



San Juan Island Newsletter

May 10, 2005

Fourteen Boat Flotilla

Here we go again, it looks to me like we have another successful sailing trip planned. This one is shaping up with eight trailables and six cruisers, three of which are Charters. I don't need a pie chart to see the trailable fleet is growing year after year. This is a good thing. The trailables don't have the range or the accommodations of the larger cruisers, but they are economical and they get you on the water. It's just more like camping.

Again we will have a large flotilla, so I will reiterate a few notes from past sailing trips. With a large flotilla the up side is "**Never a dull moment**" the down side is "**Where do we park all those boats**" We are going to have to be extra careful in the tight anchorages, smaller boats that draw less water will need to get in tighter to shore and give the larger boats the deeper water. **Everyone will need to Stern Tie to shore.** We will most likely find other boats in these anchorages, **be it Power or Sail** we need to treat them with respect, let them know our itinerary, so they know where **not** to be the next night.

Rafting up together is also an option under the right circumstances. If the weather is going to be calm with no surf and little current and both boats of similar size drop an anchor, rafting can be safe and fun.

Always try and anticipate which way you will swing when you let go of that stern-to line or if you are de-rafting. To avoid collisions ask for all hands onboard to help and alert the boats next to you of your intentions.

Important Time Sensitive:

Tee-Shirts: The shirts will be of good quality and will come with the **FACS logo** and **Spring Thaw San Juan Islands 2005** on the back and either **Captain** or **Crew** on the sleeve. This will cost you \$30.00 each.

For an additional \$5.00 you can have your boat name on the chest. All prices include GST.

For payment, please send a cheque payable to me.

Please have your order stated very clearly. I will not be going by the spread -sheet that was sent out. That was for interest only.

You can bring your cheques to the next FACS meeting April 22/2005 or mail them to me.

No orders will be placed without payment first. The cut off will be April 22nd.

Rob Dyer

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Calgary Trailables:

Plan to meet May 12th at 3 PM at the Petro-Can gas station / Humpty's Restaurant on the north side of the Trans Canada Hi-way by the Cochrane exit. This is the same place we have been meeting since 1998. I find it convenient for just about everyone, simply get on the Trans Canada and head west until you go under the Cochrane overpass and pull into the gas station.

We will be on the road by 3:30 PM our intent is to drive in convoy as far as we can towards the West Coast. In past years we usually end up around Salmon Arm, sacked out at a roadside turn out and hit Kamloops for breakfast. This year we are shooting for Merit, if all goes well.

Attached to this e-mail you will find four attachments. **“Road directions” “The city of Bellingham” “Canada, USA border” and “Large road map”**

These are complements of Bruce Powell's website. Before joining us in The Gulf Islands last year, Bruce and Ernie launched S/V Dolphin (Mac 26X) at the Port of Bellingham and sailed the San Juan Islands before heading north to meet the FACS flotilla. Bruce kept a detailed log of the road trip. Thank you! Bruce.

Captains, be sure not to forget any trailer maintenance including but not limited to:

- Wheel bearings (races, seals, spindles etc.)
- Tires (lugs, fenders etc.)
- Lights (turn lamps, clearance lamps, etc.)
- Brakes (adjusted, tested, break away system etc.)

Note:??? Please let me know via e-mail if you plan to travel in convoy with us. If I don't hear from you I will assume you have made other plans.

Port of Bellingham: I have contact Arnold Korbmacher (360-676-2542) and let him know that we have eight trailables in our group. He will reserve long - term parking and a slips for May 13th.

If you plan to show up in Bellingham earlier or later, please contact Arnold and let him know your plans.

I have six maps of “Port of Bellingham Squalicum Harbor” I will bring them to the FACS meeting on April 22nd.

Friday Harbour: I have made reservations for fourteen boats at Friday Harbour. The harbormaster will get back to me with slip assignments.

Roche Harbor: I have made reservations for fourteen boats at Roche Harbor. The harbormaster will get back to me with slip assignments.

Race Day: Race Day, will be a lot of fun especially if we get a nice day with good steady winds. This will also make for good photo and video opportunities. See the Word doc. Called “**Race Day**” for more details. We will be racing on Wednesday May 18th from Roche Harbor to Sucia Island.

Blakely Island Marina: I have made reservations for fourteen boats at Blakely Island Marina. The harbormaster will get back to me with slip assignments.

Potluck Dinner Night: Blakely Island Marina will be the spot for the Potluck Dinner. They have a Cabana with power, water, BBQ’s and a fire pit for us. We will start the dinner at 1800 hours. Everyone bring a dish and some libations. FACS will supply paper plates, cups and utensils. This will be a good place to play the Horse race game after dinner.

Horse Race Game and Poker Night.

Yes bring your change Nickels, Dimes and Quarters. That is all that is required, to run the this track. Except a deck of cards and dice (supplied) and a simple line called **Pay Up, Pay Up, Pay Up!!**

Rosario Resort: Please Note: If you plan to stay at Rosario Resort on Saturday May 21st. you must make reservations with the harbormaster **Wellesley**. Nelson can be reached at 1-800-562-8820 or harbormaster@rosarioresort.com I have sent him an e-mail with a list of 11 boats. (All the trailables and the three charter boats out of Bellingham) If any of the other boats are interested is staying at Rosario please let me know and I will add you to the FACS reservation. If you are on this list and are not planning to go to Rosario, again please let me know and I will delete you from the list.

Charts: My recommendations as follows.

- 3462 Cdn: Juan de Fuca Strait to Strait of Georgia
- 3313 Cdn: Chart Atlas (includes portions of the San Juan Islands)
- 18423Sc Bellingham to Everett including San Juan Islands.

Customs: For those of you sailing from Canada to the USA you might want to call CBP at 1-800-562-5943 no more than 1 hour before leaving your Canadian point of departure This can get you a clearance number and expedite the process by avoiding any line ups. Don't try this via cell phone on the water.

This is the **FACS Spring Thaw 2005 Sailing Trip**; please remember whom you are representing. Take lots of photos and video. Fly your FACS Burgee high and proud. (If you don't have one please pick one up from Jim Feeney)

Join our club if you haven't yet it's only \$35.00 per year (Family Membership)

FACS is providing prizes and a few things for the Potluck Dinner as well.

Membership dues pay for these things.

The FACS Club is the foundation for this trip. Without paid membership we would have no trip.

Have a safe Sailing Trip and don't forget to fly your USA courtesy Flag

Please Note!!!! Feel free to buy the Cruising Director a beer or two, if you think he looks the least bit thirsty.

Rob Dyer, FACS Cruising Director