

White Wolf enjoyed this spectacular sunset in the Surrey Islets, looking up Malaspina Strait.

"Plans are written in the sand at low tide."

And so it has been all summer – making plans and hoping they will happen. Many of ours did not. But what we did instead turned out to be just as good, if not better, than the original. Much is owed to those of you who shared your time with us out on the water. We had hoped for more sailing (too much or too little wind) but we won't complain about the copious amounts of sunshine and lack of mosquitoes. And we had a great sail back after Newcastle.

This newsletter is jam-packed with cruise reports, dating back to our first summer cruise to Smuggler Cove and ending up with Newcastle Island. In between are reports of the two BC Day celebrations, one in Montague and one in Squirrel Cove, and a second flotilla to the Broughtons. Lots of photos so remember to use your magnifying glass to see them properly.

I am also excited to be reporting on *Naida's* trip south and will reprint her posts on Predict Wind every issue going forward. If you want to see their progress for yourselves check out <https://forecast.predictwind.com/tracking/display/Naida>.

Robert, with input from all the Executive, has again had a tough time keeping track of the ever-changing Covid news and reorganizing the activities for the cruises as required. As you will see from the reports, everything went off without a hitch – well, only the smallest of hitches perhaps (don't mention the war!). And you can see from the number of participants that our members were keen to visit all the old familiar places and catch up with friends.

Many thanks to **Robert**, **John D.**, and **Liz** (x two) for their reports. **Lorraine** brings knot knowledge to life in her account of a windy night in Pirates. **Glen** offers up the raison d'être behind the Treasure Hunt. Thanks, too, for photos from **Lorraine** who went above and beyond for Newcastle pics, and to **Chris** who snapped the last two pics of *Naida* in our waters. Well done everyone!

Suzanne Walker, Editor *S/V White Wolf*



Message from our Commodore



Chris Stangroom,
Commodore, *S/V Christie Cove*
A sailing season to remember!

A series of high winds, hot days, very little rain, warm swims and beautiful anchorages with lots of Canadian Flags flying!

Continued p.2 Commodore's Message

GULF SAILOR

Executive Officers 2021

Commodore: Christie Stangroom
Christie Cove

Vice Com: John Dixon
Tantramar

Fleet Captain: Robert Sinkus
Reality

Staff Captain: Doug MacLeod
Willpower

Exec. Officer: Pat Costa
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Hon. Signals Officer: Andreas Truckenbrodt
Beautiful Day

Past Com: Darlyne Farrell
SawLeeAh

Hon. Editor: Suzanne Walker
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Commodore's Message

Our six weeks aboard the *Christie Cove*, the longest stretch ever, saw anxious moments, a day of sailing up the coast at 10K, prawns for supper, and spending time with good friends in our favorite anchorages in Desolation Sound.

As summer memories fade and cool fall days loom, we want to pack in as much sailing as we can before we give in to those damp short days that are sure to come. The Extreme Scream cruise is next on the schedule and we hope to tag along... (I'm not sure of the name given that cruise – "extreme" brings out my anxiety.) Hope to see many of you in Snug Cove on October 1st and 2nd.

As the Executive looked towards November and the Annual Awards Dinner and Dance, we decided that this in-person event would have to wait again this year. We concluded that the restrictions against dancing, wearing masks unless eating, social distancing, and limited circulation (visiting other tables etc.) was too limiting for us GYCers. We love to be social! Stay tuned though. If things change, we may be able to offer a different social experience for our event.



Chris Stangroom
S/V *Christie Cove*

All that said, I'm getting weary of being part of a major historical event, the COVID pandemic. Truly, I thought it would be over by now and although life may not be the "normal" as we knew it, we could at least hug a friend and enjoy a happy hour munching someone else's appies.... Maybe soon, but for now we must do our best to stay healthy and be sure we are all double vaxed!

Staff Captain's Report

During our Spring virtual meetings we were treated to four engaging presentations by John Dixon, Miles Walker, Ken Buckley and Anne Trudel and Lorraine de la Morandière. COVID restrictions on group gatherings are slowly lifting and we can get back to in-person meetings. Yahoo! Here's what we've got lined up.

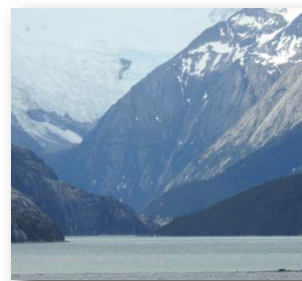
October 18th: John and Karen Laing



Cape Horn – The History and the Danger

Establishing an accurate position while at sea, now taken for granted by modern sailors, was a huge challenge to mariners over the centuries. When you didn't know exactly where you were, danger was always at hand, never more so than in the most unforgiving and unknown waters in the world.

That's Cape Horn. Don't miss it.



Doug MacLeod,
Staff Captain,
S/V *Willpower*

Looking ahead

Do you have a suggestion for a guest speaker? We're interested in a range of topics from DIY tips to exciting sailing stories.

Presentations by members are always a hit. In years past, we've had engaging presentations on such topics as *Provisioning for Long Cruises* or *First Aid Essentials*. Cruising experiences on our BC coast or exotic locations around the world make great stories to share.

Contact me so we can discuss your presentation idea. (dmmacleod1833@telus.net)

GULF SAILOR

Canada Day Long Weekend at Smuggler Cove

Reality departed Wednesday morning heading out on the Ebb tide from False Creek hoping to catch the flood to Smuggler and the forecast favourable winds.

The winds were quite nice and once out of the Bay, I learned that *Naida* was off my port bow. The winds held until a little before Sechart before dying down and we both put up our Gennakers, following which the wind died further so we packed in the Gennakers and motored. In the meantime Glen was enjoying his new boat *Tango*, crossing from Nanaimo on a wonderful reach and making good time.



Forever Young, *Tutta Bella* (Norm), *Boquerón* and *Willpower* had already staked out their spots with stern ties which made it a lot easier for us single-handers, not to forget the very helpful-as- always, Don et. al., with their dinghies. I tucked in beside Phill. Later *Zelda III* tied up alongside of us.

