



Cathlamet Yacht Club  
**TELEGRAPH**  
NOVEMBER 2020

## **LATEST NEWS**

### **STEAMBOAT SLOUGH MOORINGS**

The replacement mooring anchors and balls have been installed in Steamboat Slough.

Here is a report on the project from Bill Kostich:

Being a part of a yacht club means a lot of things. Friendships, time together, boating, and service, among other things, is what makes the Cathlamet Yacht Club so enjoyable to so many.

Every year, aside from having fun, our club does its best to provide some type of service project to the marina or the surrounding area as a way of contributing to the community we call home. This year, the club completed a wonderful service project by installing two new mooring balls in Steamboat Slough.

The mooring ball "outpost" is a great way to encourage boaters to get out and enjoy the river. The idea behind the project was to offer a safe, reliable system that would provide moorage away from the marina without having to deploy an anchor.

The project included many steps. We began last year with a depth sounding of the area to determine the best location in the slough. Over the last several months, designs for anchors were drawn and revised until we settled on a winner. Then, the construction of the anchors took place to include the cutting, welding, anchor construction, and the chains. The mooring balls were purchased using funds provided by the club.

The installation first involved the removal of two old mooring balls in the slough. No one knew the reliability of these systems, so we thought best to remove them. To do that, CYC member Ross Zeigler and a team dove on the old mooring systems and removed them from the bottom of the river. About a week later, another team of individuals took the new mooring systems out to the designated location in the slough and installed them.

The mooring balls are individually secured by a mushroom style anchor and 3/8 inch chain which passes through a brand-new reflective ball. The end of the chain has a shackle on it too large to drop through the hole in the ball. To moor your boat: You will need a mooring line at least 20 feet long secured to a

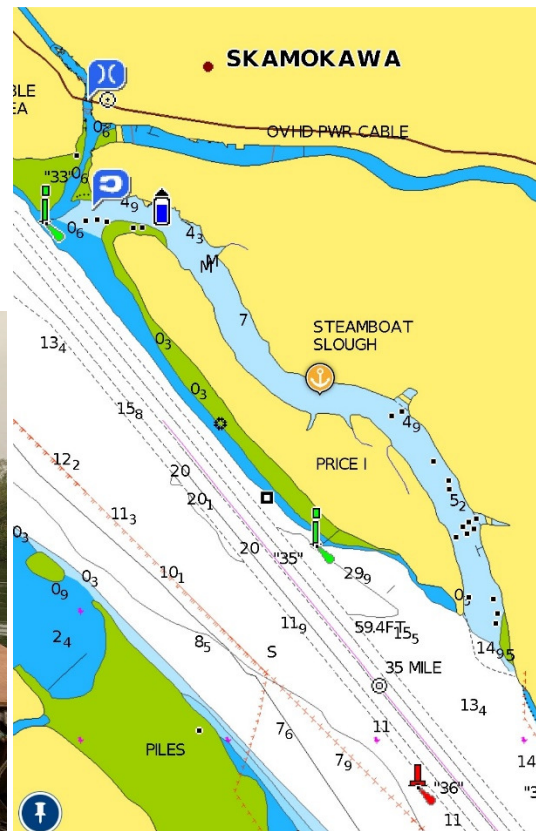
cleat on deck. Grab the shackle with your boathook. Lift the shackle and chain up through the ball far enough to pass the free end of the mooring line through the shackle. Pull the mooring line back to your mooring cleat. Ease off the mooring line until the shackle is resting on top of the buoy and your line has some slack in it, cleat it off, and you are safely secured.

As with all the Cathlamet Yacht Club projects, this was a huge team effort led by the Vice Commodore, Bud Radke. Other contributors include: Kopi and Dean Carmine, Fritz Carmine, Dan Glenn, Brett Deaton, Warren Staples, Rich Trachi, Cherry Ann Kolbenschlag, Ross Zeiger and Sophie Park, Jim Bucklin, and Bill Kostich. A very special thanks to Dean and Fritz Carmine for the use of their amazing shops and to Jackie and the Port for letting us use their skiff boat to install the mooring systems.

If you have any questions about the mooring balls, please reach out to Bud Radke.



Brett and the New Buoys



The anchor shows the location of the new moorings

## FINDING THE NEW MOORINGS

The new moorings are located in one of the most protected anchorages in the lower river. To enter Steamboat Slough from the upstream or Cathlamet end, simply line up your boat so you can see down the slough and stay in the middle. When the channel begins to curve to port favor the outboard or northeast side of the slough because a point bar has built up in the turn and it is shallower on the

southwest side. To enter from the downstream end start in the ship channel at marker “33” and head for Skamokawa Landing, the large white building on the north side. Stay on the north side past the Landing and the two story house then go down the middle to the turn. The moorings are in over 20 feet of water.

## **BOARD MEETING ON ZOOM**

The Board of Directors have been holding the monthly board meetings on the 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of each month, on Zoom. The invitations to attend have been sent to all the board members, but all members are encouraged to attend these meetings. If you would like to attend ask Allen Bennett to send you a Zoom invitation. The board asked me to ask the readership for suggestions on how to hold some Covid compliant events. Please think about this and contact Kopi Carmine, Allen Bennet or Fritz Carmine with your ideas.

## **AROUND THE RIVER**

### **BAR CLOSURE**

The recent Friday the 13<sup>th</sup> windstorm that passed through kicked up some really rough seas on the Columbia River bar, resulting in ships arriving from sea having to wait outside the river overnight or longer for the bar pilots to be able to bring them in. This happened to me years ago when I was on a Victory ship and we had to go around in circles for 24 hours waiting for the bar conditions to moderate. One of the most memorable miserable nights of my seagoing career!

