

Editor's Musings

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I'm happy to research other clubs. As you members participate in the events of other clubs, perhaps you can glean ideas from their members. Or, if you have been around other clubs and have noted ideas, please share them. I would be pleased to hear any ideas you have. Let's make WSC the best it can be! --Carol Ann Crowley, Editor

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If you have sent photos via e-mail in the past, please consider going to our new photos page, which gives details about how to upload them into the gallery area Paul established.

And, as always, if you have any questions about or problems with the WSC site, do write and let me know. -- Pamela Hanford, WSC Webmistress

Regatta Kudos from the Park Service



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United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

WHISKEYTOWN UNIT

WHISKEYTOWN-SHASTA-TRINITY NATIONAL RECREATION AREA

P.O. BOX 188

WHISKEYTOWN, CA 96095-0188

May 26, 2009

Dennis,

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All look clean with no damage.

Jim Richardson

(Dennis, congrats on a great event. Enclosed is your returned \$1000. All looked clean with no damage. Jim Richardson)

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Membership: \$25/yr



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CORRECTIONS, ARTICLES welcome

A Word from your Commodore

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--Carol Anne Crowley, Editor
Denise Cambon would like to crew and can be contacted at 244-5001.

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August 8th

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Sunset Plaza
Hwy 299 West

Hank Jotz

Sailmaker

*P.O. Box 1072
Weaverville, CA 96093*

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If you have any questions call me at 224-1675. Come and enjoy! --Ron Hanford

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Whiskeytown

Sailing Club

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2105 Churn Creek Rd
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(530) 222-3034

*for their kindness and generosity
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*Harry and Andy Heidel, Kipp's
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--Carol Ann Crowley



WHISKEYTOWN

SAILING CLUB NEWS JUNE 30, 2009



Kelly drives through Glacier Bay, Jake pulls strings (A.P. Crupi photo)

SOUTH EAST ALASKA: SAILING ON *SURPRISE*

JAKE AND KELLY WELD'S TRIP REPORT FROM JUNEAU, AK

Names like Icy Strait, Sitakaday Narrows, and Beartrack Cove call to mind a vast and frozen wilderness, intimidating in the water, dangerous on the land. Alaska: the land of the midnight sun, where seeing both sunset and sunrise means only getting a 3 hour nap, the home of the Inside Passage, the wild lands of the Tongass National Forest, the towering 15,000' peaks of the Fairweather Range, and of course, Glacier Bay National Park.

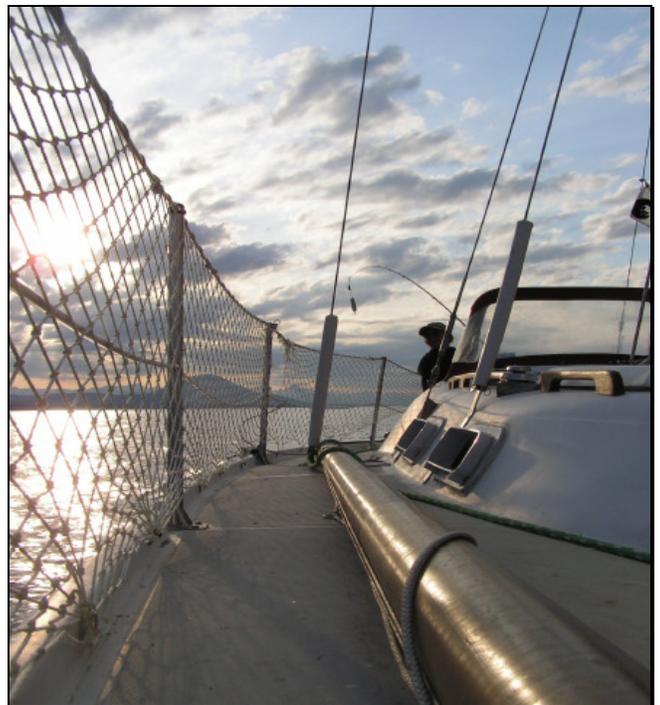
For two weeks in June, Kelly and I had the opportunity to explore this incredible area aboard *Surprise*, an early '70's Cal 3-30 racer/cruiser owned by our in-laws in Juneau, AK. In fact, this was a full-value boating trip, starting with 2 days of yard work, including mixing epoxy and re-fairing the keel, a full bottom job, topside paint, and some rigging work completed just in time for Wednesday

Night Beer Cans in Gastineau Channel. After working out the bugs the next day, we headed out for a delivery around Douglas Island, down Stephen's Passage, to Auke Bay, on the NW side of Juneau. Over the next 2 weeks we sailed Stephen's Passage 4 times, twice in each direction. Each time was under a full spinnaker. Perfect.