The boats in attendance were *Beautiful Day*, *Lobo Del Mar*, *Naida*, *White Wolf*, *Forever Young*, *Reality*, *Zelda III*, *Dragonfly* (new members Gjoa and Graham's Yamaha 28), Tony and Barb Boardman on their Beneteau *Seaclusion*, *Tantramar*, *Willpower*, *Tango*, *Lady Dane* and new club members Barry Van Leeuwen and Kathryn on *Feliner* with their very adorable white kitten. Further down we had Cathy and Jim on their new power boat *Serenity*, Norm and Gladys on *Tutta Bella*, and *Boquerón* off on their own on the south side who headed off early to be with their daughter Amber and grandkids who had gone up to Pender Harbour.

Thursday we paddle boarded and hiked around the west side of the cove up to the point and back followed by Appies on *Isle Capri*. A number of members commented that they found the access to *Isle Capri* quit challenging for their once young knees and hips. Several dinghies followed Andreas and Christina's lead out the Cove to watch the beautiful sunset from the water.



Robert Sinkus,
Fleet Captain,
S/V Reality



Friday morning, *Reality*, *Zelda III* and *Forever Young* provided good entertainment showing it is possible to cross and entangle all three boats' anchor lines, requiring the help and sage advice from several other dinghies: Thanks Don and Ken!



Above top: *Forever Young*, *Reality* and *Zelda III* happily tucked up before needing to separate. Untangling was harder than it looked and requiring help and advice from two dinghies, Don and Ken, Phill in his dinghy, Anne in her jammies and considerable amounts of caffeine for the onlookers.

Graham made the quite impressive paddleboard trip from Smuggler to Secret Cove and back again. This time the hike went south over the boardwalk and across to the head of the narrow bay off Halfmoon Bay. There was a crew of dinghies led by John Dixon which went over to the Thormanby Isles and enjoyed the sandy beach in Buccaneer Bay. I discovered a problem with my outboard which will hopefully be remedied upon my return to town. Dinner was at the island on the east side when entering the southern bay. Although a less scenic view, the feedback was that the easier access was preferred by a number of our members.

Saturday saw a number of boats head north for Pender Harbour and other parts. Several boats were having battery issues including *Dragonfly* and *Forever Young*. I also had to use my generator



Dee with favourite matching mug!

GULF SAILOR



Andreas and Cristina and Glen were among those enjoying the get-together on the easier access island (25MT).

Doug McLeod, this year's Staff Captain, took the opportunity to thank Miles, John and Ken and Anne for their great Zoom presentations.

to charge my own bank back up to full (although my batteries only dropped by 11% overnight – much better than last summer when my freezer thermostat had shorted out to “always on” and way over taxed the solar panels).

Saturday the majority of the members requested the appies take place on the easy-access island which disappointed a few who wished for the view from the Isle Capri.

Conversations were wonderful: our new members Barry and Kathleen clearly understand GYC traditions and even invited me to a pre-happy hour happy hour. Barry brings a wonderful wealth of sailing experience to the club along with his lovely wife and beautiful kitten. At dinner we caught up with former member Karin Steichele's old Catalina 30 now renamed *Pisces* (from *Tamasha*) and learned that the new owners were interested in joining the GYC so we gave them a brochure and hope they will follow up. Same for a boat from Burrard Civic, so yay everybody! for encouraging new members. Several other boats also joined us from Centennial and two from Bluewater, *Palomita* and *Azurá Kai*.

Andreas and Cristina together with Anne and Ken taking David and I and also Barry and Kathleen dinghied out to watch a beautiful sunset which seemed to glimmer for a while on the water's edge after the sun had actually set. We discussed the much fabled green flash but once again did not see it and acknowledged that none of us had ever actually seen the fabled event.

Thanks to everybody who came out and made for such a wonderful time together as always with the GYC.



Naida is Finally on Her Way South!

Having won the Infamous Egg Toss at Newcastle (see p.11) there was nothing left to accomplish here so Ken and Anne got under way. This is the last sighting of them by *Christie Cove* outside Princess Cove headed south. Mexico here they come!

You can follow them on their adventure here:

<https://forecast.predictwind.com/tracking/display/Naida>

And here are posts of their journey so far:

In-transit to Mexico: Wed Sep 08 2021

We cleared into the United States today at Port Angeles. We were allowed in because we are transiting to Mexico. We were issued a cruising license which allows us to enter other ports without requiring further clearance, though we must report our arrival at each “port or place”. This is a big relief. Even though we had contacted the US Customs and Border Patrol ahead of time it is never certain until it happens.

We are now really on our way south! Next stop Neah Bay, near Cape Flattery where we may, or may not, have to wait for a favourable weather window before venturing out to the open ocean.

Making some distance: Fri Sep 10 2021

Yesterday morning, very early yesterday morning, 05:30 to be precise, we left Port Angeles intending to head to Neah Bay. Neah Bay is the traditional spot to sit and wait for a good weather window to head south. The “conventional” approach is to go straight to San Francisco from Neah Bay, while the alternate approach is to harbour hop. The weather is not looking great for getting around Cape Mendocino if we were to head straight there so on our way to Neah Bay we decided that we didn't want to end up sitting in Neah Bay for days on end.

Naida on her way south continued on p.14



GULF SAILOR

Vice Commodore's Reports

The Annual Awards Dinner at RVYC has been cancelled for this year.

It is possible that we can have a gathering in a different setting or will have the event virtually. The Executive is still working on this.

2021 GYC Flotilla Cruise to the Broughtons

In the summer of 2020, a group of GYCers enjoyed a flotilla cruise to the Broughton Archipelago and I believe the trip was considered a success. This year the idea was put forth to do something similar and I thought it a good suggestion.

Like last year our fleet (*Feliner*, *Koinonia*, *Naida*, *Renewal*, *Tango* and *Tantramar*) started from the Canada Day rendezvous in Smuggler Cove and more or less followed the same route which involved travelling through Desolation Sound, transiting the Yuculta, Gillard, Dent, Greene Point and Whirlpool Rapids and then north via Johnstone Strait. *Naida* and *Renewal* were with us for part of the voyage north but continued on and ultimately circumnavigated Vancouver Island.

Not everyone stuck together the whole time as various boats had slightly different agendas or required crew changes. We made the usual stops in Pender Harbour, Sturt Bay, Squirrel Cove and Shoal Bay as we worked our way north. Shoal Bay was particularly good this year because Mark (the proprietor) fired up his wood burning pizza oven and "catered" our GYC event. Apparently, he is not permitted to sell food in a "restaurant sort of way" but is allowed to "cater" an event. We were a group of about 10 so he was able to offer up some fine pizza.

