



Cathlamet Yacht Club  
**NEWSLETTER**  
OCTOBER 2015

## **LATEST NEWS**

### **YACHT CLUB DINNER AND AUCTION**

The fall membership dinner and auction was held September 19th in the Marina covered area. Attendance was excellent and the salmon dinner was delicious as usual. The auction featured a lot of great donated items including a sail boat and some beautiful arts and crafts. Thanks to the skill of auctioneer Brian McLain the club treasury received a nice boost. Thanks also to all the donors and volunteers.

### **FLARE DEMONSTRATION**

CYC member Dan Cary gave a demonstration of marine distress signals in the marina using flares and smoke devices. Quite few people attended and got to practice with real equipment. Pyrotechnics can be dangerous both to the person using them and to bystanders and equipment, so this training session was a real opportunity. I hope that Dan will be able to do this again for those who missed out this time.



Hands on distress signal training in the Marina Parking lot

## **THE GROUNDING**

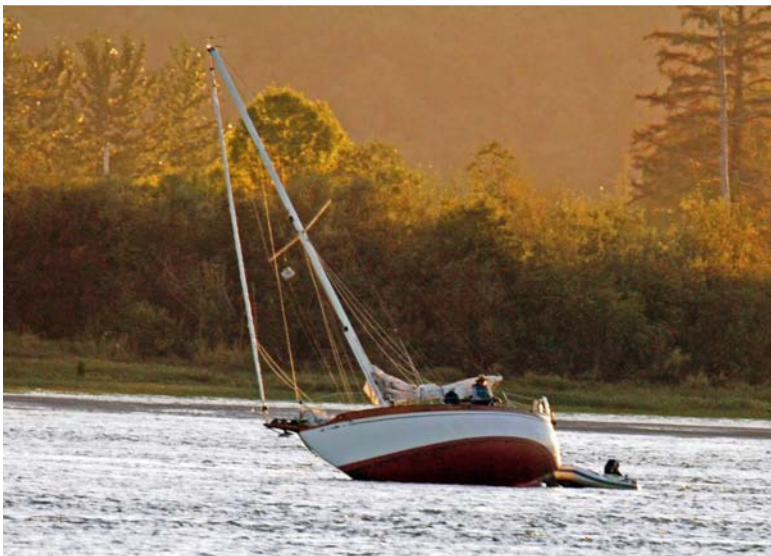
by

Gerry Keller

At the recent CYC dinner and auction, held in the Marina Pavilion, Dan Cary said that there is a hero among us. He then called my name. That was very kind of him, and I appreciate it. However, I would like to briefly tell what happened in my own words.

I was putt-putting around in my dinghy when I decided to go take a look at the river. Across from the mouth of the slough I saw a full keel, sea-going 30 footer hard aground. I motored out to see if there was anything I could do to help. It was clear that the Skipper was distressed. After taking his wife and dog to the Marina I went out to wait it out with him. As the boat laid over on its side and the angle of the mast passed 50 degrees from vertical, with the water six inches from the gunwale, things got tense. I talked to the Skipper to help him stay calm. Soon the tide changed and started coming in. The boat righted its self and we backed her off of the sandbar.

I talked to Dan after the meeting and told him that I did not feel heroic. I just did what one sailor does for another. Those people who choose to operate on the water or in the air are operating in an alien environment. We are creatures of the land. When we operate in an alien environment we are constantly at risk. Dan thought and then remarked that we are not just a bunch of individuals out there, we are a community. He also said that there are two kinds of sailors, those that have gone aground and those that will go aground. That is the long and short of it. We need to look out for each other and that is all I did. If some want to see it as heroic I don't mind. I just hope that when it is my turn to be in trouble there will be a hero there for me.



Aground in Cathlamet Channel

## **AROUND THE RIVER**

### **FISHING**

The fall chinook salmon seem to have made their way upstream. The Oregon fish and wildlife reported that boats in the Gorge are getting almost three fish per boat while only one boat in three is getting a fish between Portland and Tongue Point. Almost no one is retaining any Coho or Steelhead in the lower river.

