

## Lake Chelan Yacht Club History of the Barnacle Club

On April 13, 1935, our Barnacle Club was started when Mrs. R.W. Bryant invited the wives of Yacht Club members to meet at her summer cottage on Laker Chelan to organize a club whose main objective would be to furnish the clubhouse.

On that date, a club was formed with 26 charter members and named "The Barnacles" It has been said that the reason the name was chosen was because the women said they would stick to men like barnacles on the bottom of a boat. Mrs. Bryant was elected president and held that office for two years, It is in appreciation for her efforts on behalf of the club and with sincere affection that Mrs. Bryant was and is called "mother" of the Barnacles.

The newly organized club lost no time getting underway. They sponsored Yacht Club Dances and gave card parties, and before the end of the first two years, were able to purchase linoleum, curtains, card tables and chairs for the lounge room.

In 1938, The Barnacles were able to add eight upholstered chrome chairs, two smokers, two concrete sand urns, and curtains for the ladies room; and in 1940, lawn chairs and tables for the lawn.

Then came the war years, and little could be done towards furnishings or improving the club house during this period but, under the direction of Mrs. Frank Sonntag, who was the only president to serve three terms (1942, 1943 and 1944), donations were made to the red cross, Battery H Fund, and the USO.

What is known as the Barnacle Club's annual dinner was first served to Yacht Club members, their families and friends on May 29, 1947. Mrs. Bob (Carol) Watt, president in 1946-47 was responsible for this venture. Generosity on the part of members in donating the food aided greatly in making the first dinner a financial success. The Barnacles bank account retained it's dignity when the dinner was repeated and sandwiches were sold on Regatta day in 1948- again with all of the food donated.

Beginning in 1949, the Barnacles dinner at the clubhouse was accepted as an annual event, with financing done through the clubs treasury. The year 1949 was also notable as the year in which through the courtesy of Commodore Harvey Cooper and the Yacht Club, the Barnacles first shared the pages of the Yacht Club Annual.

Over the years, the Barnacle Club has purchased cooking and serving items, silverware, furniture, tools, lawn mowers, refrigerators, stoves, picnic tables and miscellaneous items for the managers cabin; tables and chairs for the dance hall; swim float and carpeting.; plywood and carpeting for the decking around the clubhouse; donated money for paint and for the clubhouse and managers cabin; decorations for the dance hall; and other numerous items.

Least anyone conclude that the barnacles is a club for “All work and no play” and therefore apt to the dull, let it be stated that such a conclusion would be entirely erroneous. From the very beginning, the Barnacle club has participated in and enjoyed potluck dinners, business meetings and social gatherings.

Over the years, activities have been highlighted by dinner dances given by the Yacht Club including the annual Christmas Party with an exchange of gifts by members, Installation of Officers, Past Commodore’s Ball, and dances held at the club house during the summer months. The Barnacle Club Members have participated in decorating for most of these functions in addition to activities connected to lake cruises, regattas and field days.

Article II of the By-laws of the Barnacle Club reads: “The object of the club shall be to cooperate with the members of the Lake Chelan Yacht Club to assist in furthering the success of the Yacht Club”. This has been fulfilled in the years past, the present and is the goal of the Barnacle club for the future.

\*\* Note: The Barnacle Club is now inactive, but the Lake Chelan Yacht Club has greatly benefitted from the contributions made by these ladies over the years.