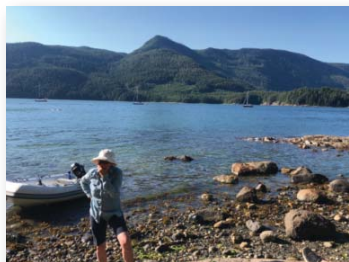


Above: Shoal Bay is one of John's favourite places. Maybe it's the tranquility and wildness of the setting. Here he is sitting in the "pub" enjoying the spectacular view up Philips Arm. Maybe he likes the challenges of the hike up to the now abandoned Douglas Pine Mine and the stupendous views along the way.



But for sure one of the reasons he keeps going back is to chow down on great pizza prepared by Mark.

Our next stop was Port Neville which was not as well protected from Johnstone Strait as we would have liked. Our little fleet bypassed the abandoned dock and continued on about 4.5 miles into Baresides Bay. We found anchorage with good holding but in retrospect should have gone a further mile to the inner lagoon in order to escape the wind.



Anne Trudel left and Deirdre Bain on shore in Baresides Bay.

there appears to be doing well and they are again having their famous appie hour with plenty of prawns for us boaters.

Kwatsi Bay Marina is closed (Max passed away in the spring and Anka has sold) but we found secure anchorage in nearby Glory Be Basin.

With the weather favourable the next day we pushed on to Lagoon Cove. I am pleased to say that the marina



Above: Tranquil Lagoon Cove. An example of a prawn harvest: 150 around Simoom Sound.

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Echo Bay Marina (Pierre's) changed hands last year and is now operated by the First Nations. Unfortunately, they don't appear to be interested in continuing the operation the way that Pierre once did and not many boats were at the docks. It looks like the days of the pig roast are gone. The good news is that over in Proctor Bay, Billy is still going strong, greeting visitors on the porch of his museum and appears to be in good nick.



Dierdre and Fred in Simoom Sound

Like last year, the Sullivan Bay marina was pretty much deserted and the store poorly supplied. Other anchorages we visited included McIntosh Bay in Simoom Sound, Mound Island, Booker Lagoon and Forward Harbour.

During the trip Fred, Deirdre and I stopped at New Vancouver which is a First Nations settlement. We went on the Village and Big House tour which was very good but turned out to be \$60.00 per person. Although the price was a bit steep it was a unique experience.

Weather-wise, in my experience this was one of the best summers to have visited the Broughton's. Although the sailing was poor there was more sun and less rain than previous trips and we had the added bonuses of an abundance of whale and wildlife sightings, bountiful prawn harvests and uncrowded anchorages and marinas.



John chatting with Billy on the porch.

2021 BC Day Meet-up in Squirrel Cove

The northern fleet got together to celebrate BC Day over a couple of days, meeting up on Dog Poo Island one day and on *Beautiful Day* the next.



We had great weather and a few wispy clouds made for an incredible sunset one evening. Here's a reflection of *Beautiful Day* which ended our day of celebration on Dog Poo Island. Unfortunately, following our get together for chat and drinks, Rui and Pat had an unexpected calamity, slicing through their dinghy on the oysters. Rui spent all of the next day patching it up which he did successfully.



The usual suspects went on the long Von Donop trail walk while others did chores and paddled and swam. It was a quiet day. Andreas and Cristina hosted a second casual get together. We all had a good laugh

and some of us made plans to head to Grace Harbour the next day to get within shouting distance of the Laughing Oyster.



We had a fun group meet up in Squirrel Cove: *Tango*, *Tutta Bella*, *Beautiful Day*, *Christie Cove*, *Forever Young*, *Cormorant*, *Sparkle Plenty*, *White Wolf* and *Boqueron*. The next day we headed to Grace Harbour where folks hiked, swam and paddled a lot. It was so hot the jellies hid in the shadows and down deep so water sports of all kinds weren't hampered.

GULF SAILOR

2021 BC Day Cruise to Montague

Most years GYCers meet for BC Day celebrations whether they're cruising north or south. This year we celebrated again in both Montague Harbour and Squirrel Cove.

We had a smooth sail across the Strait, arrived at Montague Harbour and were able to get a place on the dock. *Sassy* joined us. Bruce Edmonds and John Dixon came over by dinghy for appies on the dock and we took a walk to the beach to watch the sunset.



Sunday the women walked around the peninsula while the men stayed on the dock. We helped Lorraine collect driftwood for her sculptures. If you haven't seen any of them, please ask her to show you pictures. She does door size driftwood panels that are beautiful! In the afternoon some of us had a swim while George and Lorraine rowed around with Finn.

On Saturday *Somerset* and *Reality* joined us. After lunch we walked around the peninsula and we had a combined dinner on the shore. It was a great feast and we shared our food at a picnic table. In the evening Robert took out his guitar and several people from other boats joined in the sing-a-long which lasted well into the evening.



Liz Reiniger,
S/V *Moondance*



We went off to the pub for dinner and enjoyed the quirky bus ride with Tommy. I bought his book and it is worth a read. He was a bus driver in Vancouver for many years with a positive attitude and an attempt to lighten his passengers' days. I noticed when he wasn't driving the bus he helped clear tables at the Pub. We enjoyed our dinner, sitting outside behind the pub and were visited by Tommy and the owner.



The Hummingbird Pub bus and Tommy Transit are still going strong. Tommy may have changed his hat but his sense of humour and commitment to fun for his passengers has not altered. There's great music on the way – the old bus has an awesome sound system and Liz took a turn on Tommy's cymbals to the delight of all. And thanks to you and Lorraine for a great report!

Monday morning Robert left early followed by *Sassy* and *Moondance*. We went on to Winter Cove and further sailing adventures for the week.

Liz finished her report with this note about buses. Did you know...?

Speaking of buses, did you realize that above the driver's seat there are four black digits for each Vancouver area city bus. Since I now take the bus reasonably often, when I have a particularly helpful driver, I call the company to compliment him/her. The message gets passed on to the driver and I recently got a call to thank me for my concern.



GULF SAILOR

2021 Labour Day Newcastle Cruise

The salmon BBQ went off almost without a hitch after a couple of iffy weather days. We all had a great time despite the rain. Twenty-eight boats all agreed!

