



Commodore's Log

So what did you think of the new format of last's month's newsletter? The switch from HTML to PDF was prompted by the gradual increase in the file size of our online newsletter. Once the newsletter starting averaging about 300K an issue the switch to a more "printer friend" version that also had the advantage of being more mail-able seemed to make sense. Please don't hesitate to let me know what you think.

I pulled the sails and canvas off the boat during the first weekend in November. The break in the weather had many like myself starting to prepare the boat for winter. It was 48 degrees inside the cabin, and if you were in the sun outside, it felt pretty nice. It's always a tough call when to start putting things away for the season. My heart wanted to keep sailing, by my head knew to take advantage of good weather.

Portland Boat Show. We need volunteer hosts for the CRACA booth. I'd like to identify two volunteers for each time slot. One-time entry passes will be provided to each person hosting the booth for each time slot they select. The sign up

Volunteers Sought

for the

Portland Boat Show

Contact Dale Mack at
360-260-4196

sheet has been emailed out, and it will be periodically resent with updates as we fill all the time slots. Email or give me a call (360-260-4196) if you are interested in volunteering.

celtic-myst@comcast.net

CRACA Executive Board. In 2005, CRACA will see the most extensive turnover in its Executive Board since the club began operating in May of 2000. Unlike past years were several board members agreed to serve again, every position on the board in 2005 is looking for a candidate. So what does this mean? Well, consider the newsletter and the website, if no one steps forward to serve as the club's Communications Officers, April 2005 will be the last issue of the newsletter, the last update to the website, and the club's domain name:

www.ColumbiaRiverCatalina.org

will disappear if not renewed regularly. Without a Vice Commodore there will be no programs at general meets and no Entertainment Committee to organize activities like the Boat Show Survivors Party, the Catalina Rendezvous, and the Christmas Party.

While the worst case scenario paints a bleak picture, the reality is that people like yourself step forward all the time to serve. If you are approached by the nominating committee, please consider saying yes. Most board positions only need a couple of hours of your time a month to keep the club moving forward. If you'd like to

nominate yourself for a position, please don't hesitate. Your initiative and willingness to help out will be greatly appreciated.

The positions we need to fill include:

- Commodore
- Vice Commodore
- Secretary-Treasurer
- Communications
- Cruising Chair

If you'd like to recommend someone for an office, just let me know and I'll approach them.

CRACA Charter Changes. The term of our current officers comes to an end on April 30, 2005. What that means is that the CRACA schedule for 2005 is executed by those who may not have had a hand in creating it, particularly in the area of cruising dates, since the dates must be submitted to CRYA no later than December 1st. An alternative to the current arrangement is to elect officers in October and install them in November with their term of office starting January 1st. This approach is used by several local boating clubs, and it allows the incoming officers to plan the coming year's schedule as their first order of business. I'm hoping to have a proposal in front of the executive board within the next few weeks, and, should it be approved, in front of the general membership in the near future for a vote.

Dale Mack, Commodore

Vice Commodore's Notes

If you plan to attend the CRACA Holiday Party, please RSVP to rtime3@comcast.net or 503-240-1921. When you respond, please state your preference for meat or veggie lasagna.

Since CRACA is providing the main dish and dessert, the Party's Committee needs to know how much food to purchase.

Animals are not permitted in the club house at RCYC. The party's size will be limited to sixty (60), so don't delay in reserving your table. A flyer with additional details can be found later in the newsletter.

Jim Himes, Vice Commodore

Upcoming Events

December

11 CRACA Holiday Party @
Rose City Yacht Club

9-21 Christmas Ships Parade
www.christmasships.org

January

8-16 Portland Boat Show

14-23 Seattle Boat Shows

26 CRACA Meeting @ Pizza
Mia at 915 N Anchor Way,
Just off of Marine Drive

See the online CRACA [calendar](#) for more information and events.

CRACA Holiday Party

Saturday, December 11th

4:00 pm—8:00 pm

at

Rose City Yacht Club

CRACA Hosted Dinner

Bring a salad to share and your own beverages.

Activities include a Gift Exchange.

Eugene Wilkinson Memorial

Eugene Wilkinson's family has planned a time to get together with Eugene's family and friends to remember him.

It will be held at Mark's on the Channel at McCuddy's Landing on Multnomah Channel at 1:00 P.M. on Sunday, December 12, 2004.

