

Commodore's Corner

Happy Spring Everyone!

The warm and sunny weather we have had recently has certainly helped to push memories of the wet and rather gloomy winter away. Time to get the decks cleaned and shake out the sails.

There is an exciting sailing season ahead for CS West members. To continue to receive the latest information and updates, remember to renew your membership. Stephanie has reminded us again and provided the information.

Mark your calendars for the May long weekend rendezvous and AGAM at Port Browning Marina, May 20 to 23, 2016. The marina has changed hands and the new owners are the Mill Bay Marine Group.

When Bob and I spoke to the fellow at the Port Browning booth at the boat show in January, it sounded like many positive changes were planned. The new website at: <u>www.portbrowning.ca</u> has photos of the docks and the derelict boats at the bottom of the ramp appear to be gone (also see <u>www.portbrowning.ca</u>/ <u>development</u>). The first major change was to be a renovation of the cafe with the pub being left as is for now. The website doesn't make mention of that so we will see when we get there. The new docks and electrical service will not be ready for the 2016 boating season as they are reconfiguring the docks and must get permits etc. The docks are a priority though. Baby back ribs are still on the menu! Mary Ellen is finalizing the details with the new manager and registration will start soon.

The May rendezvous is also our AGM. All executive positions are elected from the membership and are open to nominations from the floor at any AGM. Two executive positions will become vacant this year. We are seeking volunteers for the positions of Treasurer and Membership. Ken Carey and Keith Pettican have given notice that they are stepping down in May. Thank you, Ken and Keith. You have both done a great job and we very much appreciate the work you have

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done for CS West. Ken leaves us with a good basic system for tracking our finances and he will happy to help the new Treasurer learn to use the system. The Membership director works with Stephanie Greer to maintain the membership lists and manage renewals. Please consider volunteering for one of these positions. The work doesn't take a great deal of time and it really is a fun bunch of people to work with!

Speaking of people... A big Thank You to Henry Kucera for the tech blog on our website. Timely topics





and great information. Also many thanks to Craig Meredith for the excellent articles about CS West that appeared in several local marine publications last fall. The articles gave CS West good exposure and were well written.

The fall Official Rendezvous will be at Telegraph Harbour Marina on Thetis Island, August 26 to 28. Mary Ellen will have the details out to us later in the year but in the meantime, mark the dates and plan to come to a fun weekend of bocce, boat touring, great company and ice cream. Somehow, bocce and ice cream just go together and the Bistro ice cream counter does a roaring business when the bocce tournament is going on. CSers take their bocce very seriously - and their ice cream. Hopefully this year will see just enough wind for pleasant sailing and not the wild winds of last year.

Your comments and suggestions are always welcome. Please send your ideas or comments to me or any member of the executive. Check out the website at: www.csyachtswest.org

Happy haul-outs and spring cleaning.

Kathie Thompson, Commodore

Mini Rendezvous or Unofficial Official Rendezvous

A rendezvous of CSs occurs whenever there are two or more CSs in the same harbour at the same time. A great opportunity to meet, greet, compare boats and just have fun with others with taste in boats that is as good as yours.

Summer Mini Rendezvous in the Gulf Islands

July 9 & 10 Genoa Bay. Good anchorage and a really good restaurant. A small mountain to climb and nice walking.

July 23 & 24 Winter Cove. Good anchorage and nice walking trails and roads.

Aug. 10 & 11 Montague Harbour, south end. Good anchorage. Nice walks in the parks and a pub a short bus ride away (the pub supplies the bus).

Sept. 10 & 11 Long Harbour, top end. Good anchorage. No shore access but quiet.

There will always be a CS boat at each rendezvous. Look for HERON (36T) or WIND DANCER (36T) or both. Pot luck happy hour starts around 5:00 on the Saturday and lasts as long as the food and conversation hold out. Dinner is often not necessary.

The more the merrier!

CS36 Merlin Owners Manual

The owner's manual for the CS36 Merlin is now posted on the CS West website: www.csyachtswest.org. It is in the Technical section in the black bar at the top of the page. Thanks to Bill Loach, SV Jewel II, for scanning and sharing this document with CS West. It looks like the CS 22 is the only manual missing from our records. Does anyone have one to share with CS West?

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MEMBERSHIP



It is time to renew your CS West memberships for 2016. The financial year runs from January to December. Some of you renewed at the fall rendezvous or November dinner meeting. If you are not sure, just reply to me and I will check your status.

Sent a cheque for \$30. made out to CS Yacht Owners West to:

Keith Pettican, 105-245 West 15th Street, North Vancouver, B.C. V7M 1S3

Keith will send you a membership card and list. If you need a new CS burgee, add \$15.

Let us know of any changes to address, phone number, email, and boat name or location.

Email List:

I maintain our group email list <u>cs-west@lists.ubc.ca</u>

Only those whose emails have been added to the UBC database can send or receive messages using this address –thus preventing spam. Please let me know if you change your email address.