The Labour Day Cruise to Newcastle Island began with appies on the grass overlooking the boats.



Liz Reiniger,
S/V Moondance



The weather was quite pleasant at the start of the official events and our first get together was a cheerful affair. It was the first time, in a long time, that we could see each other in the flesh and catch up on all the news.

Saturday drew a small but dedicated and highly motivated group for Glen's self directed treasure hunt.



Newcastle Island Treasure Hunt (The Story of the Laughing Pirate by Glen)

It started last year with a treasure hunt that took participants all over the island. After numerous complaints that the route was too long and the clues too hard, the very next day, I devised a simpler hunt for this year and if you were particularly clever you could skip many of the clues and go right to the end.

The route was short and close to the pavilion. There were no photos or questions – only clues to follow, that led to the buried treasure. I buried one key, however, in the wrong spot that did open one of the two treasure chests. What you got was a skull and noose but no treasure and as predicted one group DID do that: the group from the boat *Sassy* went the wrong way and got the evil doomed key. It was just retribution that they got the **wrong** key after going the wrong way because they had taken a shortcut and did not walk the full course.



Clue #1 the oversized Draughts board. Maple trees everywhere! Tree stumps all in a line (#4) and Lorraine and Finn "bounding across the fields".

Here are Glen's Clues

1. From the dock doth ye depart. Along easy street, following thy heart.
2. Follow the long diagonal on the draughts to the far dead tree. Boney fingers point the way. You are on the wrong tack if you reach the sea.
3. Circle ye past 7 homesteads. Then go hard-a-port to the bush with berries that poison thee.
4. Sight a line along the two old stumps to the shade of the maple tree. And as a rabbit off thou go, bounding across the fields.

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5. Stand upon the stony brook, then stride across the root. This tack ends at the stump beside the brown stripes.
6. Follow the circle to its end. All the while going against time.
7. Stand on the stone table's sharp edge. Seek the small white flag triumphant over the darkness.
8. Before you reach that dark hole. Dig for treasure in the dessert bowl.

I was really surprised that only a few people knew that Draughts was Checkers. And then many couldn't walk a straight line following the diagonal of the board. Most, but not all, crews were able to figure out that going against time was to walk counter-clockwise.

It was an absolute hoot to watch a gaggle of desperate searchers mill about and not see what was right in front of them. Finally Wilma found the dessert bowl and the rush to dig out the rest of the keys was on. But everyone had to wait 'til the Awards Presentation after the BBQ to find out what the treasure was.

Not only did I have fun thinking the course up, I had a riot watching the crews bumble their way around the Island trying to figure out what I meant.

9. With one key in hand, return to the treasure chest. Open the lock and reap the rewards.
10. Beware of opening the wrong lockbox. For the wrong key leads to a dreadful doom.

The two Treasure Chests were both crafted by Glen himself and are treasure's in themselves. (Ed.)



Laura, Suzanne and Don stand on the stone table looking for the white flag (nowhere to be seen). And then Don threatened to push Suzanne off the edge! Eek! It was getting nasty when, all of a sudden, Wilma shrieked with joy and we all tumbled into the dessert bowl to snag a key. A rather dishevelled Suzanne bagged one for her and Lorraine. (Obviously wearing red and blue was an asset). And then it was over and Glen laughed his head off.



Cecilia (Sassy) stuck with the skull and hangman's noose; Wilma (Knotsure) gets first pick; Lorraine (Somerset) excited by what's in her treasure chest and Laura (Boqueron) and the girls get all the rest!

Next up: 3rd Annual Bocce Tournament organized by Chuck (cut short due to torrential rain)

Over the last few years the Bocce tournament at Newcastle Island has turned out to be pleasant fun with friends. Bocce is not physically demanding, anyone can play with relative ease but it is amazingly easy to get into the competitive spirit.

As the Bocce Tournament time approached rain was starting to fall. This, the 3rd, Annual Bocce Tournament was a soggy affair. My rain-hat goes off to the 12 players that ventured on to the pitch. Geoff and Suzanne teamed up to play against Kurt and Wilma, while Klaus and Liz played against George and Lorraine, and finally Miles and Laura played against Chuck and Jennifer.

Klaus, Liz, George and Lorraine were wise enough to play from underneath a large tree, taking advantage of the rain protection, while the rest of us slogged out on the open field. Unfortunately the rain started to pour with a vengeance which was really too bad as in my game the competition was enjoyably heating up; especially with that darn Laura who was really good at scoring.

While no one earned the title of Winner this year, I think all players were winners. They won admiration and respect for having the spirit and grit to step out into the rain to have a little fun regardless!! Bravo!



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New Boat Celebrations



By the afternoon, the rain stopped so we could celebrate the five new boats in the club.



Dar and Chris had collected gifts for them all: *Serenity* (Cathie and Jim West), *Tango* (Glen Mitchell), *Tutta Bella* (Norm and Gladys Ross), *Hollyberry* (Ron and Eleanor Vandergaag) and *Cormorant*, Bob Hamelin. Chris made up beautiful boxes filled with the gifts for the new boat owners. We toasted them all with champagne and a welcome to the club by Chris.

Coffee Morning with Fresh Muffins, thanks to Glen.

Sunday started with fresh muffins on the picnic table. Everyone brought their own drinks and the puppies all had a great time.



All fueled up it was time for the GeoCache Walk.

Following 'breakfast' George B. got everyone organized on the GeoCache walk but before this George devised the questions and **Bruce Shuh** helped him post (and later remove) the questions at the various stations. Thanks for all this hard work guys!

There were four teams for the GeoCache this year.

Rhumb Line - John and Michael Dixon, Chuck and Jennifer Orum

Las Tortugas - Ron and Eleanor, Bob Hamelin, Laura and Don

Misfits - Glen, Phill, Andreas, Christina, Klaus and Chris

Lost Souls - Kurt, Wilma, Cecilia and Harry, Geoff S. and Robert S.

GULF SAILOR

And the 2021 winners are ta-dahhh ... Rhumb Line!

Congratulations to the winners who managed to correctly answer more of the skill testing questions than the other teams. Here is a sample of a questions to give you a taste of what they faced: BTW, no googling allowed!

Example #1:

How salty is ocean water?

