either 1 nm below Columbia City (short course) or at the middle of Martin Island (long course), with the decision being made prior to the race or possibly during the race if the wind dies. Racers are divided into two classes, Full Keel and Fin Keel, with the Full Keel boats starting at 12 noon and the Fin Keel boats 10 minutes later. Plan on monitoring VHF ch.69 to check in prior to the race and listen for course changes.

Following the race we will head back upriver to the Sand Island docks opposite St. Helens, where we will have our usual potluck feast and award prizes for the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place finishers in each division. Rudi and Susan on *Perseverance* are co-hosting with Craig and Barbara on *Sequoia* and have called for the

food theme to be "Spring Flavors –Fin and Feather."

Racers signed up so far include full keel boats *Cambria*, *Carol Marie*, *Rowena*, and *Moonshadow* and fin keel boats *Baltic Wanderer* and *Nasty*. There is room for more boats, and you can also come join us at the dock if you can't make the race. This is fun, low pressure event and usually features some of the nicest weather of our cruising season. A complete set of race instructions and chartlets are attached at pages 7-9 of this newsletter, if you haven't received them already.

Cruise report: SIYC's Annual Navigation Cruise

The Navigation Cruise was a joyous musical weekend. Seven boats attend the weekend cruise at Gilbert River docks. Terry and his son Isaac of *S/V Carol Marie*, Craig and Barbara of *S/V Sequoia*, Richard and Anita of *S/V Moonshadow*, Rudy and Susan of *S/V Perseverance*, Garry of *S/V Cambria*, David of *S/V Hawksbill*, and Ray and Alicia of *S/V Rowena*.



Most of the boats arrived Saturday afternoon in a light drizzle. Once all the boats had arrived, all of those who filled out their Navigation Puzzle congregated on *S/V Rowena*, for

grading and awards. With only four participants, everyone got a prize. First Prize was awarded to Gary of *S/V Cambria*, Second prize went to Craig of *S/V Sequoia*, and Third Prize went to Richard of *S/V Moonshadow*. Terry of *S/V Carol Marie* got honorable mention for taking the test but leaving his answers at home.

After grading of the tests the sun made an appearance some happily placed chairs along the dock for wonderful conversation, while others worked on their dinner contributions. Dinner (Mexican themed/Cinco de Mayo) was held on *S/V Rowena*. Wonderful dishes we supplied by all, notably Craig & Barbara's Carne Asada/Arrachera and Dave's Mexican Soup. During the evening festivities it was realized there were quite a few musicians in the group. After dinner the boat filled with the music of four guitars. There were moments the whole boat got inspired and group singing ensued. It was such a lovely evening with wonderful company.

The next morning we all assembled on *S/V Sequoia* for breakfast, it was lovely as always, with great conversation. It seemed people were not ready to rush home, so we just enjoyed talking and planning adventures. Finally it was time to cast off the lines and head to our home ports. Another wonderful weekend in the books!



SIYC Clothing & Accessories For 2013 to 2014

- Port Authority
 - Competitor Jacket.....\$42.00
 - Wind and water resistant
 - Adult JP54
- Sport Tek
 - Fleece 1/4 Zip Pullover.....\$46.00
 - F247
 - Ladies Tech Fleece Full-Zip
 - Hooded Jacket.....\$48.00
 - L248

Call Sarah for color choices: [503-774-3381](tel:503-774-3381)

A check made out to "SIYC" needs to accompany orders.

Mail checks to Sarah Daugherty, see roster for mailing address or give her your order at the next SIYC meeting.

Recipe of the Month:
Dairy/Gluten-Free
Chocolate-Coconut Mousse

- Alica Watkins



Alicia served this delectable treat at one of our cruise potlucks. It's astonishingly simple to make and very suitable for preparation in your boat's galley, as long as you have a refrigerator or ice box.

Ingredients:

2 Cans coconut milk (full fat, not "light")
2 Cups chocolate chips, your choice. (I prefer to use semi-sweet or dark chocolate.)

