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# CAPS



## Catalina Association of Puget Sound Newsletter

### September 2009

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### Commodore's Corner

By Dan Clawson

As summer starts to shift into fall the opportunities to get out on the water and particularly to cruise for a couple of days or more become more precious. **Auntie Beryl** has been to the San Juan Islands where we visited with **Alo**, **Branwen**, and **Jaded** on Stuart Island and discovered the joys of crabbing and watching orcas parade around San Juan Island.

We are looking forward to the upcoming cruises to Poulsbo, Bremerton and Brownsville and hearing about other cruises and experiences, as well as our own South Sound cruise in late September. Should be plenty of fall color by then and we hope still some decently dry days.

Thoughts also turn to hauling out the boat and taking care of maintenance. Modern sailboats are well-built but sun, salt and moisture are relentless.

We still have the Couples Cook-Off to look forward to in October, races, the Christmas party, and two meetings coming up in '09. It will be great to see everyone and catch up on our adventures and misadventures – keep your ears open for deserving award-winners so the Broken Prop and Murphy's Law awards can have new homes at the Awards Banquet!



### Imagine! A Crabby Birthday Cruise With CRAB!

By Sally Hamel

Yes, it really happened, we had crab for the Everett Crabby Birthday Cruise August 7-9, and even had several of the August birthday sailors on hand to help eat it. First, many thanks to Dave and Laurie Motter, new members who moor their C36 **Sweet Sue II** in Everett; they went out with their dinghy both Friday and Saturday and (with lots of local knowledge) caught enough crab so we even had a little bit left over, which, of course, (because they wouldn't let us get away with keeping any) we gave back so they could enjoy them another day.

But, back to the beginning.... Joe Sporcic and Evelyn Heaton on **Echo** were hosts, and they got there early Thursday. Barb and Roger Jenkins were on their way back from the San Juans on Friday when they pulled into the guest dock on **Jolly Roger**. Dick and Peg Eagle on **Aerie** and John and Sally Hamel on **Auntie Beryl** came in from Shilshole after them, and that took care

of the boats. That night Barb and Roger went out to dinner with their sister and brother-in-law from Marysville, which left the other three couples to share their pots of luck on **Auntie Beryl** -- a very filling and pleasant evening.

Saturday didn't bring any more boats, but Marilyn and Mike Parker stopped by before they took **Northern Light** down to Shilshole to sell -- good luck to them, but bad luck for CAPS. Barb Jenkins started telling her tale of woe to the first group -- and she had to keep telling it as more people arrived. She and Roger had been robbed at gunpoint in broad daylight in their own home! No, they weren't hurt; yes, they did lose some things; but, hurray, the perp was apprehended when he tried to pawn their stuff. Seems pawnbrokers have to report intakes directly to the police! So that kept the gathering interesting! Dave and Peggy Fend were first to drive up, then Cynthia Jones and Gordon Ellis, and, finally Rod Sparks (another Everett moorage customer). Jim Kitchen from Puget Sound Sail and Repair, our June speaker, has now bought a C30, so he came over to the gathering, too. Dave and Laurie Motter brought the crab (seasoned, yet) and the hors d'oeuvres complemented them beautifully. And Sally Hamel had made a cake for the celebrants (John Hamel, Peggy Fend, Peg Eagle and Barb Jenkins). We were all well-sated!



Although the weather wasn't balmy and beautiful, it (hardly) rained or blew, so no one was uncomfortable. Peg Eagle had to go to a meeting, so son Eric and friend helped Dick take **Aerie** back to Shilshole. **Echo** and **Jolly Roger** went straight back, but **Auntie Beryl** started sailing when they reached the marina, and went back and forth under jib alone until sunset -- must be that she has grown accustomed to that form of transportation from the salty example of Dan Clawson! Next cruise Poulsbo -- hope you've let them know you'll be there.