This list is used for upcoming events and the exchange of CS information. Questions are O.K. but use the "Reply All" with discretion.

The technical discussions are best held using the CSOA listserv. See http// www.closereach.com/csoa/ for signon info.

Some of you have not been members of CS West for several years. There has been a suggestion that I should cull the list--so be forewarned.

New Members

Here are our new members:

<u>Owner</u> Leslie Nord	Boat Schatzele (30)	<u>Location</u> Fisherman's Wharf, Victoria.
Julian Darwin & Jamie Kertay	Near Gale (36)	Skyline Marian, Anacortes.
Alex Nicholl.	Interlude II (36)	Campbell River
Wayne Parfitt & Janet Sparling	Slip Stream II	North Saanich Marina

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CS Boats for Sale April 2016				
	Location	<u>Contact</u>		
C27 Carriad.	Nanaimo.	Charlesdavidyachts@telus.net Charles Peterson 1-877-535-0151		
Light Spirit	Vancouver	David Record (604)584-1260 sandrare@vcn.bc.ca		
CS30 La Gabrielle.	Thunderbird	Marine <u>http://www.thunderbirdmarine.com/boat-info.php?ID=4274</u> Contact Tim Furze 778-241-1963		
CS33 New Beginnin	ngs Cowichar	n Bay Yacht Sales West 250-656-6644		
CS36 Tradit FarFetch.		ove John Amy 250-468-7555 john@proflyer.com		
Four Sisters.	Comox	Chris Diamond. 250-897-4930 diamondcsm@hotmail.com		
Gadgets (½ p	oartner)	\$35,000. Derek Wolff derekow53@gmail.com		
Generation.	Vancouver.	Arash Sharifi. arash@aplusautomotive.ca		
Saracen	Otter Bay, Pender Island Frank Eadie 604-250-0540 feadie@shawbiz.ca			
Trelawney 1	Point Robert	s. Phil Cocking 604-420-4295 pcocking@telus.net		
CS40 Scorpio	Marine Serv	ice Center, Seattle Dan Kreier, 206-369-3348 dankreier@marinesc.com		
		of any CS 40's for sale. If you have a CS 40 and are considering selling, I fo –and add you to the list.		
II <u>C</u> '1'	g.			
Happy Sailing				

Looking for a partner to share ownership of Gadgets -- a 36-foot sailing sloop (CS 36-T 1983). Gadgets is currently moored (secure long term moorage) in False Creek and has been well maintained with upgrades since purchased in 2010. Insurance Survey 2016. Asking: \$35,000 for ½ ownership Contact Derek by e-mail at (derekow53@gmail.com) or phone 604-538-4858.

Studying the Environmental Impact of Small Craft Harbours

(The following articles is from Fisheries and Oceans Canada http://dfo-mpo.gc.ca/science/publications/article/2016/02-05-16-eng.html)

With hundreds of public and private marinas and small craft harbours dotting the British Columbia coast, it is no wonder that most residents don't give them too much thought. They are just another part of the geography and landscape of this part of Canada. But like many other development activities they can be a cause for concern from an ecological perspective. That's where The Centre for Aquaculture & Environmental Research (CAER) comes into the picture. CAER is a specialized centre for aquaculture and environmental research with staff from Fisheries and Oceans Canada, the University of British Columbia and the Vancouver Aquarium. With laboratory facilities located in West Vancouver, CAER is recognized internationally as a centre dedicated to innovative research and education in aquaculture and the marine environment.

Research scientist Steve Macdonald is the Senior Officer at CAER and leads a staff of 30 students, technicians and scientists. In recent years Dr. Macdonald, along with colleagues such as research biologist Dr. Herb Herunter, has taken on a number of coastal habitat research programs. One such program is a long-term examination of the environmental impact of small craft harbours.

The idea of using small craft harbours was a strategic choice because they are the responsibility of Fisheries and Oceans Canada and Transport Canada. There are more than 1,000 of them across the country, with about 114 on the west coast. Most of the facilities have been developed and funded to support the inshore fishing industry and recreational boaters who live in the area.

Dr. Macdonald: "Our program is generally interested in coastal development, not just the specific impact of small craft harbours. However, they really are tiny petri dishes - microcosms that are representative of coastal development in general. Plus they are convenient for us to look at because of our jurisdictional responsibility and we have complete control over setting up experimental designs." Dr. Macdonald points out that, "This work is critical because you can't regulate something you don't understand. And the way we are tackling this project is to try to understand the ecological processes that go on in coastal environments that have been perturbed by harbour development. We are trying to get to the point where we provide informed advice to the folks who make decisions about how development will proceed." There are a number of fundamental questions they are trying to answer. Such as: what sort of habitat alteration are these harbours imposing on the environment? And, are they being constructed in such a manner that they are at least ecologically benign or even perhaps creating habitat?