- a) 1.4 ounces of salt per 750ml wine bottle of water
- b) 2 tablespoons plus 1 teaspoon salt in 1 litre of water
- c) 1 3/4 lb of salt dissolved in a 5 gallon bucket of water
- d) A pinch of salt in 2 (scant) teaspoons of water

The trick to this question is that the four choices and all answers are correct: 35 parts/1000

Example #2:

This jingle reminds us of:

One of sour
Two of sweet
Three of strong
And four of weak

- a) Chinese food
- b) Personalities of a typical group of 10 sailors
- c) Recipe for rum punch
- d) Variety of coffees at Tim Hortons



Jennifer, Chuck, Michael (Dixon), John, organizer George and Doug.

And then it was Games in the Afternoon

First up, the Egg Toss, organized by Dar and Rod. Winners were Anne and Ken who clearly had the hard-boiled egg in the lot!

Egg Toss



More than an dozen teams lined up under the watchful eyes of Rod and Dar. First out were Miles and Suzie and teams dropped like flies quickly thereafter. Finally with just two teams left, Vivian and Teo dropped their egg so then there was one. Congratulations Ken and Anne!



Welly Toss

Another year and more throwing techniques than you can shake a welly at. Under the watchful eyes of Geoff and Kurt, and with help from Teo, stiff competition ensued. See overleaf for the winner...



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And the 2021 winners for the Welly Boot toss are:

Teo won the welly toss
for the boys
Vivian won for the girls

Eleanor beat the other
ladies
Michael Dixon outdid



Next up, the Knot Tying Workshop led by George B. and Fred



George and Fred hosted a small group on the lawn and engaged in learning challenging knots and their applications.

Real Life Application

NOT knowing your KNOTS could have had me swinging solo on *Somerset* in Pirates Cove.

We went to Pirates Cove for two nights after Newcastle. On the second day strong NW winds were blowing into the cove. George decided to move our stern line to a ring further north while the boat was still stern tied to the first ring (a complicated manoeuvre in the end). "Be careful George!" I shrieked.

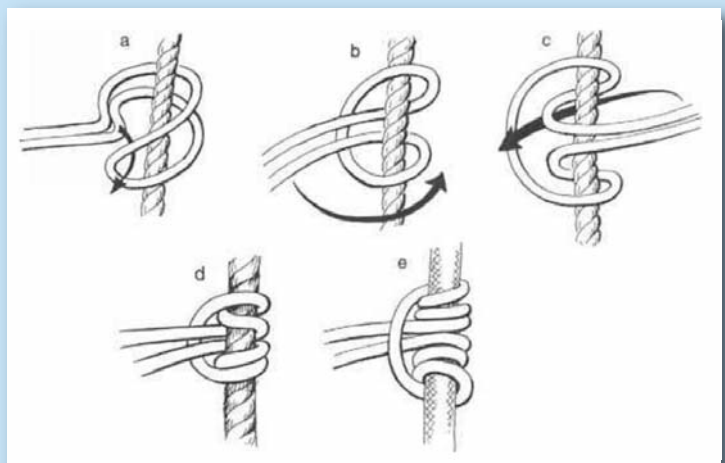
Thank god he knows his knots. He had to use a secondary line to keep our boat securely tied to the first ring while tying to the second and, eventually, releasing the first and resetting the anchor.

The Prusik Knot, one that slips in one direction but holds fast in the other (normally used by climbers) did the trick. I believe the Prusik Knot was covered by the group at Newcastle – thank heavens he'd had a recent reminder of it. The point of my telling you is to express my relief and gratitude for his knowledge of knot tying.



The Prusik Knot

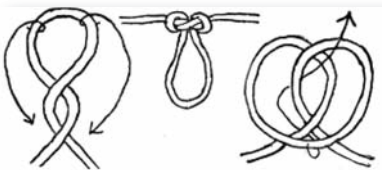
A Prusik is a friction hitch or knot used to attach a loop of cord around a rope, applied in climbing, canyoneering, mountaineering, caving, rope rescue, ziplining, and by arborists. The term Prusik is a name for both the loops of cord used to tie the hitch and the hitch itself, and the verb is "to prusik."



The Lineman's Loop

Another knot George and his group examined was the single loop knot called the Lineman's Loop (sometimes called Butterfly Knot or Lading Loop). This knot is very strong and works equally well in either direction of pull.

Like the familiar Bowline, this knot is easy to untie, even after a heavy load.

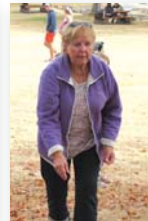


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Raising \$\$ for Disabled Sailors



The Coin Toss was organized and supervised by **Eleanor** who collected \$83.00. **George P.** won the bottle of white wine and **Gladys** won the red.



Just a few of the folks who took a stab at winning the bottles – all for a good cause: Terry, Geoff, Cristina, Kurt, Laura, Jim, Harry and Dar. Thanks to everyone who played.

And finally, time for our Salmon Dinner had come.

Earlier in the day Glen dinghied over to Nanaimo to pick up the fish. Apparently he had next to no freeboard on they way back – thank heavens for no wind or waves. The cooking crew prepared the cooking tables and planned their strategy and timings to have things ready by 6:00.



The cooks got to work lighting the coals, marinating the fillets, arranging them in the fish BBQ baskets. Then the actual BBQing, and warming of the garlic bread. While Phill, Don and Ron kept up with the grilling, Bob and Miles deskinning all the fillets and prepared them ready to serve.



GULF SAILOR

The last words

After the delicious salmon dinner there was a toast to the chefs and a thank you to Glen for the treasure hunt and getting the salmon. Phill Little talked about the three members of the club that are left with numbers under 100 – himself, Norm and Nancy – and regaled us with memories of ‘the old days’ when he and other members actually had to go out in the morning and fish for their barbecue dinner! Robert also thanked the cooks and all the other volunteers. We all enthusiastically joined in!



Boats in attendance:

Astera, Beautiful Day, Boqueron, Christie Cove, Contender, Cormorant, Forever Young, Hollyberry, Honu III, Knot Sure, Koinonia, Moondance, Naida, Perspective, Reality, Renewal, Sassy, SawLeeAh, Serenity, Snap Shot, Somerset, Sparkle Plenty, Spiritus II, Taeko IV, Tango, Tantramar, Tutta Bella, White Wolf, Willpower, Windstrel.