Optional:

1 Tbsp Coconut oil - for added coconut flavor.
Seasonal fruit - I love Strawberries or Bananas.
Shaved dried coconut.
Whipped cream or non-dairy substitute

Heat coconut milk (mixed with coconut oil, if used) to slight simmer stirring constantly. Slowly add all chocolate while stirring. Continue stirring as all chocolate melts and incorporates into the coconut milk - this will take approx 10-12 min. Make sure all chocolate is melted and incorporated - very important!

Remove from heat and let cool uncovered - this can take hours. Once cooled pour into bowl/container, cover, let chill overnight.

Scoop the chilled mousse into bowls, and top with fruit, coconut and/or whipped cream. Makes 10-12 servings.

If you like to cook, please send us your favorite recipe, suitable for preparation aboard, for inclusion as a future recipe of the month!

Your Summer Cruising Plans

Do you have cruising plans for the summer? If so, don't forget to keep SIYC in the loop. We won't be publishing a newsletter in June or July, but the August and September issues are primarily focused on our members' summer adventures.

So don't forget to write us with your cruising reports, and send us copies of your best pictures. And if you're also reporting on your adventures via a blog or a website, be sure to let us know where to find it. See email addresses for newsletter editor and cruising reports editor on the first page of this newsletter.



*S/V Cambria (r.), at anchor in the San Juans, Summer 2013.
Photo by Garry Weber*



Club Business

SIYC Membership Meeting May 2, 2014 Sauvie Island Academy

This meeting attended was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Vice Commodore Mark Nerczuk, the only officer present.

Mark asked for nominations from the floor for next year's officers. There being none, a vote was taken to elect the nominated roster of officers: Craig Johnston, Commodore, Richard Sandefur, Vice Commodore, George Stonecliffe and Terry O'Shea, co-Treasurers, Sue Stonecliffe, Secretary.

See the notes below for Cruise and Picnic reports.

The program this evening was simply a dessert potluck to be enjoyed by all!

SIYC Board Meeting April 29, 2014

The SIYC Board met at the home of Mark and Becky Nerczuk attended by Commodore Craig Johnston, Treasurer George Stonecliffe, Secretary Sue Stonecliffe, Newsletter Editor Barbara Johnston, and Vice-Commodore elect Richard Sandefur, as guest.

Treasurer Report: A thank you note was received from Darla at Sauvie Island Academy for the \$200 check. An invitation to St. Helens

Yacht Club's Bahama Mamma Event on June 6-7 was also received.

Mark will officiate the general meeting next Friday while Barbara, Craig, George and Sue are away. Terry will do the Treasurer's work while George and Sue are cruising this summer, including paying expenses for the Navigation Cruise and Picnic. 60 rosters have been printed for 2014-15 and mailed to those who have paid their dues. As all 4 officers will be cruising during the September club meeting, Ed offered to officiate.

Mark recommended the club pay \$40 per year to pay for SIYC to own their own website (\$120 every 3 years).

The Race/Drift Cruise held on May 17-18 for SIYC members only. It starts upstream of Warrior rock and finishes off Martin Island. Race packets will be handed out at the May meeting. Certificates will be handed out to the winners in lieu of engraved plaques. Race T-shirts continue to be researched for the best price.

The Annual Picnic will be held at Kelley Pt. State Park on June 7th. BYOB is allowed. The price was only \$61 for reserving group area "F". Craig will string lines to hold tarps above the tables

Summer Cruise destinations were discussed with more members interested in Beacon Rock on July 12-13. We need a cruise host for this event. There will be sign-ups for different locations and times at the next club meeting.

We discussed the duties of Vice Commodore with Richard, mentioning program ideas. If there will be a speaker at the September meeting, a screen and projector would have to be provided by someone other than George as he will be cruising.

Respectfully Submitted,
Sue Stonecliffe, Secretary



SIYC member boats departing the Gilbert River docks after April's Annual Navigation Cruise

More information about the Race-Drift Cruise

34th Annual Race/Drift Cruise -- May 17-18, 2014

Overview: A race on Saturday, starting at 1200 (full keel) or 1210 (fin keel) down the Columbia River in the vicinity of St. Helens. After the race we will gather at the Sand Island dock, opposite St. Helens Marina, for a potluck dinner followed by an awards ceremony.

