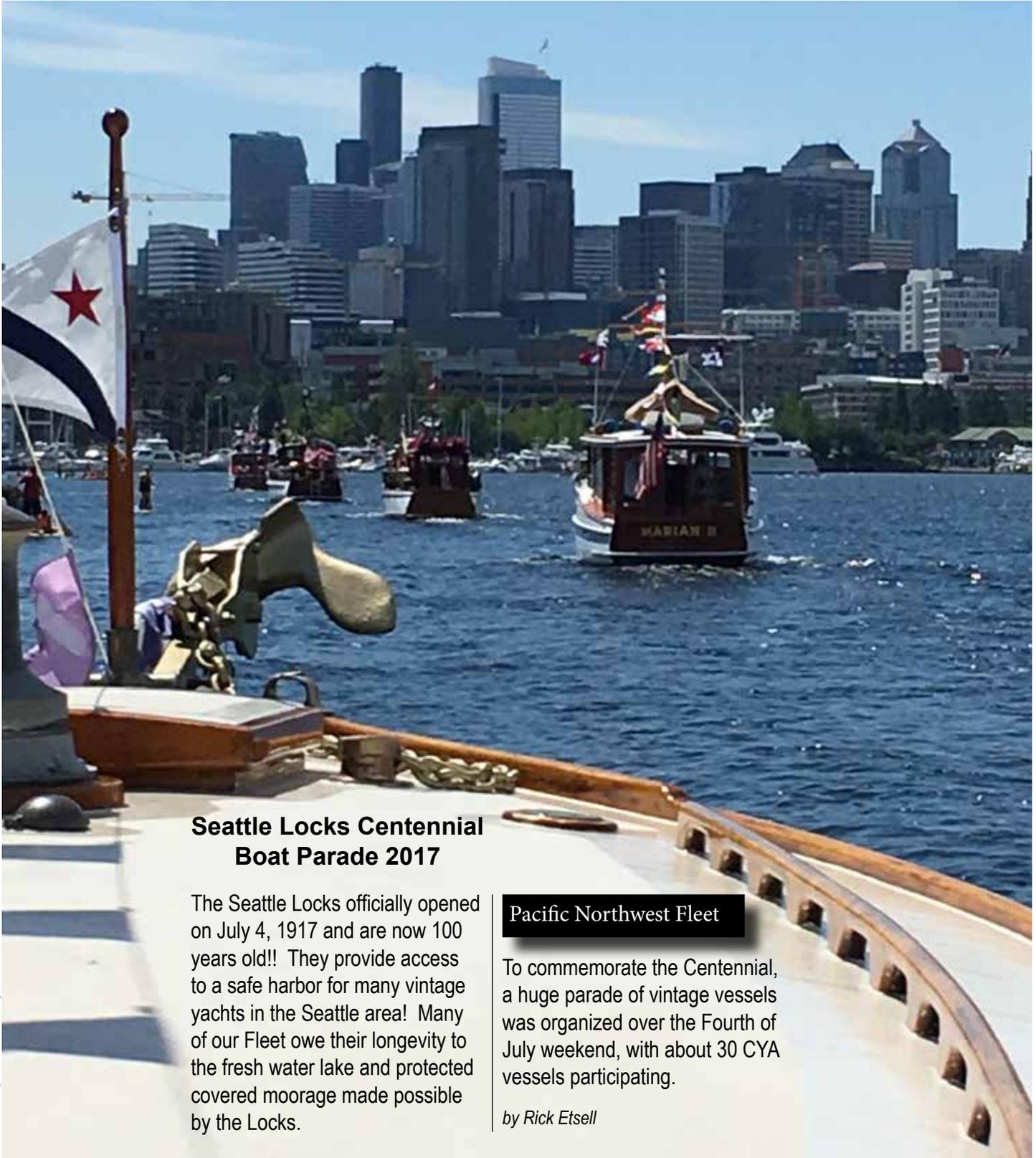


September 2017

# Classic Yachting

A QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER BY AND FOR ALL THE FLEETS OF THE CLASSIC YACHT ASSOCIATION



## Seattle Locks Centennial Boat Parade 2017

The Seattle Locks officially opened on July 4, 1917 and are now 100 years old!! They provide access to a safe harbor for many vintage yachts in the Seattle area! Many of our Fleet owe their longevity to the fresh water lake and protected covered moorage made possible by the Locks.

