

Bergy Bits & Growlers

Kenai Fjords Yacht Club

PO Box 2505 Seward, Alaska 99664

April 2006

2006 Officers

Commodore

Sue Kaanta, 224-7206

Vice Commodore

Don Withrow, 230-5281

Treasurer

Iris Johnson, 224-3675

Secretary

Colleen Kelly, 224-3589

Members At-Large

Norma Floyd, 696-1041
Mark Kansteiner, 224-3589

Welcome, New Members!

David & Sherrie Allen, Chugiak
Victoria Berdon, Bloomington IN
Philip Kaluza, Anchorage
Joseph Krasnansky, Pierceton IN
Georgianna Nevers, Seward
Karen Sullivan, Anchorage
Richard & Carol Todd, Ft. Rich

At the March meeting, club members voted against raising annual dues. Instead, members pledged to swell the ranks. In fact, the goal is to double the membership this year. More members makes for more camaraderie. Here, here! The \$10 dues remain unchanged from when the club formed in 1987.

Mark Your Calendars



April 29-30: KFYC Raft-Up in Thumb Cove

May 6: Super Saturday Clean-Up in Seward. Call Commodore Sue to volunteer to pitch in.

May 20-21: Harbor Opening Weekend hosted by Harbor Business Ass'n.

June 24: Summer Solstice Meeting and BBQ

Guests are always welcome at all KFYC meetings & events!

Does your membership card say 2006? If not, it's expired!

Commodore re-elected at annual meeting

Sue Kaanta was re-elected commodore at the Kenai Fjords Yacht Club annual membership meeting March 18 at the Breeze Inn. Also re-elected were Don Withrow as vice commodore and Iris Johnson as treasurer. Colleen Kelly is the new secretary, while Mark Kansteiner and Norma Floyd will serve as members at-large. Iris reported the savings account stands at \$1,512.74, while the checking account has \$733.

Harbor news: "R" is our new fuel dock. The ramp to X dock will be in place the end of March along with power to the new slips on J, F & D. John Flood reported that the new 25-ton travel lift has been ordered.

Bill Ennis has volunteered to set-up and manage a Website for the Club. Members decided to wait to find out how much the monthly web-hosting charge would be for us.

The attending members decided to NOT have the Club buy a round for those in attendance for the first time in recent memory.

Parking fees hold steady

Seward City Council members have voted unanimously against changing the cost of a slipholder's pass and an employee's pass for the harbor parking lot. There had been a proposal to increase the annual fee to \$100. A few people spoke against the idea, saying that a 300% price hike was a bitter pill to swallow, especially after slipholders were dealt a moorage rate increase recently.

Council members said any talk about a price change should be delayed until budget discussions this fall. So although we're all breathing a sigh of relief, don't forget to stay tuned for budget discussions in October and voice your opinions at that time.

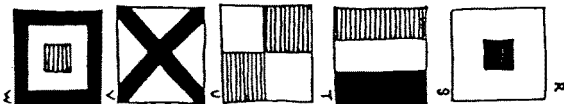
Dock cart combo will change

The dock cart combination is 2853, which will be good until the June newsletter when it will be changed. Renew your membership now to stay in the know. Otherwise, this will be the last newsletter you will receive.

Keep an eye out for dock carts that need attention. Please remember to leave the cable locked to the railing at the top of the ramp, so the cable and lock don't disappear. Also, leave carts tipped up to drain the water.

Chill out at April 29-30 Raft-Up

It's Spring! Time to take your vessel out for a spin on Resurrection Bay and hang out with your yacht club buddies at Thumb Cove. The Kenai Fjords Yacht Club Raft-Up is set for Saturday and Sunday, April 29-30. Load your boat with food, drink, musical instruments and friends. And maybe even bring a little bit of firewood to toss on the bonfire.



Progress continue on Mariners' Memorial

Former commodore and longtime club member Nina Daley was in Seward recently with husband Phil Cowan as they were returning from their cabin on Lake Louise to their home in Homer. Nina dropped off a 62-page book, "Seafarer's Memorial" A Tribute to the Living and the Lost," that describes, from start to finish, the work involved in creating the Homer Seafarer's Memorial on the Homer Spit. The book was written by the late Drew Scalzi, who was very instrumental in the construction and design of the memorial, which features a bronze statue of a mariner beneath a copper dome that covers the open-sided pavilion.

In her two years as commodore, Nina worked diligently to pursue the idea of a mariners' memorial for Seward. Commodore Sue Kaanta attended two recent meetings of the Seward Planning and Zoning Commission in a successful attempt to obtain a resolution of support for the project. Sue also reports the yacht club has received 13 letters of support from the community for the proposal. Anyone interested in donating to the project, can do so at First National Bank. The Mariners' Memorial Account is listed under the 2003 Seward Centennial Account #70339098.

Drew Scalzi, who died of cancer in 2005 shortly before the book was published, recounts how the Homer project got its start when members of the North Pacific Fisheries Association passed a resolution asking the City of Homer to donate land suitable for a seafarers' memorial. Scalzi explained how numerous businesses, individuals and organizations worked together to build the memorial, with much of the labor and materials being donated. Commemorative bricks were sold to raise the required cash. Finally, in 1996 during the annual Blessing of the Fleet, the Homer Seafarer's Memorial was dedicated.

Security cameras installed

You never know who's looking over your shoulder when you're on the docks of the Seward Small Boat Harbor. This spring, video surveillance cameras have been installed at a number of locations on the float system. The project was funded through a Homeland Security grant. Dispatchers at the Seward Police Department will be monitoring the cameras.

Some boat owners have remarked they hope it will cut down on instances of vandalism and theft in the harbor. Another boat owner grumbled, saying he'll no longer be able to take a late-night leak when the spirit urges him. It's the price of progress, I guess.

Is Your Boat Safe?
U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary, Seward Flotilla,
offers courtesy vessel safety inspections.
Call John French at 224-4429.