Registration and Check-In: All skippers must have registered and handed in a completed waiver prior to the race. On race day, skippers must check in with the starting line boat, *S/V Sequoia*, prior to the 10 minute warning, by voice hailing or on VHF channel 69. The race committee is composed of Craig Johnston on *Sequoia* and Rudi Marchesi on *Perseverance*.

Start Time: For the full keel division, there will be a 10 minute warning at 1150, a five minute warning at 1155, and the start at 1200. The fin keel division will have a 5 minute warning at 1205 and the start at 1210. All signals will be a single blast of a horn.

Start: The **start** line will be 1.94nm upriver from Warrior Rock, between Bachelor Shoal and SM90. Using chart 18525, the starting line will be between Green Buoy "7" and *S/V Sequoia*, located due E near the Washington shore. (For users of vector chart US5OR14M, this buoy is named "Henrici Lighted Buoy 7".) The course will be downriver.

Depending on conditions at race time, we will either race a **Short Course** or a **Long Course**. The choice of course will be announced by *S/V Sequoia* prior to the 10-minute warning on VHF channel 69. Other course changes are possible during the race and will be announced on CH 69.

Short Course Finish: the finish line will be ~1 nm downstream of Columbia City, running from the buoy G75 E to the committee boat, *S/V Perseverance*, stationed near the Washington Shore. (For users of vector chart US5OR14M, this buoy is named "Martin Island Channel Lighted Buoy 75".)

Long Course Finish: the finish line will be at the mid-point of Martin Island, just upstream of SM80. It will lie between fixed light G "65" W to the committee boat *S/V Perseverance*, stationed near Goat Island. Note that this line includes the main channel and if commercial traffic is in the channel they must be given preference and racers should favor the committee boat side of the line. (For users of vector chart US5OR14M, this buoy is named "Martin Island Middle Dyke Light 65".)

Time Limit: All boats are expected to complete the race by 1600 hours. Boats at risk of not finishing before 1600 are encouraged to retire and motor to the finish so that they can be scored as "finishing."

Scoring: racing will be boat-for-boat within each class. Skippers should display their numbers at the finish, and will be expected to note their finish time and position relative to other boats and report if needed by the Race Committee.

Rules: This is supposed to be a fun event and the emphasis is on safe and polite sailing. Skippers are required to operate their boats in compliance with the Inland Rules of the Road. **A racing boat shall not interfere with commercial traffic.** Evidence of interference will be grounds for disqualification. If necessary to avoid commercial traffic or obstructions, auxiliary power applied **perpendicular to the current or upstream** will be allowed subject to the review of the committee. If the boat's position is improved as a result of motoring, keep racing and notify the committee after the finish.

Protests: There will be no official protests. Be nice.

Prizes: There will be a First, Second and Third place award in each class.

Sauvie Island Yacht Club
34th Annual Race-Drift/Cruise Weekend
Registration & Waiver Form
May 17-18, 2014