### Pacific Northwest Fleet

To commemorate the Centennial, a huge parade of vintage vessels was organized over the Fourth of July weekend, with about 30 CYA vessels participating.

by Rick Etsell

## Commodore's Comments



Hello CYA members in all fleets,

I hope your summers have gone well for you individually and as CYA fleets. Aside from personal friends in other fleets, this newsletter is really how we find out what has been going on in cruising grounds other

than our own. It is too bad that distance makes it impossible for us to visit other fleet events regularly. It is such a treat to get to know members from all over the map. Each fleet has their special events, unique yachts, and members that distance prevents us from getting to know. The best solution I have found for this is attending the annual meetings and Change of Watch weekends held by different fleets each January.

The international Change of Watch weekends in January each year are a golden opportunity for members to visit other areas and get to know some of the other members of CYA. When I was new to CYA I thought these weekend adventures were only for board members and people with jobs in the organization. Come to find out, as my local fleet members talked us into going, these weekends are a special time for any member to attend and get to know the entire club and other members better. Past CYA Commodore and Life

Member, **Jim Butz**, has said, "if you don't do anything else in CYA, go to the international Change of Watch weekends." They are fun, informative, and entertaining.

I would encourage you, when that invitation comes, to make plans to go. Find out who is going from your fleet and make plans to attend. These fun filled weekends have taken us places that I never dreamed I would go. The tours and things we have seen have really broadened my boating experiences.

Here is a very brief list of just a few of extraordinary things

we have done: toured the Herreshoff Museum, a cruise under the Golden Gate Bridge on the 130 foot ACANIA, trip to the Boeing plant where they build 747s and the Paul Allen Warbirds Museum, toured the International Yacht Restoration School, visited the California Railroad Museum, stayed at the Empress Hotel in Victoria, cruised the Connecticut coast on University of Connecticut research vessel, cruised on Lake Washington with 20+ CYA yachts three days after a Seattle snow storm, dined at many famous yacht clubs, and so much more.

Oh, and perhaps the best part is sharing these experiences with other CYA members over cocktails and social times. Going to these events are really fun winter vacations. They are open to all members. Plan to attend.

Best to all of you as we begin to wrap up our summer boating ⚓

*Best Regards,*

*Commodore Rick*

## 2018 CHANGE OF WATCH

January 11,12,13,14, 2018

The Southern California Fleet is looking forward to hosting the international Change of Watch in January of 2018. The weekend will be held at the Jamaica Bay Hotel in Marina del Rey which is approximately five miles north of the Los Angeles Airport.

Besides our important Board meetings, we have planned several outings and dinners. The welcome cocktail party will be held on a 105 foot 1929 classic yacht, SOBRE LAS OLAS. In addition a classic yacht harbor cruise is planned, as well as our traditional Change of Watch Banquet. We will be hosting a Friday bus trip to the Reagan Presidential Library to see decades of archived treasures and where you will go onboard the 707 Air Force One that ferried 7 Presidents all over the world. After lunch at the Regan Library, we go on to the Nethercutt Museum which Autoweek Magazine says is one of the five greatest Auto Museums in America.

We hope you will all plan to attend and enjoy our typical nice WARM winter weather. See you there.

Also, if you have agenda items that you would like to have discussed during the Directors meetings, please get them into me. Per the Bylaws: They must be in 60 days before the meeting and must include a text of your actual purposed motion.