### **MARINA OFFICE AND FUEL DOCK**

The Elochoman Marina Office is still closed to the public and is only doing business by phone. The fuel dock is being operated by the Camp/Marina host. To make arrangements for fuel call Bruce at 360-751-4243.

## **COMMODORE’S CORNER**

Hello all! I am back in Wahkiakum County after spending nearly four months overseas. It feels good to be here at home, being cold is wonderful. Singapore is always hot and humid! Unfortunately, because of Covid concerns we were not able to have our regularly slated schedule of events this year. We did have a few socially distanced get togethers and cruise ins that were successful and safe, hopefully this coming year will be more normal and allow us to safely get together and have our events. The Christmas parade in Cathlamet is an event we are planning on participating in...please attend if you have time and are able. Have a wonderful holiday season and stay safe everyone!

Fair winds and following seas,

Fritz Carmine

## **COMING EVENTS**

### **ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

The annual November membership meeting at Norse Hall is not being held this year. Instead the election will be held by e-mail. We are looking for candidates for Secretary and Treasurer. When we have candidates for all positions, Kopi Carmine will send an e-mail to all of the membership, and voting will be done by e-mail replies.

**CHRISTMAS PARADE** The club is planning to participate in the Cathlamet Christmas Parade on December 12. Commodore Fritz Carmine will be contacting the membership to get this organized. It has been fun in the past and is definitely Covid compliant and a good chance to get out and socialize.

**COMMODORE'S BALL:** Was scheduled for January 30, 2021, but has been canceled. The crowd size restrictions, 30 people, and venue minimum charges made the per person price too high for a successful event. Hopefully we can resume next year. Instead, the Board is hoping to arrange an outdoor "Frostbite" event to take its place. Somewhere outdoors but protected from the wind. Any ideas? Let Kopi or Fritz know.

## **PUBLIC SERVICE PROJECTS**

### **MARINA PAVILION UPGRADE**

Several members have suggested that the club should upgrade or replace the sunbrella rollup wind screens that surround the pavilion. The zippers and snaps are in bad shape and the fabric doesn't fit well anymore. The marina has agreed to chip in for this project as well. Contact any officer if you have ideas or can help in any way.

### **RECYCLING AT THE MARINA**

The Board of Directors is proposing that there should be a recycling set up at the marina, and the club could participate in creating it. Contact Commodore Fritz Carmine or any club officer for more info.

## **MEMBERSHIP**

Even with the restricted activities, our club is still active and new members are joining up. We have two new couples this month:

Michael and Natalie Mesnier of Scappoose, OR, are the owners of the ultra cherry Hans Christian 33 WILLOUGHBY. Many of you will have seen it tied up to "F" dock in the marina. This will be a great addition to our cruising fleet. Thanks to proposers Bud Radke and Bill Kostich.

Ross Zeiger and Sophie Park are recent arrivals in Cathlamet and do not have a boat listed as yet. They have a dog grooming business in Longview, WA. Ross is a diver and was the person who dove in Steamboat Slough for the mooring replacement project. Kopi and Dean Carmine are the proposers.

Welcome to our club!

Kopi Carmine is the membership chairman. Contact her if you have someone you would like to bring into the club. She reports that we now have 73 members. This is a record high I believe.

## **RECIPROCITY**

Vicki Bucklin, who is already our webmaster, has agreed to take over as reciprocity chairman. We really appreciate members like Vicki who put a lot of time and effort into supporting our club.

Chuck and Linda Norton have really done a wonderful job of setting up the “Yacht Destinations” computer link and arranging reciprocal privileges with most of the Yacht clubs in the Pacific Northwest.

The CYC now has reciprocal privileges with over 90 yacht clubs in the Northwest and Canada. Most of these provide a free night’s stay if they have a marina, as well as access to their facilities, such as dining room, bar, showers, etc. If you have a smart phone or tablet on your boat you can go to our website, [www.cathlametyachtclub.org](http://www.cathlametyachtclub.org), click on “more options,” then click on “reciprocals.” This will redirect you to our page at “Yacht Destinations”. The “details” tab will be selected and you will see a list of the yacht clubs that welcome our members. Clicking the name of the club will bring up that club’s website. “INFO” will bring up what that club offers in the way of facilities, guest moorage and much more. If you click the map icon you will get a Google Earth picture of exactly where that club is. If you choose the “Map” tab you will bring up a Google Earth satellite picture showing the location of all the clubs we have on our list. This is a cool feature if you are cruising in your boat and want to find a nearby yacht club to visit.

## **VOLUNTEERS**

Club by-laws require all members to volunteer 3 hours of their time each year. This year, with some events canceled, there has been less opportunity to fulfill your obligation, but there is still plenty to do so contact any club officer to find out how you can help out.

## **CLUB ROSTER**

Every year since the club was formed Genie Cary has published the Club Roster, and has done a wonderful job of it. She is hoping someone will step forward to learn how she does it and take over from her. This is a very important job in the club and we really need someone to do this for us.

## **BUY / SELL / TRADE**

### **12 ½ FOOT INFLATABLE BOAT**

West Marine Brand, made by Zodiac. Never been in the water. Plywood floor, storage bags, Pump, cover etc. Will take up to 20hp outboard. \$1500 OBO. Michael Armstrong: 503-860-5036; mac1dogs@gmail.com

Send me an ad if you have any items you would like to buy sell or trade.

## **CONTRIBUTIONS**

Thanks to Fritz Carmine and Bill Kostich for contributions to this issue. Your contributions are very helpful to me. If you have any thing you would like to see appear in future newsletters, or if you have any news, pictures, or info you would like us to publish please submit them to Dean & Kopi Carmine: svmartharose@gmail.com