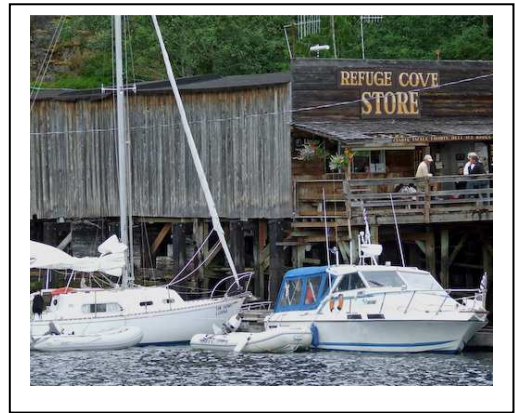


Commander's Report

July and August 2009



Another cruising season has come and gone and we now look forward to our Fall Boating class. Brentwood Bay Squadron had a host of activities throughout the summer to keep our participating members busy. You didn't require a boat for our summer kick off barbecue in June at the Airport Museum across the street from Mary's Blue Moon restaurant. It was a great day with parts being swapped and lots of hot dogs. If you missed it, you missed a great day. There is always next June.

In July we attended the Pig War in Roche Harbour. We had five boats altogether.

Len and Dawna Burton, Kathy McDougal *Dawna 2*.

Ron Harris and Janice Hayward and Winston on their newly acquired 45ft Hunter Sail boat *Ta Daa*.

David and Nita Else on *Baby Grand*.

Ken and Penny Carpenter on *Spindrift*.

Peter and Margaret Simpson, Len and Lynn Fallan, Paul and Rosemary Jeffery on *Senga*.

Unfortunately we lost this year, but as they say. "You can't win em all". It doesn't really matter if you win or lose it's the camaraderie of playing the games that kept things interesting.

Many thanks go out to Friday Harbour Squadron and to Commander Carolyn Bowen and PC Fred Bowen for hosting the Pig War in Roche Harbour. A great weekend was had by all. I wish I could say it was a calm crossing when we left on Sunday but a slight SW breeze tested our navigational skills in Haro Strait on our return to Tsehum Harbour.

On August 8th August we departed for Desolation Sound. A few boats had to drop out for various reasons. The boats participating were *Dawna 2* Len and Dawna Burton, *Gallivant* John and Gilly Maycock, *Spindrift* Ken and Penny Carpenter, *Wings* Herre and Henny Negenman, *Snoopy* Anne Mckinnel.

It was a great cruise. Our second day was a hold over for weather in Secret Cove.

Our cruise from Secret Cove to Refuge Cove in one day was bright and sunny with light winds. We overnighted at Refuge Cove the first night, then moved to Tenedoes Bay in the morning. The majority of our trip was spent on the hook in various bays and coves.

The highlights were swimming in Tenedoes Bay in 70° fah temperatures. A day trip to Teakern Arm and Cassel Lake falls and swimming in Cassel lake 72° fah. Two of our boats managed to get everyone to Teakern Arm and back safely. *Snoopy* skippered by Anne Mckinnel and *Gallivant* skippered by John Maycock. During the afternoon the wind freshened up somewhat but we managed to arrive back safe and sound to *Spindrift*, *Dawna 2* and *Wings* anchored in Tenedoes Bay. *Gallivant* rafted to *Spindrift* and *Snoopy* rafted to *Dawna 2*.

We spent a few days in Tenedoes Bay then moved on to Melanie Cove. Again *Wings*, *Dawna 2* and *Spindrift* anchored. *Gallivant* rafted to *Spindrift* and *Snoopy* rafted to *Dawna 2*. The time passed too

quickly. Everyone went exploring in their dinghies. Dawna and I spent our days gunk holing in our dinghy. We poked through Prideaux Haven, Laura Cove and Roscoe Bay.

We spent our last afternoon in our dinghies going to Unwin Lake in Tenedoes Bay. We didn't include Dawna and I. I was still getting over the hike to Cassel Lake. Ken and Penny went with us in our dinghy. John and Gilly in their dinghy. Dawna and I went fishing for the afternoon. Ken and Penny, John and Gilly made the half mile hike to the lake. At a pre arranged time we returned to pick up Ken and Penny. Anne in *Snoopy* decided to go exploring by herself to Toba wilderness lodge.

Most of the time we had no idea where Anne was. She is into photography and spent most of her days somewhere in Desolation Sound taking pictures. She would leave a note. "Gone exploring, back tonight". If I get caught in weather I'll beach the boat and pitch the tent. Don't worry. Signed A.

All to soon it was time to head back. We had a predicted weather window mid week for crossing Georgia Strait. Our trip down to Pender Harbour was again under bright clear sunny skies. The water was calm. The predicted weather for the crossing day was light to moderate winds in the morning, freshening to NW 20 in the afternoon.

The next morning I was up at 04:30 to check the weather. It was still predicted light to moderate NW winds. There was virtually no wind in Pender Hbr. at 05:00 so I decided to go. The strait was flat until we reached about eight miles from Nanaimo. Then a low NW swell of about 4 feet began. It lasted for about 30 minutes, then flattened as we entered Horswell Channel. John and Gilly on *Gallivant* had to return early and decided on Gabriola Pass and a straight shot on through to Sidney. It was a longer distance and more exposure in the middle of the strait.

We arrived at Nanaimo for the night. Anne on *Snoopy* decided to stay a few days with her parents. The next morning *Spindrift* and *Dawna 2* headed to Thetis Island for a few days. Our last night out on the hook was spent in Annette Inlet on Prevost Island. Our cruise lasted an incredible 16 days. In that 16 days we had one day of fog and one day of rain. The rest of the cruise was under sunny skies and light winds.

This is the third year that Snoopy the smallest boat has travelled with our group. 17 feet to Desolation Sound is quite an accomplishment.

As of this writing Squadron Members Ron Harris, Janice Hayward and Winston are circumnavigating Vancouver Island on *Ta Daa*.

Janice has filed a trip plan with me and checks in regularly. They departed Victoria August 29th.

Today Sept 8th they have transited through the Green Point and Whirlpool rapids . They will anchor in Forward Hbr for the next few days.

Remember to hoist the CPS flag and fly your Squadron Burgee.

Len Burton.