**Safe Boating, Commodore Rick**

## Southern California Fleet

## SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA - EARLY SUMMER EVENTS

By Commodore Rick Olosn

**W**e have three early summer events: The Newport Beach Wooden Boat Festival, our annual Barbeque and Auction, and our big Old Fashioned Day in the Park event that we have held for 41 straight years.

The **Wooden Boat Festival** is a great show hosted by the Balboa Yacht Club and they turn out about 50 boats sail and power. This year CYA had a new addition. The yacht PHANTOM was purchased by **Rick Ingold** and **Dean Kiser** and trucked down from Portland. It went straight into the yard for some bottom work and then to the WBF where it swept the best powerboat and the peoples choice awards for powerboat. PHANTOM is an outstanding new member of the CYA Southern California Fleet.



**CYA Barbeque and Auction.** We try to move the BBQ around every few years to keep it fresh. This year we held it at **Wayne Ettel's** working boat yard. **Wayne** does all kinds of work on wooden boats and has an excellent reputation around Southern California. Of course **Wayne** and **Dianna's** beautiful ATHENA was there and new members **David** and **Margaret Waite** brought their CONQUEST over for the day. We ate our traditional baby



back ribs lunch then had a small auction chaired by Vice Commodore **John Peckham**. Comments were made how fun the auction was because if John

didn't get the bid he wanted he just assigned the item to a buyer at whatever price he felt was fair. Everyone pitched in and all the funds went to the club anyway so nobody minded. We hung around in the afternoon on the yachts enjoying the day.

**Old Fashioned Day in the Park.** What a pleasure it is to have kept this great event alive for all these 41 years. Co-sponsored by the LA County department of Beaches and Harbors and set at the Burton Chace Park we always get a good turnout of happy interested classic boat fans on Sunday for the show.

Most of us arrive on Friday and have a relaxing weekend before the show even starts. Saturday night dinner on the dock featured a full on Taco Bar with beer, wine, and classic yacht California style Margaritas.

Sunday morning we set up a continental breakfast for all the folks that are bringing in their antique cars (about 50 cars) for our display adjacent to the yachts. At ten o'clock



*Margaret & David Waite, new owners of the yacht CONQUEST*

everyone sounds their horns and the party starts. For the last few years we have restarted an old tradition of dressing in period clothing. This is beginning to catch on again and is helped out by members of the Art Deco Society of Los Angeles who also have been coming to the event in period clothing. At 3 PM we all honk our horns again to indicate the conclusion of the open house part of the show. The blenders are broken out at that time and

pitcher after pitcher of Mudslides are mixed and consumed as the traditional end of the day celebration. Pot luck on the dock and a good night's sleep allow for us to pull out at first light Monday morning. Calm morning waters and the sun coming up make for a beautiful cruise home. ⚓

Northern California Fleet

# Taste *of the* Delta

by Alan Almquist



Rio Vista & Mt. Diablo

The Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta in northern California has always been a favorite cruising area for classic yachts of the Northern California Fleet. Over the years, Opening Day on the Delta has marked the official beginning of the year's boating adventures in these 1000 miles or so waterways, but in reality the Delta has been the destination of boaters



Contessa on 14 mile slough

throughout the year. The Delta's own unique history chronicled in many books most notably those written by the late **Hal Schell**. *Dawdling on the Delta*, to name one famous work by Schell, is still a popular favorite for boaters in the region. The Stephens boat yard in Stockton produced many classic yachts, a good number of which still ply the waters around the place where they were constructed. The Delta has been the setting of many memorable events, from the famous Stephens Rendezvous first organized in the 1990's, to the Hilton fireworks put on each fourth of July that began at the Delta home of hotel magnate, **Barron Hilton**, when he first set off fireworks for his children in 1958 and passing boats stopped to watch the affair. As our own **Bill Wells** describes this annual fireworks display "Now it is like a waterborne 'Burning Man' gathering with some 3,000 boats making it a week-long festival with the Coast Guard and local law enforcement people making sure things do not get out of control." **Bill**, since the death of **Hal Schell**, has taken over as one of the major spokespeople for Delta interests. His monthly column in Bay and Delta Yachtsman is avidly read and he is a regular contributor to our own