Boat Name: _____ Full Keel _____ Fin Keel _____

Skipper's Name: _____ Phone #: _____

Address: _____

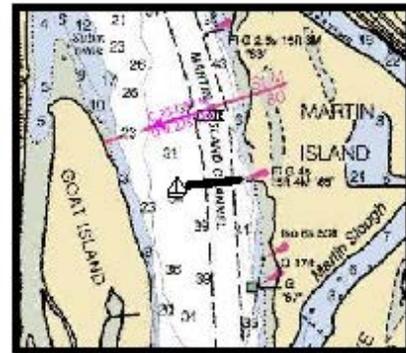
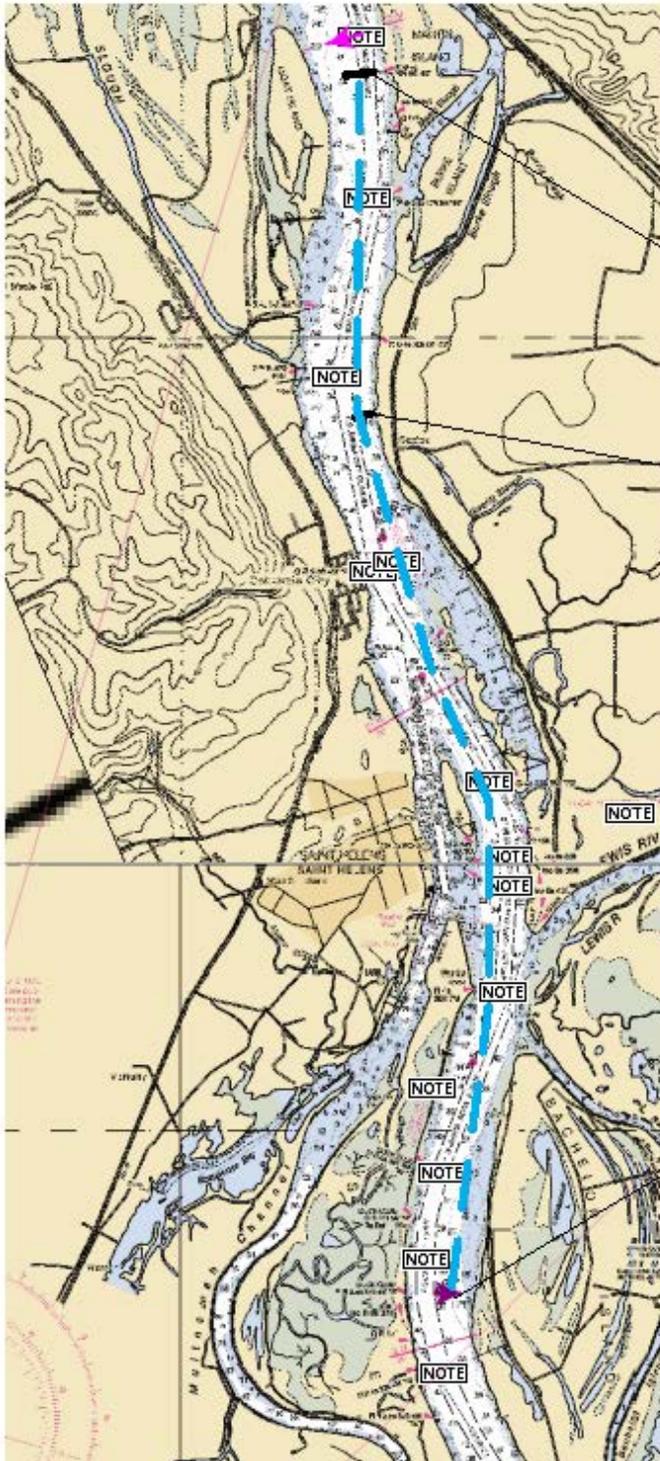
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

In consideration for participating in this event, I represent to its organizers and the Sauvie Island Yacht Club (SIYC) that I am a member in good standing, that I am responsible for the operation and control of my yacht, and that I do not hold SIYC, or its officers, responsible for any property damage or personal injury incurred as a result of my participation in this event. I acknowledge that the decision to enter my yacht and participate in this race/cruise is solely my own. I further agree to be bound by the Marine Rules of the Road. I will not hinder any commercial traffic, and will operate my yacht in a courteous manner.

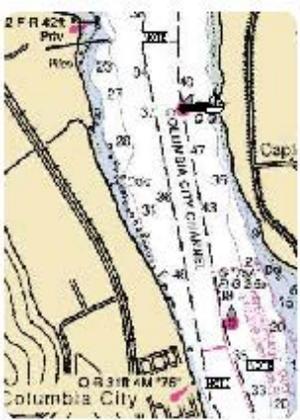
Skipper's Signature: _____ Date: _____

NOTE: THIS WAIVER MUST BE SIGNED BY YACHT'S SKIPPER, AND RECEIVED BY THE RACE COMMITTEE PRIOR TO RACE WARNING SIGNAL!