Everyone should bring their own memories of Eugene to share.

The family plans on providing food.

The family would especially like to invite all of his friends in the Columbia River All Catalina Association.

Michael & Kathleen Lewis



Werner and Renate Bittner at Bartlett Landing in 2004 aboard their C28, *Loki*.

The Year in Review

As 2004 comes to a close it's fun to look back on some of the activities both on and off the water that brought CRACA members together.

The year started off with the Portland Boat Show where we had a display set up right next to the stairs leading up to the many new Catalina Yachts Sailboats of Oregon had brought to the show. During the nine run of the show, our booth was staffed by CRACA volunteers who introduced the association to hundreds and signed up several new members. January also saw many members rendezvousing in Seattle for the Seattle and Lake Union boat shows. For those that missed January's CRACA meeting, you missed out on a fabulous multimedia presentation by Bob Gales and Gail O'Neill of their trip north in their Catalina 30, *Imagine*.

By February most of us were boat showed out so we replaced our regular meeting with a CRACA hosted Boat Show Survivors Party at the Willamette Yacht Club. The pizza party was well attended and the socializing spirited.

March was a transitional month for many CRACA sailors. The warmer days saw sails and canvas going back onto the boats, as each crew went about de-winterizing their boat.

Continuing education about sails and sail shape is always a popular topic, and in April, Kerry Poe had the BBQ out at North Sails hot where CRACA held its April meeting. The racers amongst us also got busy with the start of the racing season. Several members both aboard Catalina's and aboard other boats participated in the SYSCO Spring Series, and for the second year in a row, a handful of Catalina 30 crews went out and raced One-Design in the SYSCO Spring Regatta. April also saw a number of us rendezvousing at the West Marine Swap Meet followed by breakfast at Elmer's restaurant. A few hearty souls even got up to Bartlett Landing



despite so-so weather that kept most cruise participants away.

May's cruise to Martin Island was a washout for most because of the weather. Dave Peoples' weather presentation at the May meeting was quite captivating. The women of CRACA continued to participate in the Ladies Cruise, while the men that same weekend attended the Tomahawk Bay Swap Meet and breakfast.

The new docks at Bartlett Landing provided the perfect venue for June's cruise. Many CRACA members took advantage of the Friday Night Beer Can Races, that also began in June, to share their sport with friends. The Tomahawk Bay Moorage Antique boat Show which featured a WWII PT boat, wooden runabouts and several wooden yacht all open for boarding attracted several club members who used the event to get together.

July's cruise to Sandy Island left the hosts wondering where everyone was, while the impromptu cruise to Bartlett Landing drew several boats. The Catalina 25/250 National Regatta organized by our very own Gary Bruner and Terry Annis was hugely successful and involved many CRACA

members either as competitors or as organizers.

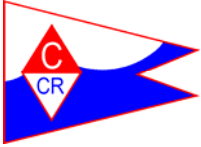
Our annual August trek upriver to Beacon Rock continued to be popular with crews. Catalina participation in the OWSA Women's Race was encouraging to see, as was CRACA participation in the SYSCO One-Design Regatta.

September was a busy sailing month for many. The Catalina Rendezvous had a strong showing, helped by a visit from Gerry Douglas, the Chief Designer at Catalina Yachts. CRACA's participation at the Sail for the Cure continued to grow in 2004 as the event proved once again to be a great excuse to get out on the water with family and friends.

Weather once again conspired against our cruising plans, but those who braved the elements reported having a great time on October's cruise to Coon Island.

May the 2005 sailing season provide you lots of opportunities to enjoy your boat and this sport we call sailing.

Dale Mack, Commodore



Columbia River All Catalina Association
16405 NE 38th St.
Vancouver, WA 98682

**NO
CRACA Meeting
In December**

 **CRACA Holiday Party Potluck** 

Saturday, December 11, 2004
4 pm to 8 pm @ RCYC

CRACA will furnish appetizers, lasagna (both meat and veggie), and cheese cake. Please bring your favorite salad to share, and your own beverages.

You are invited to participate in the Gift Exchange. Gifts should be in the \$10 to \$15 range.

In the spirit of giving, we will be collecting food for the Oregon Food Bank.

Rose City Yacht Club
3737 NE Marine Drive
Portland, OR 97211