

Bellhaven Yacht Sales

A Strong Supporter of SYC

Since 1981 Bellhaven Yacht Sales has been a fixture of the Northwest Washington boating scene. And for almost as long, Bellhaven Yacht Sales has been a friend of the Semiahmoo Yacht Club. So what better supporter could we find to launch our new spotlight series featuring SYC preferred suppliers and supporters?

For many years the Bellhaven name was synonymous with owners Curt and Sandy Bagley. An experienced yacht broker, Curt has the distinction of being among the first to receive CPYB certification. To become a Certified Professional Yacht Broker meant that he was trained and passed extensive testing to achieve that high standard of ethics, maritime law, marine construction, escrow accounting, licensing and closings. And Sandy? Well, of course she ran everything else.

But Curt and Sandy are also boat owners and love to spend their time on the water – not easily accomplished as full time operators of a thriving business. Enter Dave and Peggy King.

Dave King is a 20 + year veteran of the U.S. Coast Guard, dividing his time between Virginia and Alaska, where he served as commanding officer – first of the 95 foot patrol boat “Cape Coral” and then the 180 foot buoy tender “Planetree”. It was during this time that he met and married his wife Peggy, herself the daughter of a career Coast guard officer.

Finding themselves “empty nesters” in 2007, they purchased a 42 foot catamaran and began the dream, living aboard and cruising extensively on the US east coast. Their retirement in 2010 opened up new cruising adventures from the ICW to the Bahamas. When family issues brought them to Gig Harbor, Washington, Dave continued to indulge his love of the water by taking a job as a yacht broker at Tacoma’s Breakwater Marina.

“You’re automatically introduced to the brokerage business whenever you buy or sell a boat”, says Dave. “So it was an easy move for me to make. But after all those years in the Coast Guard, I wanted to be in charge”.

Through the grapevine they found out that Bellhaven was up for sale, and the timing seemed perfect. “I was looking for something part time anyway”, remembers Peggy. “You can only spend so much time in the garden”.

So in July 2014 the Kings purchased Bellhaven Yacht Sales

and Charters, throwing new energy into the business. First on the agenda was an overhaul of the website – “That’s how boats are sold these days” – along with new ideas for the charter business, including three hour wine and cheese and sunset cruises. “Bellingham is the gateway to some of the most beautiful cruising in the world”, enthuses Peggy. “And lots of visitors to our area love to get out on the water. We are aiming our charter business at this market”.

Two other couples have partnered in the charter business, and Dave expects that trend will grow. “We don’t own our charter boats”, he explains. “We act as an advertising agency for them. In addition we have committed for 42 slips at Squalicum Harbor, so we always have room.”

Bellhaven also operates a sailing school certified by the American Sailing Association. Courses include basic keel-boat sailing, coastal cruising and coastal navigation, along with more advanced skills such as celestial navigation and offshore sailing.

Meanwhile the traditional yacht sales business continues to thrive. Curt Bagley has stayed on as the senior member of a four person broker team, and wife Sandy is helping

Peggy with the office chores. “The nice thing about Bellhaven is that we feature both power and sail in our sales and charter business”, says Dave. “You don’t have to go to Seattle to buy, sell or charter a boat. You can stay here in Bellingham where we have smaller fleets and lower prices”.

Their commitment to the Semiahmoo

Yacht Club remains strong. Dave takes note of the considerable number of SYC members who have listed boats with Bellhaven. “We really appreciate the loyalty of your club”, he says. “The company has changed hands, but the relationship will continue”.