Naida on her way south continued from p.4

Since the weather looked fine for the northern part of the coast we decided to just keep going and head to Grays Harbour which would take about 30 hours. The harbours on the coast of Washington and Oregon tend to have a bar (shallow water) to cross. These bars can be dangerous if the wind and current oppose each other and sometimes bars are closed by the Coast Guard when weather conditions deteriorate. The bar at Grays Harbour is one of the easier bars so it was a good choice as a stopping point. We will take some time here to catch our breath and tweak a few things we found on our way down. It feels great to be on our way and putting our skills to use, watching the weather, making plans, tweaking plans, and having an adventure (though our motto is “adventure, but not too much adventure”).

Grays Harbour, Washington: Sat Sep 11 2021

Grays Harbour is a serious fishing town, at least as seen from the waterfront. There are lots of big commercial fishing vessels here along with an active coast guard station. My impression of the harbours we will visit down the coast is that they will all have an active coast guard presence. The fishing vessels here are like those in Vancouver’s Fisherman’s Wharf, there are just a lot more of them and they are coming and going day and night. The locals come to fish and crab off the docks in the marina and along the pier beside the marina. They appear to be successful too. We took the lazy way out and walked over to Bennett’s Fish Shack where we had great fish tacos and crab cakes. On the way back we stopped and had ice cream in fresh baked waffle cones. Pretty clever of them to be baking fresh waffle cones when everyone is walking by.

Tomorrow we have another early departure to catch the slack water over the bar at 06:00. We plan to go to Crescent City, California, some 300 nm south. That should be about 2 days sailing. The weather looks good that far before strong winds move in.

Crescent City, California: Tue Sep 14 2021

We completed our longest passage so far on *Naida* (2.3 days) with crew intact and the boat with a few minor bruises. The bar crossing leaving Grays Harbour at slack was rocky and *Naida* handled it well especially having stowed our heavy chain rode deep in the hull. There were impressive 2m waves breaking over the submerged jetty beside the channel we traversed. It was a reminder to heed bar crossing reports broadcast regularly on VHF 22A.

We had some lighter downwind sailing initially which allowed us to better hone rigging the whisker pole for wing-on-wing sailing. The overnight was relaxed downwind sailing with lots of time to read. That was not to last as the wind built the following day and sails had to be reefed. Between the strong winds (the max gust we recorded was 42 kts) and the swells slightly over 2m we flew along. Late on the second evening we discovered that the rigid boomvang which supports the forward part of the boom had broken its mount off the mast. Although the boom had been stabilized with a preventer line, the to and fro rocking of the boat on the swell had resulted in too much stress on the vang. We were able, given the strong winds, to continue the voyage with just the foresail, arriving in Crescent City before the gale force winds set in. Tomorrow’s task is to determine the fix for the boomvang and give the boat a good wash to rid her of all the salt.

GULF SAILOR

Fleet Captain's Report



Looking Backwards and Forwards

The Newcastle Cruise was another great success with 28 boats and 62 people including four children, all of whom attended the barbecue.

We had a different feel to our event this year with Covid concerns having some members arrive on foot, some members stay away, and some bastions of our cruises choosing to fly overseas rather than be with us. Because of Covid and the changing rules, the Exec had many extra meetings, conversations and emails as we worked hard to find a way to balance having a great time together while ensuring we would not be risking the health of our members. Some cruises ended up being cancelled and at Newcastle our boat celebrations were changed to avoid gathering inside the boats, we moved the dinner out from under the roof and had extra tables to facilitate safe distancing.

It was reassuring to see so many of our club make an effort to socially distance, and often even wear masks outdoors. And many of you volunteered your vaccination status in your RSVP's. Thank you for your concern for each other!



Robert Sinkus,
Fleet Captain,
S/V Reality

Thanks to all the Volunteers

Two volunteers stood out for doing a ton of work behind the scenes to make the Newcastle event a great weekend: Thank you **Chris** and **Glen**! Chris provided great guidance and suggestions, wonderful organization, barbecue supplies, arranged the boat celebrations, brought the glasses, bought all the games' prizes, and printed tickets for the (now cancelled) Awards Dinner.

Glen ordered and picked up our salmon, the muffins for coffee morning, and introduced garlic bread to the BBQ. He bought a bocce set for the tournament, brought the Laings over from Van Isle and devised a challenging treasure hunt (not forgetting the treasure chests and 'treasures' therein).

I also want to thank the following for their contributions:

Liz: Scribe; **Lorraine:** Photographer extraordinaire; **Cristina:** Covid Attendance, and Barbecue updates; **Nancy:** BBQ tickets; **Chuck:** Bocce Set and organizing 3rd Annual Bocce Tournament (in the rain); **Andreas and John D.:** Bocce Sets; **Pat:** Bubbly for the Boat Celebrations; **George B. and Bruce:** GeoCache; **Dar and Rod:** Egg Toss; **Geoff:** Welly Toss; **George B and Fred:** Knot Tying Workshop; **Eleanor:** Coin Toss for Disabled Sailors; **Phill and Bob:** Barbecue set up and Chefs; **Don, Ron, Miles:** Assistant set up and chef; **Ken:** taking Laings back to Van Isle; **Nancy (again):** for handing out balloons to everyone to decorate *Naida* before her departure South

We also had two member applications and I am happy to welcome Martin Suo on *Astera*, a classic Vancouver 27, who is our newest member. Ernie and Yvonne Van Dyk on *Honu III*, a Beneteau 373, are next in line.

Cruises Coming Up

Extreme Scream: Sat Sept. 25-Fri Oct. 1: Sailing to destinations in the Gulf Islands.

Watch for details on the GYC Flotilla WhatsApp Chat, or contact me directly

Bowen Island Weekend: Fri Oct. 1 – Sun Oct. 3: Bowen Island Weekend but no Summerhouse. Walkpast for the Commodore.

New Years Get Together: Fri Dec. 31 – Sat Jan. 1: New Years at Bowen

GULF SAILOR

Fleet Captain's Report



This is a week-long flotilla cruise, moving between destinations in the Gulf Islands rather than staying put at a single location. We will hopefully have some stronger nice winds as well as find the destinations less crowded. We plan to end up at Bowen Island October 1st for the club's final outing all together.

