



# Walla Walla Yacht Club

Website: [www.wallawallayachtclub.com](http://www.wallawallayachtclub.com)

*May-June-July 2017*

Address: 539 Port Kelley Road, Hwy 730, Wallula, WA 99363

Commodore	Greg Parker (2017)	Board Members	Dave Payne	(2017-2018)
Vice Commodore	Greg Jacobson (2017)		AJ Wentland	(2017-2018)
Treasurer	Ken Kuhlmann (2017)		John Hellstrom	(2017-2018)
Secretary	Linda Yoes (2017)		Dave Pisarcik	(2016-2017)
Past Commodore	Charlie O'Neill (2015)		Ken Dyer	(2016-2017)
Caretaker	Ron Beach		Kathy Byrne	(2016-2017)

## **COMMODORE'S COMMENTS**

**Hot Ruddered Bums – 2017!** It was a cold and stormy weekend for our "Hot Ruddered Bum" party. So cold that we considered canceling the event. But when you want to go to the club, you will find a way (especially when there's a party involved). Our Vice Commodore built a fire to warm us outside, while Dave & Susie served hot buttered rum to warm our insides. Two dozen of our heartiest members braved the storm and celebrated for hours until the snow covered our snacks and just like that, it was over! But it was great while it lasted and I've already started shopping for a warmer hat like Eric Schulz's to wear next year. (Shelley Jager with treats!)

Last month, we saw some movement in the Whiskey Dock and pulled up a few boards to check it out. Then a few more, and a few more, and a few more again. And there it was! A timely repair utilizing: fourteen feet of 4x10 joist, four 2x8's, fifteen 2x6's, eight steel gussets, twenty-five feet of all

thread, five hundred screws, ten sore backs, and twenty bruised knees. Eight



hours later, we had it better than new and ready for the spring winds (we even made some improvements). Thank you to everyone who helped, including; John Sillers, Mike Bates, Charlie O'Neill, Larry Rakestraw, Ken Dyer, Greg Jacobson, Dwayne Speer, and Andy Jager.

Our pump suction screen was damaged beyond repair and required complete replacement. Thank you Dave Payne for building us a new screen and installing it with the help of Rod Persinger and Dwayne Speer. The park is already looking great this year. Commodore Greg

## **VICE COMMODORE'S COMMENTS**

There are still some boathouses missing their crossties. Please inspect dock connections also. The boats made it through winter with minimal issues but during my inspection I noticed that some of the dock lines are needing replacing due to wear and sunlight damage. If your lines show damage or wear, please replace the lines.

Please come down and inspect your boat for proper movement on the docks. A few of them are fairly loose and a surging boat puts a lot of shock loading into the docks and equipment. Summer is fast approaching have fun as we are all looking forward to another great year. Vice Commodore Greg

## **2ND MEMBERSHIP MEETING - JUNE 25 1:30 p.m.**

Susie Payne will be the hostess and another good dinner is on the calendar – **SO SAVE THIS DATE!** Details will follow in June, by email.

## **HOW TO REQUEST A MOORAGE CHANGE**

All requests for moorage changes are to be made to the Secretary - **IN WRITING.**

A waiting list will be kept on a priority basis by date of request.

Current members can request changes and be put on a waiting list.

Current members have priority over new members.

**If you plan on purchasing a larger boat, make sure there is a slip to fit available - FIRST!**

The Vice Commodore is the Harbor Master. He will work with you on your request, as slips become available.

### **2017 Harbor Master:**

Greg Jacobson Cell: 509-396-4374

[gpiacobson@energy-northwest.com](mailto:gpiacobson@energy-northwest.com)

or - [worldquest2010@msn.com](mailto:worldquest2010@msn.com)

## **SAILBOAT RACING**



This is for all sailors! Our club calendar has May 6 and May 13 scheduled for sailboat racing. These will not happen unless we have more people interested in participating. I have sent two emails out to people who I thought would be interested in participating. I received a few responses. Sailors, you can, if you like, leave your boat tied to the dock collecting slime and dirt – or – you can race (if we have enough interest.) Please respond – either call me at 509-529-4669 or email me at [w7cpg@hotmail.com](mailto:w7cpg@hotmail.com).  
Earl Yoes

## **SUMMER CRUISING AT WWYC**

Our first short cruise is coming up – June 10-11. As cruise director, I am curious who all is considering attending. The cruise is a short run to Hat Rock Park. We will anchor out Saturday night and return to WWYC the following day. This is a chance to knock off the cobwebs and scum from your boat and practice your anchoring skills.

Want to lead the group? Give me a call – 509-529-4669.

Earl Yoes (or [w7cpg@hotmail.com](mailto:w7cpg@hotmail.com))

## **WELCOME ABOARD!**



David and Sheri Woolever, from Walla Walla, will be on Mossy Bottom, M-4, They have a 21' Larson.