The first thing they did was review the number of harbours in existence, how old they were, what sorts of features they had, and how large they were. They decided to focus on three harbours, based on ease of access, and the range of break-water types being used since breakwaters are invariably part of small harbour infrastructure. Their initial selection included the harbours at Lund, Cowichan Bay and Port Hardy.

There are two major types of breakwaters. One is riprap or the rubble mound breakwater, which is simply a wall of piled rocks. Their construction will frequently smother soft-bottom communities but also create habitat for sub-tidal and inter-tidal communities that adhere to consolidated rock. Another type used in deeper water is the floating breakwater. Some of these are made with old propane tanks or hulls of old vessels but the best ones are concrete barges with draughts of three to four meters. They float with perhaps a half meter of freeboard and involve a maze of anchors. These too can smother or at least shade the bottom environment but their placement can also provide a substrate for aquatic communities. *(Continued on next page)*



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The balance between the value of habitat that is lost to that being created is a complicated equation but ultimately will inform management outcomes. Harbour construction generally reduces unconsolidated habitats with soft-bottom communities and creates vertical environments more suited for communities that adhere to solid substrate. However, the communities created may be very rich and self-supporting.

By many measures the breakwaters can result in additional productivity. Dr. Macdonald: "Both Herb and I have been impressed with the amount of growth that appears very quickly on breakwaters - as well as on docks. You will get animals that come and create habitat for other animals because there is new food and shelter. One of the things that I get a kick out of is just looking at how thick these mats (communities that grow along breakwaters and docks) are - and how the thickness of these mats changes with time and exposure. There is pretty good evidence that these mats, with their large invertebrate growths, are creating habitat for other animals. Harbour construction promotes the development of communities that engineer the ecosystem in their own right."

A sampling device attached to a long cable allows the collection of a three dimensional portion of the bottom environment from the research vessel. Once the retrieved material is filtered with a pump and water, a sample of macro invertebrates is ready for observation and identification with the aid of a microscope back in the laboratory. Another devise takes scrapings off the rock breakwaters to get some idea of what is growing on the hard substrate. These are also sorted and identified. All in all, there is quite a demand for taxonomic knowledge, knowing how to identify large numbers of invertebrates from many different taxonomic groups.

Dr. Macdonald adds, "Our experimental design is based heavily on having reference sites adjacent to the harbour treatments where physical conditions such as exposure, salinity, current and temperature are similar but the harbour structures are absent. In other words, for every sample in the harbour, we take another at an undisturbed location close by, where physical characteristics are the same as the survey site. In addition to the influence of breakwaters we also consider boat launches, and docks and the urban development that services the marine industry. As we gather information from an increasing number of reference locations a more complete picture emerges of the invertebrate communities in unperturbed shallow coastal sub-tidal environments around the Pacific Coast. Having a general sense of natural community structure and variability is a precursor to evaluating impact severity."

He also notes that they are developing an experimental design that they hope will allow them to - in addition to looking at the fine taxonomic detail in a few harbours - to do synoptic surveys. These surveys would sample with less resolution, focusing on indicators proven sensitive to habitat impact, freeing up the time to sample on a wider spatial and temporal scale. For example, species diversity or the presence of an easily sampled, identifiable and sensitive species may provide interpretable statistical patterns and have biological meaning over a broad area or time period. Both time and money can be saved in the process.

Dr. Macdonald noted, "We are not trying to stand in the way of the development. We know the value of harbours to the marine industry – and we also know with climate change and sea level rise there will be a lot of pressure to protect communities with riprap and dikes at the expense of natural lowlands. We hope to be in a position to make recommendations as to how to protect people's property and build the infrastructure necessary to service the recreational and coastal fishing industry while at the same time preserving the natural values that are initially responsible for attracting people to these coastal habitats."

With all the activity and development going on - above and below the water in small craft harbours – it is clear these surveys provide important feedback to policy makers as they wrestle with the twin objectives of protecting the marine environment and promoting sustainable use and development.





Your CS Yacht Owners West 2015-16 Executive

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Website: http://www.csyachtswest.org

Please Patronize Our Supporters

Currently, five West Coast chandleries offer discounts ranging up to 15% to CS West members. They are:

- Steveston Marine at all its lower mainland stores (you'll have to be on their mailing list to receive the discount - see the website)
- Massey's Marine Supply in Ladner,
- All Bay Marine in Sidney
- Waypoint Marine in Sidney, and
- The Harbour Chandler in Nanaimo.

As well, CS West members are entitled to a 10% discount at:

- Quadrant Marine Institute in Sidney off its seminars and at-home courseware,
- JM Marine Canvas in Victoria off all its canvas products and services, and
- UK Halsey Sailmakers in Sidney off all goods and services, including specials.

Please refer to the website for the latest list of supporters and, whenever possible, patronize them.