It is an all-inclusive trip for men, women, power boats and sail boats.

This cruise has its own **GYC Flotilla WhatsApp Chat** at <https://chat.whatsapp.com/Cth0vg3eQefHWPIU0J4143>



Robert Sinkus,
Fleet Captain,



The current plan is to meet at Conover Cove, Wallace Island, on Saturday Sept 25. The tentative sailing plan of the destinations afterward is still being discussed, and will likely be finalized by the time you read this notice. It will be tentative to allow for weather conditions and space at marinas.

Watch for details on the GYC Flotilla WhatsApp Chat, or contact me directly. We have a group committed and are communicating among ourselves. The cruise agenda is adaptable to accommodate the weather, and our group.

Currently planning to participate in the full cruise are: *Reality*, *Tantramar*, *Tango*, *SawLeeAh*.

Other boats are planning to join for part of the flotilla: *Christie Cove*, *Willpower*, *Renewal*, *Spiritus II*, *Contender* and *Snap Shot*. Also hoping to join us on land or dock for a get together on Van Isle are the Shuh's.

June Virtual General Meeting Minutes Cont. from p.18

3rd Door Prize Draw

- Glen drew *Windstrel* who were not present and then *Kwinnum*. Doug reported that Cam and Maryanna would receive a \$50 gift card to Martin Marine.

Commodore's Report –

- Chris noted that this was our 13th Zoom meeting since the onset of the pandemic. The platform has worked well as we all experienced the changes the pandemic brought. Thanks to Andreas and Robert for helping with the technology. We can all breathe a sigh of relief tomorrow as restrictions ease and the opportunity to travel resumes. We must still exercise some restraint this summer to ensure we do not experience a 4th wave. Please have a happy, safe, and healthy summer and update us all on your activities via WhatsApp. I look forward to catching up with everyone this summer.

Motion to Adjourn by Robert Sinkus. Carried.

Meeting adjourned 20:23 hrs.

Presentations:

- Lorraine de la Morandière on Burgoyne Bay

Minutes prepared and respectfully submitted by Ken Buckley, Hon. Secretary, *S/V Naida*.



GULF SAILOR

Fleet Captain's Report



This is the final cruise of our club prior to New Year's and also the last stop of the Extreme Scream nine-day cruise. It is our last hurrah as a group before we start thinking of putting our treasured boats to bed, or preparing for our winter adventures.

We will be gathering at the USSC Marina on Friday, October 1st through Sunday, October 3rd.



BOOK YOUR OWN MOORAGE: Union Steamship Marine 604-947-0707.

Members were advised to book their place two weeks before October 1st, as after that bookings will be open to the public. There may still be room and if you haven't booked yet I urge you to do so (remember to mention you are with the Gulf Yacht Club). The marina may allow rafting to other club boats if there is no space directly on the dock.

Saturday Activities

This will be an informal cruise, but usually there is a group of hikers and walkers on Saturday. We had to cancel the Summerhouse due to Covid concerns but Doc Morgan's can hold up to 200 at tables of up to 6 people under current Covid protocols. If they are full, they will call groups back – usually within 30 minutes when a table comes free.



SawLeeAh with flags flying in 2019.

Sunday Activities: Walkpast Salute at 10:30

We will be holding our "Walkpast" at 10:30 a.m. The Commodore's boat, *Christie Cove*, will have flags flying. GYCers will pick up a glass of champagne and orange juice (supplied by the Commodore) with which to salute.

Hope to see many of you at this unusual honouring of our Commodore.



Robert Sinkus,
Fleet Captain,
S/V Reality

Contact the marina as you enter on VHF Channel 66a (a=US)

GULF SAILOR

June Virtual General Meeting Minutes Cont. from p.19

- There are new exclusion zones to protect the Southern Resident Killer Whales south of Campbell River, in Barkley Sound, and in Howe Sound. Pacific Yachting published this information and it is available online. <https://www.pac.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/fm-gp/mammals-mammiferes/whales-baleines/srkw-measures-mesures-ers-eng.html>
- It looks like the luxury tax proposed for boats over \$250K will go ahead. It is not clear if this applies to both new and used boats. There has been an effort to lobby against it and it was found to hurt the US boat building industry when it was tried in the US.
- There is discussion of changing the name of the Council BC Yacht Clubs to remove the word yacht in favour of something more inclusive that does not carry the connotation of wealth. If anyone has an opinion on this please let Andreas know.

Staff Captain –

- Doug reported that tonight Lorraine will present on Burgoyne Bay.
- As things open up we are looking forward to in person meetings in the fall. The first meeting will be a pub night, Sept 13, 18:30h, at Mahony & Sons at Stamps Landing. An area has been reserved for the club. As John Dixon has comment before, this is in False Creek, we can sail there and anchor, so keep that in mind. There is also pay parking 3-400m away.
- Doug is currently arranging a speaker for the October meeting and reminded everyone that if they have an idea for a presentation, either that they want to give or for someone else, please let him know. He would like to line up speakers through to the new year.

2nd Door Prize Draw

- Glen drew *Seaclusion*, Tony and Barb Boardman's new boat. Doug reported that Tony and Barb will receive a \$50 gift card to Steveston Marine.

Secretary –

- No report.

Vice Commodore –

- John reported that the Dinner Dance at Royal Vancouver Yacht Club on Nov 20 is expected to go ahead. Details are being arranged and there will be more communication about that coming in the fall.
- John also reported that he has been working on club insurance for a long time, information was published in the Gulf Sailor regarding the insurance. The rationale for getting insurance is to protect the club from lawsuits arising from any activities organized by the club. The proposal is to buy \$1M insurance for \$1750/yr.
- John moved that the GYC purchase liability insurance. The motion was seconded by Robert Sinkus. Motion Carried.
- Geoff Stevenson asked if this was Director's and Officer's insurance. John stated it was not, that we do not need that as the club has no employees and no assets. This is to cover any costs such as legal fees or judgements that arise from any suit against the club. Geoff noted that his

experience in the US is that having insurance makes one a target for suit and that a high deductible is one way to limit this risk. John noted that there is no deductible associated with the planned insurance. Geoff asked if the cost would be lower with a high deductible and John stated he would check. It was also noted that the club had no funds to pay a high deductible in the event it was required.

- Dar Farrell thanked John for his work on this item.

Past Commodore • No report.