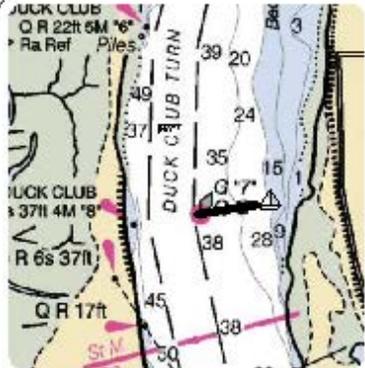
34th Annual Race/Drift Cruise
May 17, 2014



Finish Line
(long course)
~45°56.67N



Finish Line
(short course)
~45°54.50N

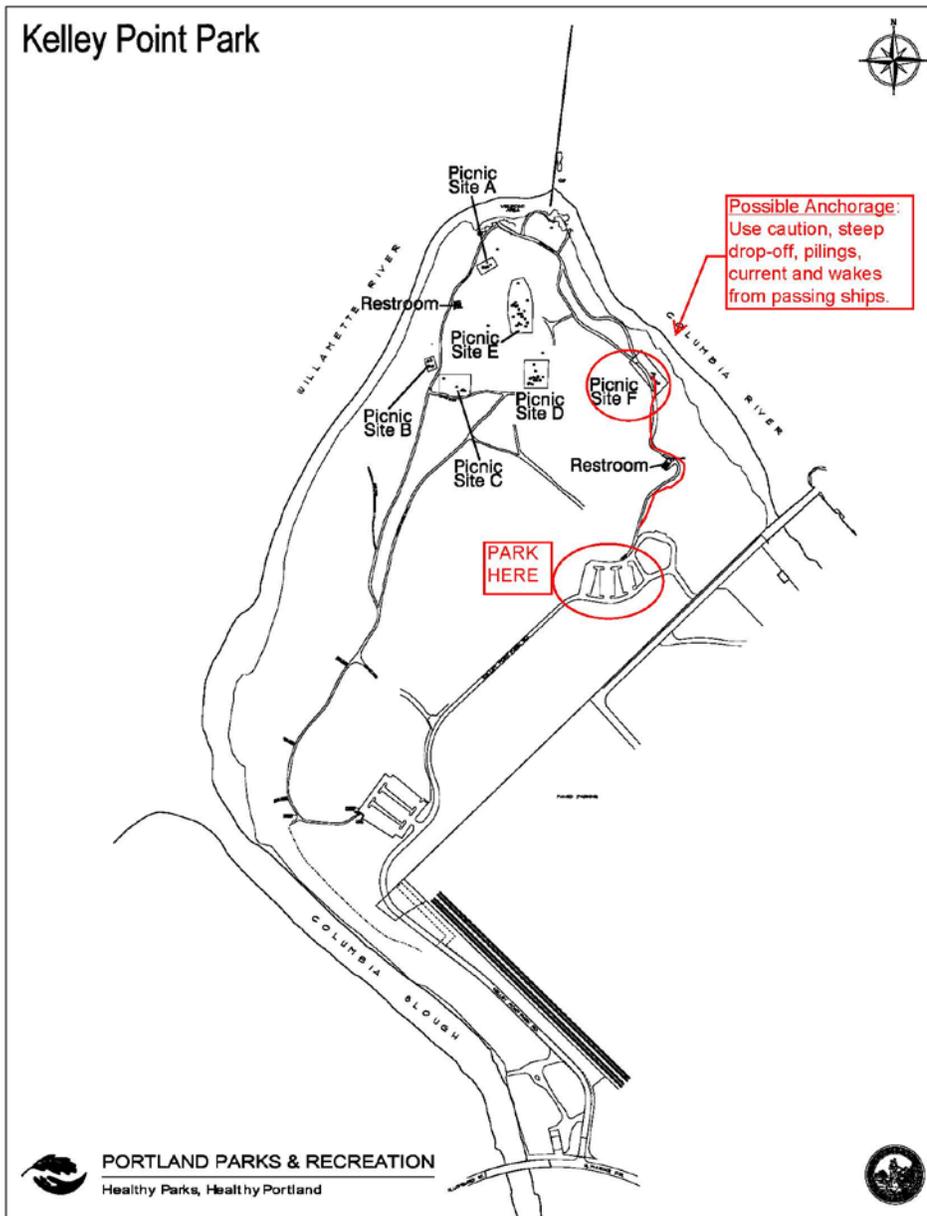


Starting Line
~45°48.97N

SIYC ANNUAL PICNIC

June 7, 12-3 PM

Kelley Pt. Park, Picnic Site F



This year's SIYC Picnic will be in a new location, Kelley Pt. Park, at the north tip of North Portland at the confluence of the Willamette and Columbia Rivers. This is a scenic site, right on the Columbia, but less developed than Blue Lake Park. You will have to walk about 200 yards from your car on a paved path.

Food: As usual, the Club will supply hamburgers, hot dogs, and the fixings. Bring your potluck contributions of salads, chips, or desserts. (You can bring your high-class meat for grilling if you wish.)

Beverages: The club will supply basic soft drinks. *BYOB wine and beer are okay!*

Facilities: There are no shelters or barbecues, so we will need to bring tarps, ropes, and grills. The park has a good restroom nearby.

Getting There:

From Portland: take I-5 north to exit 307, Marine Drive West. Follow Marine Drive W for 5.1 miles, and then turn right onto Kelley Point Park Rd. Drive to the farthest parking lot and take the paved path to the north.

From Sauvie Island: come into town on Highway 30 and take the St. Johns Bridge across the Willamette. Continue onto N Philadelphia, then turn left onto N. Lombard St. Follow Lombard onto N. Burgard Rd, then left onto N. Lombard. After 2.3 mi., turn left into N. Kelley Point Park Rd.