### **DREDGING**

Port District One is negotiating to purchase a dredge from the Rose City Yacht club. Nearly everyone agrees that the marina entrance needs to be deepened so that large yachts and sailboats can come to Cathlamet. These visiting boats bring in much needed income to the marina and local businesses, and some Portland Yachtsmen tell us that people are not coming back after they have run aground here. Hopefully they will be able to close a deal soon.

### **NEW FERRY**

The new ferry Oscar B is getting over its shakedown problems and running steadily and using its new dock in Westport. The Westport ramp has a speed bump so go slow when driving on to the boat. Small cars can high center on it, as I found out personally. The new ferry can hold up to 23 cars on four lanes, so that is nearly double the capacity of the Wahkiakum, which is now tied up in North Portland Harbor, across from Hayden Island. The new ferry has an indoor passenger area and real bathroom. The ferry leaves Puget Island on the hour from 5:00am til 10:00pm, and leaves Westport on the quarter hour from 5:15am til 10:15pm every day. Car fare is \$5.00. Motorcycles \$3.00, Walk-ons \$1.00 and bikes \$2.00. Larger trucks, RV's, and buses are charged an additional fee. CYC member Gary Bergseng is one of the skippers.

## **UPCOMING EVENTS**

### **NOVEMBER DINNER MEETING AND ELECTION**

The next general membership meeting and dinner will be held Sunday, November 22<sup>nd</sup>, at Norse Hall on Puget Island. This is the meeting where next year's officers are nominated and elected. We are looking for candidates for: Treasurer, Secretary, and Rear Commodore. If you would like to serve in one of these positions, or be on the board of directors, please contact Kopi Carmine, Gary Emery, or Gary Bergseng.

## **LONGVIEW YACHT CLUB SPAGHETTI FEED AND AUCTION**

Longview Yacht Club has invited CYC members to attend their annual fund raiser and dinner Saturday November 7, at 6:30pm. Cost is \$10.00 per person if you prepay by mail or \$11.00 at the door. Children under 12 Are \$6:00. This is a BYOB event, wine glasses will be provided. Please RSVP to Kat Pettersen no later than Nov 1<sup>st</sup> at 430-8562 or [kpetersenhome@hotmail.com](mailto:kpetersenhome@hotmail.com) Prepay by mail at PO Box 1730, Longview WA 98632.

## **COMMODORES BALL**

Planning is underway for the Commodore's Ball which will take place at the Kelso Red Lion Saturday, January 23, 2016. There will be a buffet dinner and the installation of officers. This has been a really nice party in the past, with many of those traveling from Portland or Cathlamet getting a room and staying the night, then meeting again for breakfast.

## **MEMBERSHIP**

If you have a friend or family member you would like to sponsor, or would like to join yourself, please contact our new membership chairman, Sharon Deaton and she will make sure an application is mailed out.

## **RECIPROCITY**

The CYC now has reciprocal privileges with 79 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**

Volunteers will be needed for the November dinner, as well as the Commodore's Ball. Currently we have no chairpersons for these events. *Please remember that the bylaws require members to volunteer for the club a minimum of three hours a year.*

## **BUY / SELL / TRADE**

If anyone is interested, I can be commissioned to fold bills of any denomination into origami elephants, like the ones we auctioned at the last CYC dinner meeting. For example, someone might want a \$50 elephant for a niece's graduation or a \$100 elephant for a grandson's wedding. You provide the bill, of course, and make a \$10 contribution to CYC, and I'll do the folding. (Best to go to the bank and ask for a brand new, pristine bill to start with.) If you're interested, contact me at [360.795.0018](tel:360.795.0018) or [handick200@yahoo.com](mailto:handick200@yahoo.com). Hannah Booth

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

**Contributions:** Thanks to the Linda Baker, Gerry Keller and Genie Cary for their contributions to this issue. It makes the editor's job easier when members submit items to be included in the newsletter. 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](mailto:svmartharose@gmail.com)