

# April 2010



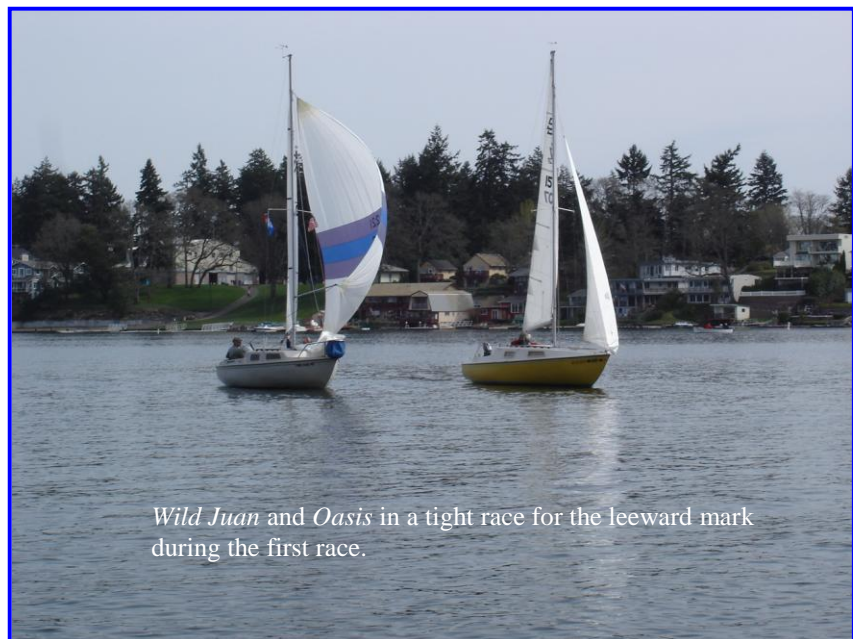
## From the Editor

March's races turned to be pretty good. I was worried because the weather forecast called for light winds all day long. When James and I arrived at the boat launch the lake was like glass. We rigged *Firefly* and headed out to Capt'n Cook making slow progress. We finally decided to start paddling when Frank showed up in *Bye-Gone* to give us a tow...thanks Frank!!

The winds finally built enough to start racing at around noon. In the first race, it seemed that whole fleet was

late to the starting line. I know that *Firefly* crossed the line about 30 seconds after the horn and we were in the middle of the pack. Somehow *Firefly* made it way to windward mark first with *Wild Juan* following close behind. I'm glad that we made it to the mark first because after we rounded it, there was a jam up and I heard a lot yelling between *Bye-Gone*, *Oasis*, and *Wild Juan*. I'm not sure what happened between them, but while they were battling to get around the mark, *Firefly* was headed off to the leeward mark with the kite flying and kept the lead taking first place in the race.

There was some close racing between several boats in the first race. *Oasis* and *Wild Juan*, both San Juan 21's, were in a tight race for second place. I was surprised how fast Clifford who was in *Oasis* was sailing downwind without a spinnaker and was keeping up with *Wild Juan* with a kite flying. *Oasis* finally over took *Wild Juan* ending up taking second place in the first race. Also Tim and Ron, who were sailing *Elvira* without Rod, got things figured out and came from behind making it a good race with Teri and her crew of guests on *Gust Rider*.



*Wild Juan* and *Oasis* in a tight race for the leeward mark during the first race.



Start of the second race with *Firefly* just making it inside the pin end of the line.

In the second race, the winds remained steady; blowing at my favorite range...just hard enough to keep the boats moving at a steady speed but not hard enough to have to worry about capsizing. At the start of the race *Firefly* was approaching the line with *Wild Juan* and *Bye-Gone* on my leeward side...all the boats were on a starboard tack. As we made our final approach to the starting line I realized that I was in a bad position. If Scott would have sailed a little higher, he could have forced me to the outside of the pin mark. But, Scott being such a nice guy, left a lane open for *Firefly* and we got a

good start. Now if Frank or Dwaine had been in Scott's position I know for sure they would have forced me outside of the mark.