Stephens Yacht Rendezvous in downtown Stockton



fleet newsletter with his column entitled “Dispatch from the Delta.” **Bill** is also the Executive Director of the California Delta Chambers and Visitor’s Bureau and as such is one of the most effective lobbyists for Delta interests at the State Capitol in Sacramento.

Many yacht clubs dot the shores and islands of the Delta, from the posh Tinsley Island which belongs to the St Francis Yacht Club of San Francisco to “Grindstone Joe’s” whose less auspicious beginnings have evolved over the years to a special destination enjoyed by its many members, some of which include the **Owens, Andrews, and McNairs** (who also belong to the CYA). More formal Yacht Clubs like the Sacramento YC, the Stockton YC, and the San Joaquin YC, to name just three out of many, are long time establishments with rich histories of their own.

The Northern California fleet has for many years turned out in support of the Delta at the annual “Taste of the Delta” event that is put on by the Delta Chamber and hosted by the Stockton YC. This year marks the 16th anniversary of this event where Delta food and wine are featured. The day, Saturday August 5th, concludes with a terrific dinner put on by the members of the Stockton YC. This event in many years past kicks off the beginning of the NC Delta cruise organized by our treasurer **Tom Clothier**. **Tom** has put together a week long adventure where yachts coming



*Hiltot II at Walnut Grove*

*Stockton Yacht Club*

up from the Bay will rendezvous with those berthed in the Delta at the Stockton YC and following this event will “dawdle” from one destination to another enjoying the hospitality of many Delta “waterholes” always enjoying good food and drink along the way. The Delta temperatures may well be hot for this time of the year but the cool waters of the rivers and sloughs work wonders in alleviating this minor discomfort ⚓



*Some happy participants in the 2017 rendezvous*

**New Classic Members**



Richard Ingold and Dean Kiser

***PHANTOM***

50' 1936 Astoria Marine  
 SC Fleet  
 Newport Beach, CA  
 Rick Olson, sponsor



Michael Levine

***WHAT A WONDERFUL WORLD***

50' 1938 Lakewood Boat Co.  
 NC Fleet  
 Sausalito, CA  
 Tom Clothier, sponsor



David Scheinfarb and Alec Milstein

***HEL-PORT II***

40' 1937 Fellows and Stewart  
 SC Fleet  
 Marina del Rey, CA  
 Gerard Buck, sponsor



Jim and Judy McDonald

***WALRONDA***

61' 1912 W.S. Bailey & Co., Ltd.  
 CAN Fleet  
 Vancouver, BC  
 Mike O'Brien, sponsor

**New Vintage Member**



Christopher and Emily Russell

**SAVONA**

39' 1942 Grandy/Forder  
PNW Fleet  
Bremerton, WA  
Dorin Robinson, sponsor



Robert and Joan Hersh

David Ryder, Norm Rychlik & Dick Strand

**PRIME TIME**

40' 1949 Matthews  
SC Fleet  
Newport Beach, CA  
Rick Olson, sponsor



Michael B. Fazio

**ANNIE LAURIE**

60' 1929 Gray Boat Works  
USA Fleet  
Chester, CT  
Ted Crosby, sponsor



A QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER BY AND FOR ALL THE FLEETS OF THE CLASSIC YACHT ASSOCIATION

Official Newsletter of the  
**Classic Yacht Association**  
[www.classicyacht.org](http://www.classicyacht.org)

- Commodore.....**Rick Olson, NC**
- Vice Commodore.....**Scott Andrews, NC**
- Rear Commodore .....**Garth McBride, CAN**
- Staff Commodore ..... **Ken Meyer, PNW**
- Editor ..... **Dave Sharrock, CAN**

