



As I look out the window today, it looks like winter got here early. I know several of you are in anchorages waiting for the weather to break.

Some of you have used your ham gear this summer, as I have either talked to you or heard you on some of the nets. For this month's issue, some of your fellow hams have shared their radio experiences during the summer.

Chris Warner, K7PAN: We checked in on the Island Trunk net at 1700 hours whenever we could. Got some good info on new places to go, restaurant recommendations and weather.

When we were at anchor we checked in to the NW Boaters Net on 75 meters for the warm-up between 0800 and 0830. Spoke with WOJO (Bill Whitney) a lot.

Both of these nets can be very useful if you should have a medical emergency or are in need of a critical part to make the boat run. We also enjoyed speaking to the other hams and yakking with them. It is a social thing and a lot of fun for us. We are currently in Montague at anchor in the rain waiting for a break in the weather. Gale warnings are up for south of Nanaimo today.

“We often monitored the 20-meter PacSea Net at 2000 hours to keep track of friends cruising further out in the Pacific.”

Charlie Stillman, KC1S: While on the West Coast of Vancouver Island just before the NorPac regatta, we did not have access to the two-meter nets, so we hopped on to the Northwest Boater's Net at 3.865 MHz at 0830 hours occasionally. We also participated on the 0730 Great Northern Boaters Net on 3.870 MHz with a net control station (KL0YC) located near Ketchikan a few times. Mostly we were on at 0800 when control shifts to station (VE7KLU) near Sidney, B.C. We especially enjoyed Barbara's gregarious style during that time segment.

We heard daily reports from hams aboard a Canadian vessel, *Little Voices*, who were anchored in Bamfield. We announced that we were heading that way one morning. Shortly after anchoring, a friendly couple rowed by and asked, "Are you Charlie?" We invited them aboard, and indeed they were our contacts from *Little Voices*. They passed along some

useful information regarding the Bamfield Music Festival which we attended the following night. For much of the time on the west side of the island, we used our Pactor modem over HF to pick up emails on the Winlink system.

Chuck Steward, AI7V: On *S/V Alert*, we used ham radio quite a bit this summer – although our cruising was limited to South Puget Sound in the spring and the San Juans and inside B.C. waters this summer. We are currently at the SYC dock at Henry Island tied securely in the same gusty winds *Panther* mentioned. We regularly checked into the two-meter B.C. Boaters Net at 1700 hours through various Vancouver trunk repeaters. We also monitored the 80-meter B.C. Boaters Net at 1800 hours on 3.860. We regularly talked with hams in Ellensburg, California and Seattle on 80-meters in the morning on an informal net.

We also monitored the Northwest Boaters Net and Great Northern Boaters Net and sometimes visited with WO7O and others. We often monitored the 20-meter PacSea Net (14.300) at 2000 hours to keep track of friends cruising further out in the Pacific. We used Sailmail and Winlink extensively when out of Internet contact to stay in touch with distant cruising friends, monitor email, and get weather information. In addition to ham radio, we used Skype for calls to the U.S. and other countries when we had Internet connections.

Mark Your Calendars!

► **Wednesday, October 13**, for the next SYCARC Meeting at the Portage Bay Mainstation 📍

W7SYC – For more information about the SYC Amateur Radio Committee or getting an amateur radio license, send an email to Dan Withers, dwithers@rodaxwireless.com or call (206) 947-2303.



Elliott Bay Notice

**If the Elliott Bay Clubhouse
is not in use, feel free to use it.**

**Please look at the schedule
posted by the door before use.**