By water: The picnic area is 20 yards from the Columbia with a sandy beach, about 360 yards SSE of the Kelley Pt. light, which sits out on the end of the long dam running N-S. There are numerous pilings in the water, but *with caution* we think one could anchor and throw a line on a piling, then dinghy to the beach. *No swimming, the current here is too dangerous.* If you are considering sailing here, you might want to visit the park check out site F and the water there.

2014-2015 CALENDAR

GENERAL MEETINGS		BOARD MEETINGS		CRUISES	
Date/theme	Location	Date	Location	Dates	Where/theme
				May 17-18	Annual Race/Drift Cruise (Sand Island)
June 7	Annual picnic, Kelley Pt. Park				
				July 12-13	Summer Cruise to Cathlamet
September 5 Potluck	Sauvie Island Academy	September 4	TBD	Sept. 13-14	Gilbert River Docks
October 3	Sauvie Island Academy	October 1	TBD	Oct. 25-26	Annual Halloween cruise – Government Island E.
November 7	Sauvie Island Academy	November 5	TBD	Nov. 22-23	Annual Thanksgiving cruise – Hadley’s Landing
December 6	Christmas Party - TBD	December 6	At party		
January 2	Sauvie Island Academy	December 30	TBD	Jan. 3-4	New Year’s cruise – Coon Island
February 6	Sauvie Island Academy	February 4	TBD	Feb. 14-15	Valentine Cruise – Coon Island
March 6	Sauvie Island Academy	March 4	TBD	Mar. 14-15	Anchoring Cruise
April 3	Sauvie Island Academy	April 1	TBD	April 18-19	Navigation Cruise
May 1 Annual Meeting/ Dessert Potluck	Sauvie Island Academy	April 29	TBD	May 16-17	Annual Race/Drift Cruise – Sand Island
June 6 Annual Picnic	TBD				