The final race of the day was the most exciting of the day. Frank set up a longer course up to Thorne Mansion...down to the island by the Fish & Game launch...then back to the start/finish line. The wind had also shifted towards the west making the start/finish line and much of the first leg in the lee of Silcox Island. The race got off to slow start for everyone. During that slow part of the first leg, James and I decide that on the downwind leg we would sail on a much longer course around the windward side of Silcox Island to the next mark. Scott, in *Wild Juan*, got first good breeze and made it to the windward mark first with *Firefly* and *Bye-Gone* following closely behind. After rounding the mark, *Wild Juan* set the spinnaker and took off towards the downwind mark. In *Firefly*, we headed off going around the island and at that point I thought that we had just made a terrible tactical decision and lost the race. Both Frank and Scott told me after the race they had the similar thoughts about the course they choose.

Once we made over to Silcox Island we were able to set a set our spinnaker and fly downwind on a broad reach. As we came around the south end of the island



*Elvira* sails upwind...*Firefly* going downwind it first race.

I was expecting to see *Wild Juan* still the kite flying...but they were on a close haul and I started thinking that our strategy just might work!! *Firefly* sailed fast all the way to the mark with the spinnaker up and *Wild Juan* was just slightly behind as we approach the mark. I knew that if we muffed the spinnaker takedown (which I often do) *Wild Juan* would pass us. However, we had a great takedown...just like we knew what we were doing... and kept ahead of *Wild Juan*. The final leg of the race course was already on the lay line to the start/finish line so it was a big drag race between *Wild Juan* and *Firefly* to the finish. Scott on *Wild Juan* tried hard to catch up and it was unnerving to hear his bow waves about a half boat behind the whole way but *Firefly* managed to hold on to the lead to cross the finish line first. However, *Wild Juan* beat *Firefly* in corrected time by just a few seconds...Congrats to Scott and Eric on a very exciting race!!!

## March Race Results

			Race 1	Race 2	Race 3		Race Day Totals	
<i>Skipper/Crew</i>	<i>Boat's Name</i>	<i>HCP</i>	<i>Corrected Time/Position</i>	<i>Corrected Time/Position</i>	<i>Corrected Time/Position</i>	<i>Over all Score</i>	<i>Over all Position</i>	<i>Monthly Score</i>
Teri/ crew	Gust Rider	100.9	53.89 / 7	36.64 / 7	DNF / 7	21	7	40
Andy/Carlo	Missfit	101.6	35.53 / 4	32.92 / 5	48.06 / 4	13	5	60
Frank/Dwaine	Bye-Gone	102.0	37.13 / 5	30.31 / 4	41.18 / 3	12	4	70
Clifford / Ramie	Oasis	97.0	30.13 / 2	27.24 / 2	55.75 / 6	10	3	80
Layne/James	Firefly	96.0	28.23 / 1	25.66 / 1	39.64 / 2	4	1	100
Tim/Ron	Elvira	100.9	49.60 / 6	34.36 / 6	46.65 / 5	17	6	50
Scott/Eric	Wild Juan	95.8	31.51 / 3	27.30 / 3	39.39 / 1	7	2	90

Thank you to Dwaine and Matt for adding stories to this edition of our newsletter. Dwaine wrote about some of his latest sailing adventures. We also got a greetings from one of our newest members, Matt, who is now serving in Afghanistan. You can read their stories further down in the newsletter. Again, thank you, it always makes our newsletters more interesting hearing from different people.

We are now coming up on the height of our sailing season. It will only be a few months until we can start enjoying the BBQ's on the dock of Capt'n' Cook. Speaking of food...my Rhubarb is coming and I think that by the time the next race rolls around on April 24<sup>th</sup> it will be big enough to make a pie...so get those pie taste buds ready and see you on April 24<sup>th</sup>.

Layne



### Frank's Place

Thanks to everyone who came to our March Sailing Event. Especially Teri who brought a long a hand full of new/inexperienced sailors. As usual Mother Nature gave us on impression and followed with something much different later in the day (ie. calm at the first light and gentle breezes throughout the afternoon). Along with our scheduled event there was lots of activity on the lake, most notably the college rowing regatta and the antique outboard motor club. There was plenty of room for all which made for a great day on American lake.



