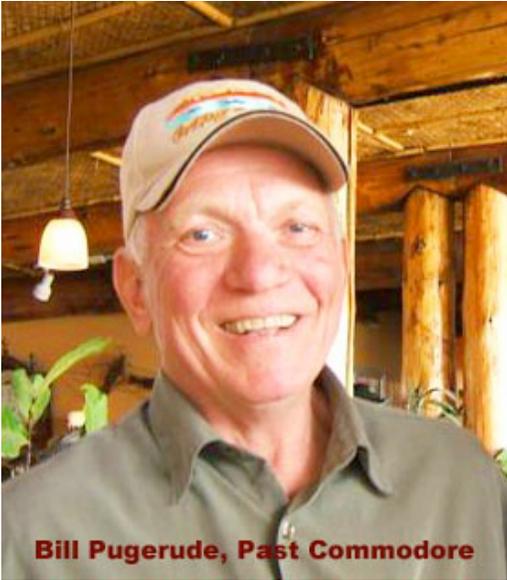


2008 LIYC YEAR IN REVIEW



Bill Pugerude, Past Commodore

We began our 30th year with January's potluck meeting hosted by Doug and Lisa Cram; Michael Bainbridge from Boat US gave the presentation. Surprisingly, some of us old salts picked up new information about boating. It was very educational.

At our February meeting, Fred Nielson presented a video made by Gary Zerst highlighting the Junior Sailing Programs. The Islander served up their famous prime rib and seafood fettuccine and was hosted by Lorrie Johnson and Albert Wampler.

Our March meeting featured Brent Charnley, owner and award winning winemaker of Lopez Island Vineyards. Held at the Golf Club, this wine-tasting event was hosted by Dick and Barbara Reiswig. Over 40 members attended this informative and humorous event.

In April, Jim and Shanley Lett presented the "LIYC's Year in Review" slideshow. It is always interesting to go on the hunt for a picture of yourself. The Islander Resort catered the easy fare dinner. The next day, Bill LaPorte checked our fire extinguishers and few days later we joined a larger group, headed by Nick Teague with the Bureau of Land Management, and helped clean our own island. This event was held in conjunction with Friends of the San Juan and their 4th annual Earth Day event.

May's Opening Day is always a great time with the Friday Harbor Sailing Club as our guests at the Islander. The FHSC members were prepared with indoor activities so we could get out of the rain. Of course, one could expect rain with the Opening Day theme of "A Day at the Beach!!" The sailors in our own club conducted sailboat races during the beautiful afternoon. The weather got so nice; we delayed the dinner by an hour. The sailing trophy went to Norris Palmer. (You know, the guy from FHSC, famous for his rendition of "White Rabbit") As is customary with Opening Day, the Vice Commodore, Bill White and his wife, Carole, hosted the event.

In June, we went to Sidney, BC, for the Commodore's Cruise, hosted by yours truly and my bride, Glenda Pugerude. The marina raft with the tent was not available, so the marina provided the floating room with fancy furniture and a wet bar. On Saturday evening, we had a good time at Mary's Blue Moon Cafe with 35 members participating. June was also the month for the Annual Clam Bake, which was actually clam chowder this year and hosted by Dave and Judy Welker.

July, which is a busy month for everyone, was not any less so for yacht club members. Dedicated volunteers built the parade float, under the direction of Ed Carpenter. The theme this year was "Broad Stripes and Bright Stars" which prompted Ed to create a skit about the Battle of Fort McHenry, where Francis Scott Key was inspired to write the poem that became "The Star Spangled Banner." And yes, there were dancing girls, which Ed claims is his winning ticket. Judy Welker organized the marching, flag-twirling drill team. Thanks to the 40+ volunteers, the LIYC brought home 1st place in "Best in Theme." This is the fifth year in a row that we've earned a float award!

LIYC volunteers collected \$1,250 from boaters and spectators for the fireworks fund. These were volunteers from our club and not a yacht club function. So thanks goes out to them because the whole island benefits from their efforts.

The guys at IMC were moving a floating contraption across Fisherman's Bay while Dave Welker was at home looking out his window. He made a deal with them to use the raft for our first "raft

party." Members powered, sailed, rowed and hitched a ride to the float where a good time was had cooking, visiting, eating, and enjoying the sun's warm rays.

The Welkers also organized July's LaConner cruise. You do not need a boat to participate in LIYC functions. Some people hitched a ride by boat or car. Also in July, there was an appreciation night for LIYC member to use the Junior Sailing Club sailboats. I want to note here, that thanks to volunteer donations by individual club members, LIYC was able to present to the Lopez Island Family Resource Center's Junior Sailing Program, \$760 throughout the year.

In August, the North Cruise didn't necessarily go as planned. It started out with the Letts having fuel problems, which left them stranded in open waters. Luckily the Weedons were close behind and came to their rescue! The remainder of the cruise was "Lettless" and they were greatly missed. The remaining members carried on and ventured into the Canadian waters of Otter Bay, Montague, Telegraph Harbor, Ladysmith and Maple Bay. The weather was perfect and down right hot! Many activities such as hiking, shopping, renting mopeds, eating French and Indian cuisine, experiencing the Hummingbird Bus ride and Pub, watching the moonrise and an encounter with an aggressive Deer left them looking forward to next year's North Cruise. (Thank you Lisa Cram for the North Cruise update.)

August's Annual Pugerude Picnic got changed to Patos Island to celebrate the 100th Year birthday of the Patos Island Lighthouse. It was dismal weather, but members Jay and Jane Simonson represented the club with valor.

"Foul Play" on the Friendly Isle" was the entertainment for our September meeting, which was hosted by Rod Duncan and Karen Bistrin. We all dressed in black and the decorations were funeral black bows with bouquets of dead flowers sprinkled with an occasional axe. (We couldn't find a meat grinder for a centerpiece.) I was amazed that so many people saw the Rolf Neslund murder documentary for the first time. If you missed it, you can probably check out a copy at the library.

The Welkers, who were hosts for the September Blakely Cruise and Crab Feed, were very thorough with reservations, planning, preparations, and follow up with Blakely Marina and Friday Harbor Sailing Club. However, through no fault of our own, the Blakely people managed to double book the facility. Our Rear Commodore received a call from FHSC, who were the first to arrive at Blakely, informing him that the Bellingham Wheels and Keels were "in place" at the facility. Within a very short time, the Welkers had it all relocated to the Islander's Resort and Marina. Everyone had a great time (at our home base.)

In October Sam and Gayl Beller hosted the meeting. Bill White presented a documentary on The Patos Island Lighthouse restoration. He and a few other guys completed the job that summer. The November meeting was a potluck and was hosted by Bob and Lynn Hall. It was a relaxed setting and we watched parts of the Warren Miller comedy about boaters. (We are a humorous group.)

Our Christmas party was a little bit different this year with a catered dinner at the Islander Resort. Bill Diller was our host and arranged for a wonderful prime-dinner, music and dancing. Toward the end of the evening the party shifted into the ever-popular karaoke mode.

This year's "Bent Prop" award went to Paul and Gloria sands that were fortunately in Arizona, so they couldn't defend themselves. The "Commode-A-Dore" award went to the Welkers for obvious reasons.

Thanks to all the many members and volunteers who made this another great year.

Bill Pugerude

2008 LIYC Commodore