SIYC CRUISING BOATS

Boat Name	Owners' Names	Location
<i>Adagio</i>	Jeff & Jane Woodward	Sea of Cortez, Mexico
<i>Casita</i>	Devon Quinn & Rowan Madix	Alameda, CA
<i>Julia Max</i>	George & Sue Stonecliffe	Johnstone Strait, en route to Alaska
<i>LunaSea</i>	Frank & RaeAnn Haynes	Santa Catalina, CA
<i>Nashira</i>	Mike Floyd	La Paz, BCS, Mexico
<i>Perpetua</i>	Pat & Susan Canniff	Mazatlan, Mexico
<i>Pied-A-Mer III</i>	Eric & Pam Sellix	Puerto Escondido, Mexico
<i>Silvergill</i>	Bob Hulegard & Robin Fouche	Newport Beach, CA

Member Websites

- Adagio:** <http://sailblogs.com/member/turningleft/>
- CarolMarie:** <http://www.svcarolmarie.com/>
- Julia Max:** <http://www.sailblogs.com/member/juliamax/>
- Perpetua blog:** http://www.sailblogs.com/member/our_journeys/
- Perpetua Pictures:** http://imageevent.com/our_journeys/
- Moonshadow:** <http://www.voyagemoonshadow.blogspot.com/>
- Moontide:** <http://www.svmoontide.com/>
- Pied-a-Mer III** <http://www.sailblogs.com/member/sesesail/>
- Ranidan** <http://persimmonsky.wordpress.com/>
- Sequoia:** <http://www.svsequoia.com/>

SIYC members : Do you have a website or blog for your boat that isn't listed above ? If so, please get the information to your trusty editor, Barbara Johnston, and we'll make sure your website or blog is included in future issues of the newsletter.



CRUISING REPORTS

From Mike Floyd, S/V Nashira

I finally left Puerto los Cabos in San Jose del Cabo. It's a great spot and worth a visit. The hotel La Marina had a great restaurant, the owner George Armstrong is a character. It's close to the hotel El Ganzo.



We had to motor but made great time. The wind was from the south and the waves were with us. We skipped Los Frailes and went on to Los Muertos the first night and anchored in the dark. The next day, Saturday, we went for La Paz. I left on a Friday but decided it was ok because it was Good Friday.

We made it to La Paz before dark and entered the marina in calm wind. I had the boat surveyed by Cecil Lange who just turned 90, he also built Cape George sailboats. It was great to meet many cruisers there and see Portland as so many boats' home port. Sunday went to the big church in town for Easter and stayed a half hour. There is so much to see and do.

I'll be going back and forth as I get the main mast (wood) repaired. It's boxed spruce.



Mike Floyd
S/V Nashira
La Paz, Mexico



From Eric & Pam Sellix, S/V Pied-A-Mer III

Hola SIYC,

Are we having fun or what? As we were anchoring in Puerto Escondido for Loreto Fest we were accompanied by this whale shark. He or she was with us for a long visit---amazing for us to be living in these waters with neighbors like this!



Loreto Fest provides a wonderful opportunity to reunite with old friends, make new ones, attend seminars and be a part of a support group for the schools on the area.



After Loreto Fest we spent 5 days on a Seawind Rally with 5 other boats. On day two we caught a huge Dorado. Fishing is not our strong suit so we were quite excited when we discovered that there was something on the line that we were dragging.

At Isla Coronados we had a beach potluck/weenie roast. We were all decked out in our matching 2014 Seawind Rally shirts.

All our best,

Eric and Pam
S/V Pied-A-Mer III
Puerto Escondido, Mexico



From Frank & ReaAnn Haynes, S/V LunaSea

Hello everybody,

After the birth of our granddaughter here in Long Beach on December 24, 2013 we spent the winter traveling by land- yacht to other far flung cities across North America. However, in April we returned to Long Beach and began exploring the local islands starting with Santa Catalina. We discovered that after months of cold and fog up north this is the place to enjoy sailing. The 4 hour sail to Isthmus Cove, also called Two Harbors, is fun because the winds are reliable and the air temperature is between 70 F and 80 F in May. We had 95 F for 3 days last week. Isthmus offers rentals for cabins, hotels, camping, biking, disc golf, fishing, kayaking, paddle boarding, scuba, sailing and motor boating. It has one restaurant, bar and a breakfast/lunch snack bar, showers at \$2 (water is precious there), laundry, grocery (expensive), and unlimited opportunities to explore back country roads and trails.