## Lifesling Practical Exercise

### By Dick Eagle

On August 29<sup>th</sup>, twelve fearless CAPS members arrived at Tom Madden's boat to experience the effort involved in pulling someone who has fallen overboard back into the boat. The day was overcast, and Lake Washington was calm.

Ken McKenzie (with his dry suit); Tom and Jenan Madden; Don and Claire Egge; Dan and Laura Clawson; Kevin Rambaldini, Kathi Jarboe (and their son); and Dick and Peg Eagle clambered aboard Tom's boat. Tom motored away from the dock into deeper water and the fun began.

The background situation for the exercise was this: Ken and Nancy were motoring on a calm day in Saratoga Passage. Nancy was at the wheel, and Ken was returning to the cockpit from the bow while reading a text message on his cell phone. In the message, he learns that a Japanese company has again won the World Whiskies Award for the best single malt whisky. Ken becomes so upset that he trips on the starboard jib sheet fairlead, and pitches overboard.

After a review of the use of a four-part block and tackle attached to the main halyard, Ken hopped into the water. The Lifesling was deployed, Ken put it on, and he was pulled back to the starboard side of the boat. Then each participant had the opportunity to crawl under the life lines, reach way down and attach the carabineer on the block and tackle to the D rings on the Lifesling. Once attached, the main halyard was tightened, the free line of the block and tackle was run through the starboard jib sheet fairlead and wrapped around the jib sheet winch. Ken went up and Ken went down, again and again and again!

It became clear to all that retrieving someone in the water by yourself is a daunting challenge, even in calm

water. We may see more jack lines, harnesses, and tethers in use by these attendees!



Many thanks to Tom and Jenan for the use of their boat, and to Ken for spending over an hour in the water! The only casualty was Ken's wetsuit. It will need repair. Well, the only casualty other than Laura Clawson. But, she said; "Now both legs match". So we won't get into that.... More pictures are on the CAPS website.

## September Events

Don't forget, we have the Poulsbo Cruise on September 4<sup>th</sup> - 7<sup>th</sup> (contact Evelyn Heaton for a slip assignment), the September CAPS meeting on September 11<sup>th</sup> (speaker to be announced), and the CAPS-CATSS Bremerton Rendezvous on September 18<sup>th</sup> - 20<sup>th</sup> (contact CATSS Lowell Anderson for dinner reservations).

<p><b>JULY</b></p> <p>Jul.3-5 <b>Gunkhole Anchor-out Marathon</b> — Liberty Bay Manzanita, Port Madison, <i>Poulsbo 3rd Fireworks</i> <b>NO MEETING GONE CRUISING</b></p>	<p><b>AUGUST</b></p> <p>Aug. 7-9 <b>Everett Cruise</b> Birthday and Crab Feast (If the season is still open) At the guest dock</p>	<p><b>SEPTEMBER</b></p> <p>Sep 4-7 <b>Poulsbo Cruise</b> CAPS &amp; CATSS</p> <p>Sept. 11 <i>Monthly Meeting</i> 6:30 Laurel Park</p> <p>Sept. 12 Sloop Tavern Jack &amp; Jill, Bremerton</p> <p>Sept. 18-20 <b>CAPS &amp; CATSS Catalina Rendezvous</b></p>
<p><b>OCTOBER</b></p> <p>Oct. 2-3 <b>Brownsville Cruise</b></p> <p>Oct. 10 <i>Monthly Meeting</i> Saturday Couples' Cook-off Laurel Park Program: TBA</p>	<p><b>NOVEMBER</b></p> <p>Nov. 13 <i>Monthly Meeting</i> 6:30 Laurel Park Program: TBA <b>Elections</b> <b>HAPPY THANKSGIVING</b></p>	<p><b>DECEMBER</b></p> <p>Dec. 5 <b>Annual Christmas Party Potluck and Gift Exchange</b> (Boat Gift and/or White Elephant) Laurel Park</p> <p>Dec. 31-Jan. 1 <b>Elliott Bay New Year's Cruise</b></p>

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