After loading provisions in Auke Bay, including all four adults and the two kids (age 2 and 4), we headed out on a week-long cruise under beautiful blue skies, with the blue ice of the glaciers around Juneau gleaming in the sun.

Over the next 6 days we anchored out all but one night, fished, dropped crab and shrimp pots, saw brown and black bear, sea otters, sea lions, humpback whales, puffins, eagles, porpoise, and new varieties of shore birds which I have yet to commit to memory.

Checking in and out of Glacier Bay National Park was quick and easy, and the limitations on boats in the park resulted in an almost solitary exploration - we saw two tour boats in four days for a total of 10 minutes. (see pg. 4)



Kelly drives through another 4 hour sunset

(J. Weld photo)

Weld trip report, cont. One day steady winds allowed for a gorgeous spinnaker run down the heart of Glacier Bay, while pictures were snapped from the dingy. The next morning Surprise topped 12 knots over land as she rode back down the bay and the wind at hull speed on top of a 6 knot current.

Although leaving the solitude and raw beauty of Glacier Bay was difficult, the process was eased with a swing past Point Adolphus, where we drifted silently through a pod of whales, and our niece learned “what sound does a whale make?” (Answer: a deep “Hrrrwhooshhaahh” combined with 2-year-old spittle). In fact, every day we were on the boat we saw whales, but it was only off Point Adolphus that we got to ride whale wakes, the ripples left after they surfaced, then dove, 40’ off our beam.

After returning to Juneau and re-organizing and cleaning the boat and the people, in that order, the 6 of us headed out again for a fun weekend of racing with SEAS (South East Alaska Sailing). The race was on, and with Kelly trimming and calling boats, Anthony feathering the helm of Surprise, and me trying to do Algebra for a 10,000 lb. sailboat on the fly (Rate=Time X Distance means we should be where at the 5 minute gun?), Surprise took the gun and jumped off to an early (and well defended) lead for the 12 mile race to Admiralty Cove. Eventually 10 race boats were joined by 5 more cruisers, a few thousand mosquitoes, about 60 sailors, a couple of dogs, and a keg of beer for a great party on the shores of Admiralty Cove. After a night on the hook, we all raced back to Juneau the next day, but the wind quit before the tide changed, and colorful spinnakers were traded in for iron gennys.

A remarkable sailing venue, Alaska offers a boater’s paradise of wilderness, wildlife, and waterways. We consider ourselves lucky, not just because we got to go sailing, but also because the only two days of rain we saw were scheduled shore days, and we spent over 12 sunny days on the boat. That is 7 more sunny days than Juneau had ALL last summer! Surprise is a sound and sturdy vessel, well suited for both cruising and racing, and Kelly and I dream of when we can make it back up to crew for the Spirit of Adventure Race, a multi-day, multi-stage 250 mile circumnavigation of Admiralty Island raced over the summer

solstice. Under her previous owner *Surprise* acquired quite a collection of pickle dishes, most from winning that race, and tugging on her sheets gives me the distinct impression that she’d love to do it again.



Halyards hoist more than headsails! (L. Crupi photo)

As is true with all successful sailing excursions, the journey was made most memorable because of the people. Watching our niece and nephew screech with delight as they swung, Peter-Pan-style, through the shrouds from halyards clipped to their pfd’s, hearing the joy of a boy’s first fish (30” cod), and watching relatively new boat owners smile the smile of perfect contentment as their boat took us on new and wonderful adventures, were the highest highlights of the trip.

Well, that and port tacking the fleet to take the start and leading the spinnaker run...

--Jake and Kelly Weld

SMALL BOAT SAILING SESSION FOR BSA JULY 11TH

Don’t forget the Small Boat Sailing session for the Boy Scout Small Boat Sailing merit badge to be held on July 11th, starting at 8:00 A.M. Actual sailing will probably not start until close to 9:00 A.M. Scouts learn sailing from rigging to righting.

There will also be the scheduled Pursuit Race that evening at 6 P.M. Please do join the group to learn, contribute, or congratulate.

Also, don’t forget to check with Ken Berryman, berrymanks@charter.net, about being a certified instructor.

Visit <http://usscouts.org/mb/mb105.asp> if you would like to know more about scouts.

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