

Christmas 2020

As you may have noticed, there was no Christmas 2019 letter. Dave's brother Dan passed away on December 1st of 2019 and it was the end of a less than wonderful year. We ended 2019 looking forward to a new and better year in 2020 but who could have imagined what lay ahead?



The year did start in a fairly “normal” fashion with family, church, Rotary and yacht club activities. Dad and Lil returned from Maui and we held a memorial service for Dan before they headed back to Victoria. We attended a formal dinner and dance at the Meydenbauer Bay Yacht Club in January and then a Valentine's dinner at the Poulsbo Yacht Club in February along with a yacht

club cruise to Poulsbo. All seemed normal at the time. And then . . .

The evening of March 3rd of this year Dave received an email from work announcing that effective immediately he (and a good majority of King County employees) would be working from home. And around the same time our grandkids Ellison and Madeline stayed at home rather than coming to our house for Lynn to watch them during the week. With a lockdown soon in place based on a decree from the governor, most of our activities ceased. And we entered the world of Zoom.

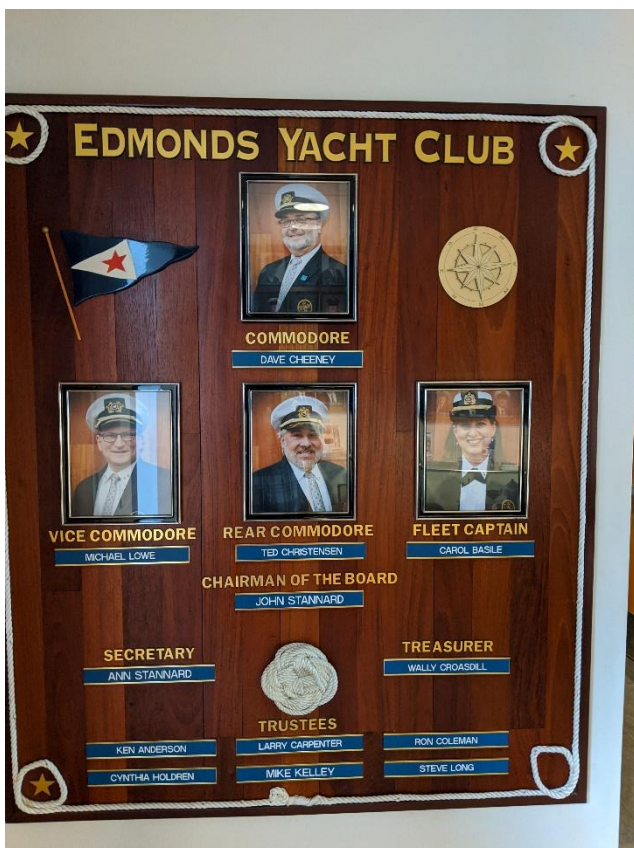


Looking for something to fill the time, we decided to varnish the brightwork on the boat. Taking a couple of hours each day once the temperatures reached 60 degrees, we would head to the boat and sand, clean, tape and varnish the external wood surfaces (except the decking – too slippery). By doing it a little each day the large task didn't seem so daunting. It's the “how to eat an elephant” method, “one bite at a time”. And once we were able to take the boat out in the sunshine it sparkled.

And in our rebel way, Lynn woke up one morning in May and said, "I want a Miner burger". So, off to Yakima we went for lunch. Ordered in the drive-thru and then sat in the parking lot in the convertible with the top down and ate lunch. What a great day!

We spent Mother's Day on the boat with Jess and Kyle and Kinsley and got a visit at the marina from Ben, Jen, Ellison and Madeline. Then on Father's Day Kinsley came to our house with a t-shirt that announced she was going to be a big sister. We are very excited to see our new grandson when he arrives in February of 2021. Joining in the new addition announcements, Kimberly informed Dave (via a t-shirt that said "Grand Paw") at her birthday dinner that she and Cory are expecting a little one around June of 2021. The family keeps growing!

A big milestone was being able to eat inside a restaurant again which happened in June. Prior to that we would do take-out from our local restaurants to help them stay in business. But once we got the okay to eat indoors, we headed off to Arnie's to celebrate the loosening of the rules. It was an odd feeling to see people at every other table and many other changes, but the food tasted better after the long break.



Then came the big change in our yacht club duties. The "Change of Watch" ceremony is held each year on the fourth Tuesday of June during our "normal" dinner and business meeting. Well, nothing was normal but we did gather the outgoing and incoming bridge members along with our chairman of the board and secretary to thanks the outgoing officers and board members and to administer the oath of office to the incoming officers and boat members. All while broadcasting the proceedings via Zoom. This was now the time for us to be the Commodore and Commadorable of the Edmonds Yacht Club. Timing is everything, eh?

As summer began and better weather helped loosen the restrictions, we headed with the yacht club to Anacortes to celebrate the Fourth of July. On the trip home we went through Deception Pass for the first time in our boating career. What a magnificent trip and scenery we enjoyed. We continued our boating activities by leading the Commodore Cruise to the southern portion of Puget Sound. Although we planned the trip a year before, we suddenly seemed



clairvoyant in our itinerary. With the Canadian border closed throughout the summer (and still is), we couldn't go to typical destinations. But off to Tacoma, Olympia, Key Peninsula and Bremerton we went with 15 boats and many friends. Again, due to gathering restrictions, we couldn't be together for meals as we would often do but we managed to socially distance and live within the restrictions for outdoor dining and had a wonderful time.

In the midst of good times, we received the sad news that Lynn's sister Louise was in the hospital in Tampa, Florida. She had been in an assisted living facility before being taken to the hospital and we had the opportunity to join a call with Lynn's brothers and sisters-in-law as we all said our goodbyes to Louse before her passing on July 20th.

Labor Day found us back in La Conner for the long weekend with a Kentucky Derby theme. As in previous cruises this year we arranged breakfast delivery to everyone's boats and shared dinners outdoors with limited seating at each table. Everyone found a way to be safe and comfortable in their own way. And we spent several nights at the dock with our cats to begin the process of taking them on boating adventures. So far, so good.



Thanksgiving weekend was more exciting than normal for our daughter Erin as she purchased a townhouse in Atlanta. It is brand new and beautiful with great amenities for her and her dog, Colby J. To help her decorate and get settled, Lynn spent a week in December visiting and being mom. We are so excited and proud of Erin for this big step in her life.



As this year comes to an end (thankfully) and we look forward to better news in 2021, we continue to be thankful for many things in our life. First, for our family. For dad and Lil, who takes such good care of dad. For all of our kids and their spouses and especially for our grandkids. And for our friends. Nothing like putting a little churn into your life to help reevaluate what matters. And friends are vital. We are thankful for the beautiful area in which we live and the good fortune we have to experience it on our boat. It was the perfect and

appropriate venue to visit with friends and also to isolate when needed. So now we look forward to 2021 and new opportunities and experiences.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Lynn, Dave, Pinot Meow and Purrseco Cheeney