Mike and Ann White, from Touchet, will be sharing a dual membership with Derek Neher, on the sailboat Do-Dah. They also have a small fishing boat which they will trailer. Mike is Corina Neher's brother.

# Parents warn about electric shock drowning after 15-year-old girl's tragic death



At WWYC – look for signs that say “no swimming in the harbor”. Here is the reason...

The parents of 15-year-old Carmen Johnson, who tragically died from electric shock drowning while swimming near her family’s Alabama lake house last April, are speaking out about the rarely reported phenomenon after it took the lives of two more local women this past weekend.

The two women, 34-year-old Shelly Darling and 41-year-old Elizabeth Whipple, went missing after sunbathing on Lake Tuscaloosa Friday afternoon. Their bodies were retrieved from the lake early Saturday morning. Preliminary autopsies for the two victims show the cause of death as electrocution, the Tuscaloosa County Homicide Unit told [CBS affiliate WIAT](#) on Wednesday.

“I’ve been around water all my life and I never thought that electricity in a huge body of water like that could do what it did,” Carmen’s father, Jimmy Johnson, 49, told CBS News. “It is something that even people like me now after all these years never had any idea that this even happened.” Carmen Johnson, 15, was tragically killed from [electric shock drowning](#) while swimming near her family’s Alabama lake house on April 16, 2016.

Every day, about 10 people in the U.S. die from accidental drowning, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. But electric shock drownings are difficult to track. It’s known as a “silent killer.” Even a low level of electric current in the water can be extremely hazardous or fatal to a swimmer -- [especially in freshwater](#), where experts say the voltage will “take a shortcut” through the human body.

“There is no visible warning or way to tell if water surrounding a boat, marina or dock is energized or within seconds will become energized with fatal levels of electricity,” the non-profit [Electric Shock Drowning Prevention Association](#) reports. In fact, Johnson says, he never would have known what happened to his daughter if he hadn’t felt the electric current himself while trying to jump in to save her.

Carmen playfully jumped off the top level of the family’s boat dock into Smith Lake with her friend Reagan Gargis on April 16, 2016. Jimmy Johnson lowered a metal ladder into the water so the girls could climb out. Minutes later, he heard Reagan scream, “Help!”

“My wife thought [Carmen] had done something to her neck, which paralyzed her,” Johnson said. “She started going underwater. “That’s when Johnson and his son, Zach, jumped in the water after the girls and immediately felt piercing electric shocks

“Cut the power off,” Johnson yelled to his wife as he started to go in and out of consciousness. Johnson, Reagan and Zach survived, but Carmen didn’t make it. “Carmen was grabbing [Reagan’s] leg and was getting the majority of the shock when I came over,” Johnson said. Carmen Johnson swims on Smith Lake near her family’s lake house in Alabama. Johnson later found a light switch at the dock that was half full of water. When he put the metal ladder into the water, the electrical current from the light switch traveled through the dock to the ladder and into the surrounding water, where the girls were swimming.

“As they were swimming toward the dock, within somewhere between the 5-to-10-foot range, is when they started feeling like they couldn’t swim,” Johnson recalled.

Johnson believes that if his family had been educated about electric shock drownings this might never have happened. Now he’s sharing Carmen’s story as a warning to others, along with tips to help prevent similar tragedies from occurring.

His safety tips include: If you start to feel a tingle in the water, swim away from the dock, which is where most electrical issues occur. Check all of the wiring around your dock, including your ground fault circuit breaker. Purchase a [Dock Lifeguard](#), a device that detects electricity on your dock and in the water around your dock. (Johnson works with the company to promote the product.)

“It’s every homeowner’s responsibility to make sure water is safe around their dock before they start swimming,” Johnson said. “People think ‘Oh, this is a freak accident. It’s not going to happen to me.’ And here we are now — 3 dead in a year.”

[\(CNN, April 19, 2017\)](#)



**Walla Walla Yacht Club**  
**P.O. Box 1223**  
**Walla Walla, WA 99362**

**DON'T MISS THIS!**

- **2<sup>nd</sup> Membership Meeting – June 25**  
**1:30 p.m.**

**WWYC CALENDAR – 2017**

May 6	Sailboat Race, Skipper's meeting at 8:30 a.m. – Race #3
May 9	Board Meeting, 6:45 p.m.
May 6	Sailboat Race, Skipper's meeting at 8:30 a.m. – Race #4
June 3-4	Breakwater Inspection
June 10-11	Flotilla cruise to Hat Rock
June 20	Board Meeting, 6:45 p.m.



**DONATE DVD'S?** The WWYC video library could use some donations, if you have some videos you could bring to the club.