Please send queries, suggestions, complaints, articles, artwork and photographs to: [cya.newsletter@gmail.com](mailto:cya.newsletter@gmail.com)

The FIRM deadline for submitting material for the Winter Issue of the Classic Yachting Newsletter will be **November 1st** to allow printing and distribution before the main Christmas print and mail rush. ⚓

## Canadian Fleet

Submitted by: Mike O'Brien  
Member #319 - Fleet Historian

## B.C. Coastal Characters

# TONY GROVE



I am never sure if I should introduce **Tony** as a Shipwright, a Teacher, an Artist, or just a Denizen of that funky island called Gabriola. But, no matter what **Tony** is involved in, it always revolves around his first love: wooden boats.

**Tony** took his apprenticeship at Vancouver Shipyards and Cooper Yachts where he specialized in yacht interiors. However, it was at Gar and Wood Yacht restoration that **Tony** developed his passion for wooden boats. While working here he was exposed to one of BC's finest boat builders, **Fred Amore**. **Fred** was doing the complete restoration of the 1906 CHARLES H. CATES (a past CYA member now lost in the wilds of Pender Harbour). **Fred** was one of those old time shipwrights who could accomplish most any task related to a wooden boat with aplomb and careful attention to detail. **Fred** was generous in sharing his knowledge and always had time for a young tradesman like **Tony**.

When **Tony** moved to teach at the Silva Bay Shipyard School, he was delighted to find that **Fred** was also now on Gabriola and available for consultation.

Also on Gabriola and involved with the school were **Ted Brewer** and **Tad Roberts** (this year's Honorary Commodore of the Victoria Wooden Boat Festival), both of whom contributed to **Tony's** body of knowledge. Although **Tony** may not have been enamoured with **Brewer's** designs from an aesthetic point of view, he found him to be a great repository of knowledge about the technical details of Yacht design. **Tony** taught at the school for five years and was instrumental in developing a detailed curriculum.

With this background, **Tony** was eminently qualified to take on the commission of building a 34 foot sailboat,

with a little help from his friends, christened as "PROSPECTOR". One of those friends was **Fred Amore** who did the mechanical and electrical installations. PROSPECTOR was completed in 2005 and happily sails the Gulf Islands and points north today.

Over the last three years **Tony** has been working away at restoring the 1897 sailboat DOROTHY, purportedly the oldest sailing vessel on Canada's west coast. DOROTHY is owned by the Victoria Maritime Museum which has had significant financial difficulties in recent years, so she sits under cover next to **Tony's** shop, now stabilized and awaiting a further cash infusion. Donations to the project may be made to the Museum at [mmbc.bc.ca](http://mmbc.bc.ca)

**Tony's** artistic life seems a natural outcome of his approach to boat building. His eye for the perfect run of a plank, the sweet curve of a sheer, the graceful outline of a transom all ended up in his evocative paintings of maritime scenes. His bold use of colour and detailed understanding of

structure create images that are lively, thoughtful and timeless.

With the demise of the Silva Bay Shipyard school, **Tony** has created a series of woodworking courses, teaching skills useful in building boats and furniture. For info on the many short courses offered see [www.thegroveschool.ca](http://www.thegroveschool.ca)

**Tony's** only major fault is his love of sea shanties offset only by his fondness of blue grass, **Herreshoff** and **Paul Gartside!**

So, what is next for **Tony**? I don't know the answer to that question but I do know that he will be a success at whatever he turns his hand to. **Tony** is one of those BC coastal characters who will be welcomed wherever he goes and will be a great contributor to his environment. ♣

When I asked **Tony** what he thought of modern fiberglass yachts, he said, with uncharacteristic hesitation, "soul sucking."



*DOROTHY, purportedly the oldest sailing vessel on Canada's west coast*