

INTERNATIONAL
RETIRED TUGBOAT ASSOCIATION

March 2007



www.retiredtugs.org

April Meet, Free Dues, and Other Club News!

Happy New Year,

It's late for my first letter of the year, but here goes.

I start on a sad note. Cec Rhodes passed away at the end of January. He has been fighting cancer for some time. I shall always remember him as kind, concerned and with a smile on his face. I don't ever remember him bad mouthing anyone, even though I'm sure he had good reason at times. He cared for the youth and did more than his share to see that they got a fair shake and some good maritime education. He had time for everyone and a remarkable memory for history.

A meeting of the International Retired Tugboat Association has been planned for the **weekend of April 21 at Port Orchard Marina**. There are restaurants, ice cream, antiques and bookstores. I will call the museum (2 blocks away) and see if it will be open. The marina is expecting us. Costs will be a \$5 registration fee and a nightly charge of 53 cents per foot. Electricity is \$4 per night, if you want it. We plan to go up on Friday afternoon. This is not Olympia Harbor Days or the Seattle tug races. It should be a quiet time to renew old acquaintances and make new ones. We are hoping that many of you will be there. We plan to have a potluck on Saturday afternoon.

There have been two meetings to discuss the future of our group. Most of the Canadians have joined the **Westcoast Work Boat Association**. Non-Canadians are welcome also. The membership fee is \$10. If you are interested, a membership application with the fee can be sent to the WWBA,

11880 Pilon Road, Ladysmith, B.C. They have a good website, **www.wwba.ca**. There is a membership form on the website. They are having meets in the spring and fall. The next WWBA meet is April 27-29 in Cowichan. You are all welcome.

We feel that we will become mostly a Puget Sound group, and we are planning our meets with that in mind. However, our Canadian friends are very welcome. We always love to see them. For years, our annual meet has been the first weekend in July. WWBA notes that many families have other plans on Dominion Day and the Fourth of July, so they plan their meets at other times. We need to decide if we want to have a July meet this year.

In the future we hope to communicate mostly by email. That seems to work well for other groups. If you can't do that, you will get our information by regular mail. We are going to hold off on dues for a time. There is money in the treasury to pay for a few newsletters. The newsletters will not be the style we were used to with Nita and Dee. Note: Take a minute and call or send Nita a note and say how much you appreciated her work.

Giles and Tracy on the OLMSTED have volunteered to act as editors to get the newsletter out. We appreciate their enthusiasm. We realize that communication is the key to holding the group together and that we have not done this well since Nita retired.

We hope that folks will come to Port Orchard and have input for the group. We have to decide

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About the IRTA

The International Retired Tugboat Association is a community of older, mostly retired, tugboats and work-boats. We get together to share tall tales and information about buying, selling, owning, maintaining, and appreciating these boats.

Membership

We are not collecting membership dues this year. We have enough in the treasury to send out the newsletter, so we are not requiring dues. Please keep us updated of your contact information and information about yourself, your boat, your location, etc. And, we hope to see you at a meet soon!

Email Us

If you have questions about the IRTA, Kae and Robin can be reached by email, at president@retiredtugs.org.

If you have any questions about the newsletter or the web site, please contact Tracy and Giles, at newsletter@retiredtugs.org.

If you would like to suggest other news or events that would be of interest to our group, please let us know.

IRTA Web Site!

More info, pictures, and more, are available at www.retiredtugs.org. Share your stories, pictures, questions, news and tall tales online!

(President's Message; continued from page 1)

how many times we want to meet during the year. Personally, we always enjoy seeing our retired tugboat friends and catching up on activities. Obviously, the tugboat races at the annual Olympia Harbor Days over Labor Day weekend leads to one of our largest gatherings. The Center For Wooden Boats in Seattle would like to talk about an annual meet at their facility on Lake Union. This would not be on the Fourth as they have a full card.

In the past we have met at Kingston, Blake Island, Quartermaster Harbor, Port Orchard, Winslow, and I remember a meet at Kirkland where people asked to buy a meal when we set up for the potluck on the dock. The gathering at Whittiers in Gig Harbor on the way to Olympia last fall was a success, and we will explore doing that again.

Those of you who look on eBay may have seen tug photos listed from Sarita Bay. This is Bob McDonald who now lives in Port Townsend. His father was Harry McDonald who was a Chief Engineer on tugs in BC and the US. In the early fifties he was with North Van Ferries. He then went to Southern California in Port work until he again succumbed to the call of the sea and went to Prince Rupert as a chief on a tug moving CNN rail barges. His love was collecting photos tugs from all over and then getting their statistics. He also collected maritime books. Several of us have made purchases from his eBay site.

For good of all boaters; I received a letter from Business Radio Licensing in which for a fee of \$290 they will renew your station license granted by the F.C.C.. It indicates, correctly, when your present license expires and other pertinent information. We were leery of sending money to a company who will do something for you without a cover from the other agency (F.C.C.). Kae phoned the F.C.C. at 1-888-225-5322 option 2 and was told that all the information was accurate and that they would send out a renewal notice 60 days before expiration and that the fee to renew was \$160. Needless to say, we will wait to hear from the F.C.C. and save \$130.

Hope to see someone at Port Orchard April 20-22.

- Robin



For Sale

See this ad or post your own (wanted or for sale) in the Classified Ads section of our website,
www.retiredtugs.org.



42' WEST COAST CLASSIC VINTAGE WORKING TUG, 42'x12.5x7.5' WD ALASKA PACKERS BUILT 1949, BLAINE, WA.