Gulf Sailor Editor –

- Suzanne thanked everyone for their contributions to the newsletter. There will be no more newsletters until the fall unless there is something specific that needs to go out.
- Suzanne stated that Glen Mitchell's story of innovative ideas is a good one and expects to see lots of stories like this being submitted.

Commodore –

- Chris stated that she will save her report for the end..

Business Arising from the Reports

- Nic Palmer commended John Dixon on his correct use of Smuggler Cove as opposed to Smugglers Cove. The nearest Smugglers Cove is on Lake Ontario and we must be careful with our navigation!.

NEW BUSINESS –

- Dar Farrell and Doug MacLeod presented proposed changes to the membership categories in the bylaws. These changes were published in the latest Gulf Sailor. The proposal is to only have Active, Non-active, Interim, Honorary, and Honorary Life member categories. Non-resident and Associate categories will be subsumed into the Active category. Dar drew particular attention to the fact that the fee structure is not changing, members outside the lower mainland will continue to pay a reduced fee.
- Dar and Doug stated that the proposed changes are to make sure all members of the club are included in all aspects of the club, including the opportunity to be on the Executive. The requirement to own a sailboat and pilot it across the strait in order to become an active member of the club is not changing. The requirement to be Active members for at least five years before moving to a powerboat is also not changing. It is understood that members move to powerboats for various reasons but the essence of being a sailor is still present and understood.
- Please review the changes as presented in the Gulf Sailor, discuss them with others over the summer. Provide your input to Dar or Doug or any of the Executive. There will be an extraordinary meeting in the fall where a motion will be made to adopt the changes.
- There was a discussion regarding creating a "junior" category of membership as a way to maintain the affiliation of members children and/or offer a way of accommodating members that do not yet have boats of their own. While this idea is separate to the proposed changes above members are encouraged to give their feedback on this idea to the Executive.

June Virtual General Meeting Minutes Cont. on p.16

GULF SAILOR



Minutes

of the Virtual General Meeting,
June 14, 2021

The meeting was called to order at
19:34 hrs by Commodore Chris
Stangroom.

COMMODORE COMMENTS AND WELCOME

- Commodore Stangroom greeted everyone by noting that we can breathe a sigh of relief in collectively driving down the Covid-19 case numbers and look forward to the easing of restrictions. The Commodore reported that there is a lot of information to go over this evening with a discussion of proposed changes to membership categories and a motion to adopt liability insurance.

Motion and Second for The Minutes of the previous meeting Moved by Cam Shields and seconded by Robert Sinkus. Carried

Business arising from the Minutes of the previous meeting • None

1st Door Prize Draw

- Glen drew many names until arriving at a member who was present: *Feliner*, *Contender*, *Lucy May*, *Eclipse Jr.*, *Showtime*, and finally *Somerset*. George and Lorraine were awarded a \$50 gift card to Martin Marine.

REPORTS OF OFFICERS:

Executive Officer –

- Pat reported 36 members present.
- Pat will bring new burgees to Smuggler Cove for the Canada Day rendezvous if anyone is looking to purchase a new burgee.
- Pat also asked members to think about possible changes to the club name tags. They may be more useful if members keep them themselves and bring them to rendezvous' in addition to club meetings. In the future name tags may not include the boat name as this removes the need to replace name tags when members change boats and would also allow for a larger font. The name tags cannot be recycled so reducing the number that are disposed is beneficial.

Treasurer –

- Glen reported \$4,124 in the savings account and \$14,834 in the chequing account for a total of \$18,958. \$859 was spent on trophies, rosters, door prizes, and stationery.

Fleet Captain –

- Robert reported the Canada Day rendezvous at Smuggler Cove is ON! We may request that some bring BBQs for the dinner, the Executive will discuss at their meeting this Wednesday evening. When arriving please look for the club burgees and raft with the club boats.
- Two hosts will be needed for the BC Day cruise, one for the North group and one for the South. The role is mostly as a contact for those interested in attending each location.
- Volunteers are needed for the Labour Day cruise at Newcastle. We are considering doing a Sailpast on the

Executive Officers Present:

Commodore	Christie Stangroom
Vice-Commodore	John Dixon
Fleet Captain	Robert Sinkus
Staff Captain	Doug MacLeod
Hon. Secretary	Ken Buckley
Hon. Treasurer	Glen Mitchell
Executive Officer	Pat Costa
Signals Officer	Andreas Truckenbrodt
Past Commodore	Darlyne Farrell

Other Officers:

Gulf Sailor Editor Suzanne Walker

Absent: None

last day when most boats are preparing to depart. This will allow those staying longer to keep their dock space. Our Commodore has not had a salute yet and it would be nice to provide one.

- The fall Extreme Scream is a week-long cruise Sep 24 to Sep 30, likely in the Gulf Islands as Jervis Inlet and Princess Louisa are better in the spring for seeing the waterfalls. The Extreme Scream will end with the Fall Cruise at Bowen Island Sep 30, Oct 1 and 2. The Summer House at Union Steamship is booked for Oct 1 and 2. Since Gibsons will have very little transient moorage, possibly as little as only 10 boats between the two marinas, the decision was made to hold the Fall Cruise at Bowen.
- The last cruise of the year will be the New Year's Cruise at Bowen, let's get more than 4 boats out this year!
- John Dixon reported that he is planning to go North after Smuggler and knows a few other boats are too such as *Naida*, *Feliner*, and *Spiritus II*. He encouraged anyone interested to post on WhatsApp so we can all coordinate to join (or avoid!) as desired.

Hon. Signals Officer • No report.

Council of BC Yacht Clubs –

- Andreas reported that the Council met last Saturday and he had several items to bring to our attention.
- For those that belong to another yacht club with reciprocals, please note that the Nanaimo Yacht Club reciprocal dock is closed this season.
- The BC Parks Foundation purchase of Saturnina Island is still pending negotiations with the owners. One catch is that BC Parks normally takes over maintenance and upkeep of these properties but they are refusing as they have no budget. The purchase is still expected to happen.
- The Marine Action Plan by BC Parks is a good plan but the implementation is problematic. There is \$100K from the Licence Plate Fund allocated to various Parks activities, including the stern tie program. The program is dependent on approvals from First Nations groups who require reports and studies. No money has been allocated to these reports or studies so the program is stalled.

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