*Bye-Gone's jury rigged spinnaker trying to keep up with Wild Juan.*

Initially, due to the rower's race course to the North, I set up race #1 as a short course between Silcox Island and the small island near the fish/game boat launch. And that worked well considering we had six 'keel' boats and only one dinghy (Firefly). So... the two San Juan 21's battled each other, as well as the two Ranger 20's. That left Missfit and Bye-Gone (somewhat evenly matched also, to vie for mid pack honors). Layne in his Mutineer lead all the way and won the day overall. Each race afterwards was longer than the last with some nice downwind runs for those with spinnakers or pseudo ones like Dwaine created on Bye-Gone. Possibly there's a real spinnaker in Bye-

Gone's future. It'll still be hard to catch those San Juans though. All in all that wrapped up March with an eye to April 24th's next race.

Extra thanks to everyone who brought snacks and drinks and to anyone who pulled a little Cap'n Cook maintenance. And more thanks to Carolyn for her excellent time keeping and for her walkway repair of a broken board (While we were busy on the racecourse.)

Speaking of maintenance... the club is buying a new gallon of white paint. (Guess where it's going?) Each boat will be asked to donate 15 minutes of painting time (2 people) in the upcoming months until it's done. Brushes provided. Anyone can help... or help with other projects related to the club. Let's get busy.

I've also got more new dock cleats to install to replace the old ones.

On a more somber note: Our condolences to out to Rod Jussilla whose father died in mid-march. We all with you well and share your sadness. Peace be with you.



*Ramie enjoying a snack between races*

## Starry Eyed Sailor Shoots for the Moon

Many of you know I do some real racing in my Thistle sailboat. But this summer I'll be trying something completely different. There is a decent sized Star boat fleet racing on Monday nights on Budd Inlet in Olympia.

The Star is a near 100 year old design with a somewhat modernized rig. It has a weighted keel and is about 22 feet long. The mainsail is large and it ends up rating roughly the same as a Thistle. Stars were originally made of wood with modern boats constructed in fiberglass. The Star is still an Olympic class boat. More information for the curious can be found here:

<http://www.raceonedesign.com/directory/one-design-classes/star>

Andy has committed to crewing with me for at least part of the season. Having never sailed Stars before we are just starting up the steep learning curve. Wish us luck!

Dwaine



## Raffle to Support ALSC Sailors

As you may have already read, Andy and Dwaine will be doing some Star racing in Olympia this summer. The club would like to support them as best we can so a raffle project has been started. This raffle will take place from April 1st to April 22nd.

This Stainless-like steel rigging knife, with colorful lanyard, will be raffled off with all proceeds going to procure a new Star class sailboat. With the cost of new Stars pushing \$70k our goal of \$80k should cover the hull, a trailer, and a set of North sails. There are exactly two ways to earn a chance to win the raffle prize shown in the image.

Clause 'A'. The most direct method to win this fine rigging knife is to donate to the ALSC Star Fund. The top ten contributors will have their names eligible for a random drawing that will take place on the Cap'n Cook on April 24th. The winner of the drawing will walk away with the rigging knife and the knowledge that they lended a hand in helping Andy and Dwaine represent ALSC. But only the top ten

contributors gain a chance at the drawing so dig deep to help our boys get the equipment they need. In the off chance the total donation amount is less than the needed \$80,000 then clause 'B', described in the next paragraph, will override all rules described thus far.

Clause 'B'. The rightful owner of this knife, which was recently found on board 'Bye-Gone', need only talk to Frank to get it back.

## Greetings from Afghanistan

Hello Everybody. All is well here in Afghanistan. I'm at Bagram Air Force Base (BAF) I wish I was home getting to sail with you guys. I have yet to find a person who shares the sailing interest as we do. I keep asking though. Here is a picture of me sight seeing on the Air Force base standing in front of an F-16. Pretty cool piece of technology. For the last two months I have been sitting behind a desk (against my will I might add) so I'm not in too much danger which makes the family happy. But I will soon move to the out skirts with the other soldiers. I will send more pics as I take them.

Hope WA is treating you well. See you guys in August time frame.

Matt



# March Photos





Next Race **April 24th** See Ya There!!!

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*Any articles, pictures, or ideas of any sailing activities you are involved in that you would like to contribute to the newsletter are welcome.*

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