CAT D-343TA 300 hp, 5 kw KOHLER Gen, FUEL: 650 gal, FRESH WATER: 135 gal, 3 BERTHS, FURUNO 24MI, WOOD FREEMAN auto pilot, SINGLE STATION KOBELT W/ NITROGEN BACK UP, NEW COATED ALUMINUM FUEL TANKS, EXTENSIVE REFURBISHMENT, ALUMINUM BULWARKS, NEW GALLEY, FOLDING TOWING LIGHT/RADAR MAST, M/E & AUX GEN KEEL COOLED, NEW 56x48 4-BLADE PROPELLER. \$135,000.

Tugboat TEAL - Owners Comments

The motor vessel TEAL was built and operated by Alaska Packers Association (APA) and served their salmon fishing interests from Chignik, on the Alaskan Peninsula, to Ketchikan and south to Birch Bay. She then worked in the logging industry from Bellingham to Olympia before retiring with the Tacoma Tugboat Company.

TEAL is a traditional Northwest Coast deep draft, round bilge, plumb stem, elliptical fantail stern workboat, with raised pilothouse and classic sheer lines. She is design number 1500 by Edwin Monk Sr. and Lorne Garden.

She has proven to be extremely economical to operate and maintain and is in excellent condition, receiving on-going care by her current owners.

You have seen TEAL in maritime festivals and tugboat races from Olympia to Commencement Bay. She deserves to continue to represent our Puget Sound maritime history.

Interested? Give us a call! Jon or Pat 805.967.8824.

April 20 - 22: IRTA Meet at Port Orchard Marina

We're long overdue for a quiet get-together weekend, potluck, and club meeting! We'll plan on arriving on Friday afternoon, with a potluck & meeting on Saturday. Marina charges: \$5 registration fee and a nightly charge of \$0.53 per foot. Electricity is \$4 per night, if you wish.

One item we'd like to discuss as a group is when, during the year, we'd like to have meets, and where. Some ideas on locations are: Quartermaster Harbor, Gig Harbor, Friday Harbor, Everett, Lake Island and Port Ludlow. And as for dates, current ideas are before/after the Seattle tugboat races and Olympia Harbor Days, and maybe a summer meet near the Fourth of July. Would anyone be interested in a later Fall meet? Bring your ideas, and let's discuss!

May 12: (TBD) Tugboat Races at the Seattle Maritime Festival

The Seattle waterfront tugboat races will be May 12 - with a possible meet May 11-13 (come to the April meeting and be heard on when & where)

June 30 - July 1: (TBD) Possible pre-Fourth Celebration

Please come to the meeting in April and be heard on whether we should plan a Fourth of July meet this year, and if so, where you'd like to go!

August 31 - September 2: (TBD) Olympia Harbor Days

Annual festival and tugboat races will be Aug 31 - Sept 2. Last year's pre-Harbor Days meet was a lot of fun. Let's discuss if we should do something similar, again, this year!

October 20: Classic Workboat Show at The Center for Wooden Boats

On October 20th, The Center for Wooden Boats and Northwest Seaport are sponsoring a classic workboat show at the south end of Lake Union. They would love to have a bunch of old tugs there. Wooden and non-wooden boats are all welcome! The idea for this show started as a gathering of workboats with Washington diesels and has since grown. Let's see how many tugboats we can get there!

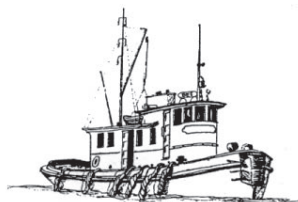
Westcoast Work Boat Association (www.wwba.ca):

Spring Rendezvous: **April 27-29** at Cowichan Bay Fisherman's Wharf

Ladysmith Maritime Festival: **June 23-24** (Ladysmith Maritime Society)

Ex-Forest Service Vessel Rendezvous: **August 24-26** at Maple Bay Marina

If there are other events that would be of interest to the group, please send them to us so we can add them to the newsletter and our online calendar at www.retiredtugs.org.



Share Your Stories & Photos

We're gradually adding some of the previous newsletters and photos to our web site, at www.retiredtugs.org, but please add your vintage or recent photos!! We don't have many of the pictures from the previous years' directories, so if you have some pictures of your boat, please send them to us or post them online. We'd love to see your pictures and read your stories.

New Homes for Treasured Old Tugs

From time to time, someone is ready to find a nice, new home for a treasured boat. If you're looking for a boat that would be a perfect fit for you, jot down a short "bio" of your needs and preferences and post it online (or send it to us if you would prefer, and indicate if you would like it published or not).



Mystery Boats?



There are still lots of tugboats and workboats out there that we all see, but don't know much more about. If you know someone who's got a boat, fill us in or ask them to join us. We'd love to know more.

Join or Update Your Membership Info

Please update your information, especially **email** if you have it; any corrections if we don't have your name & address correct on the mailing label; and information about yourself, your boat, your location, etc. & send to: Tracy Wang & Giles Sydnor, 2625 Colby Ave., #3-202, Everett, WA 98201.

Please include a photo, if you have one! Or, you can fill this out online, at www.retiredtugs.org.

Your Name(s): _____

Email: _____ Email-only newsletter OK for you? Yes No

Mailing Address: _____

Boat Name(s): _____

Year Built: _____ Originally Built for: _____

Length: _____ Width: _____ Draft: _____

Engine: _____ Power: _____ hp

Location: _____

Additional Notes & Anecdotes, Former Names, etc.: _____

OK to include your name(s) (only, not phone/address) & boat info in our Tugboat Roster? Yes No



Our new "netshed" on the Web is: www.retiredtugs.org; Add your pictures, stories, news, and more!

We're Online at www.retiredtugs.org

More details inside and on our web site, www.retiredtugs.org.

April Meet Set for Port Orchard

International Retired Tugboat Association
c/o Tracy Wang & Giles Sydnor
2625 Colby Ave., #3-202
Everett, WA 98201

Address Correction Requested