



# Triton Yacht Club

September 2005  
Newsletter



[www.tritonyachtclub.org](http://www.tritonyachtclub.org)

## **2005 OFFICERS**

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### **Help Wanted:**

Needed for the Commodores ball. I have a class that day that will last until early evening. I would like a few volunteers to handle the decorations. (I am not much good in this capacity anyway) Contact Jeff Longmore for this excellent opportunity.

### **Newsletter Editor Wanted:**

I have truly enjoyed putting together the newsletter these past years, but the time has come to pass the quill. Anyone who would like to try their hand at gathering the news and publishing the newsletter please don't miss this opportunity! TYC owns a nice publisher program that will help as well, or choose your own method of production. (I first started doing the newsletter before we all had home computers and desktop publishing—on a typewriter and using Xerox cut-and-paste!) This job is vital to the club, and it's fun!

Thanks, -Phil Collins

### **Cruising News**

A group of TYC members put together a charter cruise in the San Juans this fall, and have just returned. There isn't time for full reports to be available for this

### **ON THE CALENDAR**

#### **Next General Meeting** **Friday Sept 30**

**At the Veteran's Club on Willamette  
in Eugene**

#### **Election of Officers** **For 2006**

**At the Annual Meeting October 27**  
**(it's on a Thursday)**

#### **Commodore's Ball** **December 3, 2005**

**Mark your calendar**

#### **YBYC Columbus Day Regatta** **October 8-9 in Newport**

Don't forget to renew  
your membership!  
Dues are due in November.



## Commodore's Corner

As I reflect on the meager sailing season winding down, I'm struck by the unexpected threads that tie us together. Our yacht club is challenged right now, since we can't sail and race together on our favorite pond. But we're lucky. Our lake will be back up next year, and we'll resume our regular activities. Some of our members have drifted away without the regular racing, but we'll bounce back. The Army Corps of Engineers is working hard on our behalf. But many of you realize that some of the oldest yacht clubs in the country, such as Mobile Bay, are pretty much wiped out by hurricane Katrina. I saw a list of at least 15 clubs badly wrecked by the storm. We already know that the essence of our own club isn't a facility or a marina, or a pretty clubhouse, but rather the fellowship of our members. Nonetheless, rebuilding and reconstructing a yacht club's history won't be easy for those folks. I'm sure for many people, it isn't even on their worry list, compared to safety, shelter, and other necessities of life. But eventually, many will regroup and rebuild. But even as they do, the longer range future isn't certain. A significant disruption affects the choice to make sailing a part of your life to begin with.

Personally, as I look at the community of sailors that I

know, and within the events that I attend, it may be argued, but it seems like new blood has stopped entering the sport at a sufficient rate. A younger generation doesn't seem to be displacing us baby boomers. I expect a certain ebb and flow, and Triton is fortunate to have a small contingent of enthusiastic young members, but I was really looking forward to "old age and treachery winning out over youth and skill"! I sure hope that video games haven't supplanted sailing in too many young people's hearts. Or could it be that the accelerating cost of fossil fuel and global warming alarms will help rekindle an interest in sailing? Maybe we need a "bring your daughter/son out racing day"! My challenge to all the members is to help us in the months and years to come to rebuild our club, our local sailing community, and our sport. Invite someone new to come out, or introduce some young people to sailing in a fun and friendly way. We'll all win.

I hope to see the majority of you at our September General Meeting. Several of us will bring stories of our upcoming San Juan Islands cruise, along with pictures. I've also learned that our former Commodores Myra and Joe Downing have made plans to move to Olympia, and probably won't be attending too many more meetings. So come down and wish them a lot of luck. It will be really tough to lose their energy and capability from our small club.

Regards, Doug Ullmer

<b>Commodore's Ball    December 3, 2005 at the Veteran's Club in Eugene    Mark your Calendar!</b>
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edition, but more will surely come later. Meanwhile, a tidbit of a report:    September 23, 2005

We just got back today from a fantastic 6-day cruise in the San Juans. We had Orca, wind, sun, no rain, parties, and great boats. Our boat, a Jeanneau 45 named Esprit de Mer but affectionately called the "Big Unit" was a sweet boat and we had her ay 8.5+ kts on several occasions. We had up to 22 kt winds in Haro Strait on Monday and sailed the long way from Reid Harbor to Friday Harbor in 4.5 hours (down

Haro straight, around Cattle Point, and back up San Juan Channel. We had showered, lunched, and bought more groceries by the time Sundance arrived. Another highlight of the trip was Martini Night on the 21<sup>st</sup> (my birthday); we had 18 people on the Big Unit for the party (Doug got a picture of the boat just a bit down by the stern). 18 was a better fit this year than on Obi Juan last year. We will have some pictures and stories for this month's meeting but we will really put together a show for October.  
-Mike Schwarze



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