The contrast between Long Beach and the 22 mile long Santa Catalina Island is many less people, the beautiful clear blue water and abundant fish life. The island is maintained in a primitive state and development is severely limited which allows for a remarkable experience, especially for many people who have not experienced this kind of environment which many of us in the northwest take for granted. It is a haven for diving Brown Pelicans and frolicking dolphins and seals and it is the home of the Wrigley Institute for Environmental Studies.

Santa Catalina offers very few anchorages because of the depth of the water and uses mooring buoys as a way to accommodate safely a much larger number of



boating visitors. Currently we are planning regular explorations of this island and its many moorages and the associated islands of Anacapa, Santa Rosa and Santa Cruz.

Our vessel has been holding up pretty well. The ablative bottom paint has stayed clean. Everyone else around us has scuba guys cleaning their bottoms every two months. All zincs have been replaced and we got about one year of use on the old ones. The prop gets pretty clogged up with growth but spins-off with use. The Electra-Scan head treatment system is on the fritz again and Frank swears next time it's going into the dumpster. We are off to the sail makers next week to replace all the plastic lugs on the main sail since many have broken. No mold or mildew around here to complain about but about once every other month the Santa Ana winds pickup an annoying very fine dust that blows and gets into everything. There is plenty of good beer around to wash it down, but Frank's cigars are running low.



Frank and RaeAnn Haynes
S/V LunaSea
Santa Catalina, California

From George & Sue Stonecliffe, S/V JuliaMax

Hello Everyone,

Sue and I left Portland in that hot weather window April 30, and arrived in Friday Harbor on May 2nd after the easiest passage up the Washington coast that we have experienced: sunny, offshore light wind, and limited contacts. We left Friday Harbor for Bellingham so that Sue could take Amtrak back to Portland to oversee the care for her Mom. I slowly headed north via Sucia Island, Canada's Bedwell Harbor for Customs (a breeze), Ganges Harbor to provision, Wallace Island to wait out a full day of rain, timing Dodd Narrows for heading to Nanaimo.



Nanaimo Yacht Club, a reciprocal club, is conveniently situated near provisioning, a marine chandlery, restaurants, and a Starbucks! On Saturday, May 10th, I spent the day working on 'fixing the boat in foreign ports', what cruising is all about! Our auto-pilot drive motor started failing a couple days early, and 'there was no joy in Mudville' cruising without an auto-pilot. As luck would have it, when we bought the boat in 2006, we had enough spare parts to circumnavigate the world. So this was the time for the spare auto-pilot drive motor to be forced into service. It was vacu-sealed and in great shape. With attached warnings that the hydraulic fittings for the motor wouldn't work with the older model fittings, I sweated bullets, as I pondered what to do. There

was a baggie of appropriate fittings however that the previous owner had attached.

Long story short, my biggest concern was whether or not I was going to lose hydraulic fluid. I acted quickly, and lost very little. I also purged any air in the hydraulic steering system. Then came the test on Mother's Day leaving the dock for heading north. And Joy Divine, the auto-pilot made its course corrections and adjustments with ease. Life is good!

So I'm anchored at the north end of Denman Island near Comox, and plan to be in Campbell River Monday, the 12th, and Port McNeil, May 15th where we hope Sue will be able to fly and meet me for going north.

Cheers to all, and especially to those heading to Barkley Sound, Canada is a special place!

George and Sue
S/V *JuliaMax*
Denman Island, Canada

Let's Stay in Touch with our Cruising Members

If you enjoyed the stories from these cruising members of Sauvie Island Yacht Club, please say so. Sometimes the cruisers comment that they feel like they are sending their articles into a black hole, and they never get any feedback. Let's all make an effort to let them know they are appreciated. If you see them, say something. If they are still out cruising, send them an email. If you have questions for them, do ask – it may be the seed for an interesting future report. – Ed.



Desolation Sound, as photographed by Jim & Linda Noval aboard S/V *Ranidan* in August, 2013.