



## Executive Director

Wow, what a winter we have had: Floods in the West, drought in the South, record snow in Northeast, and no snow (very little) here in Annapolis. Maybe there is something to the global warming story. In spite of it all Navy Sailing is still alive and well, older maybe, but well. This issue of our newsletter has many topics that need to be shared. My comments in this section will try to wrap up 2007 and share some of our thoughts for 2008.



## The Annapolis Boat Show

We again had two Navy Sail Training Craft in the 2007 show. The Luders Yawl this year displayed just what can happen when a dedicated group of Navy Sailing members, in this case members of Navy Patuxent Sailing Club, can accomplish when they work together with their MWR folks. The



Yawl *Vigilant* has been “restored.” They accomplished a miracle. It looks great!! BZ to NPSC. As in the past, we also had a Navy 44 MK I. Also, as in the past, we did not have a Navy 44 MK II. Next year remains to be seen. As all of you know, the folks at the boat show “granted” us (Navy Sailing/USNSA) space in the in order for us to highlight the training and leadership development that is accomplished through the use of these vessels and to show what happens when the Naval Academy replaces its fleet. We also promote the idea of Navy Sailing and what it brings to our future Naval Officers.

## Veterans (Vets) on the Bay (VOB)

As we highlighted in our last issue of the newsletter, we hosted over 50 wounded personnel and their families at two VOB events. This year we are planning to host three in this area and expand the program to the Norfolk area where the Norfolk Navy Sailing Association (NNSA) branch will help us reach out to the wounded at the Portsmouth Naval and the Veterans hospital near by. We may also be able to help some of the folks in the Richmond area. Of course we are

needing help, both financial and in terms of volunteers to bring these together. Keep the Foundation (USNSF) in mind before you finish your taxes



for 2007. WNAV, a local radio station here in Annapolis, offered us, and we accepted, a chance to discuss this project on its weekly boating show hour with Dave Hanson. Thank you WNAV & Dave.

## US Naval Sailing Foundation, Inc.

USNSF is our 501(c)(3) arm. As always, we need financial resources to keep Navy Sailing moving forward. The many projects and programs require us to continuously ask for assistance. The VOB project is one of these. The McWethy Fund is another way to help us. This year we are working to preserve Navy sail training history by restoring NA 1 *Intrepid*, a Luders Yawl here in Annapolis. Your help is needed. Please be generous. This past year the Foundation accepted two boats, an Endeavor 34 and a Tartan 32 and placed them with the MWR folks in Norfolk. Yes, we accept boats as well.

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# WINTER 2008 - US NAVAL SAILING ASSOCIATION

## All Services Single-Handed Championship & After-Guard Regatta

This is the military door into competition at the national level for small boat racing. For the last several years, the Naval Academy has served as our host and organizing body. We have not yet identified a location for this year. If your club or MWR would like to help, please let us know ASAP.

### US Naval Sailing Association

#### Commodore

VADM Douglas J. Katz, USN (Ret.)

#### Vice Commodore

CAPT Dixon R. Smith, USN

#### Treasurer

CDR Richard F. Emmett, USN (Ret.)

#### Rear Commodores

LCDR Jeffrey A. Bennett, II, USN

CDR Nicholas V. Buck, USN

LTC Kelly G. Dobson, USMC

CDR Gavin J. Giddings, USNR

CAPT Joseph C. Lodmell, USN

Mr. Ray Moon

CDR Louis P. Partida, USN

Mr. Michael C. Rowe

CDR Robert Spencer, USN (Ret.)

#### Executive Director

LCOL Robert L. Howe, USA (Ret.)

#### CNET Liaison

CAPT Dan Cain, USN

#### BUPERS Liaison

CAPT Bruce Sherman, USN (Ret.)

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**usnsa@usna.edu**

## Navy Sailing Instructor Certification

We have scheduled a Sailing Instructor certification class for May in the Charleston area. If you or your program need certified instructors, this is an excellent opportunity. Contact us for more information. 410 293-2130.

## NETC - NROTC - NJROTC

### NJROTC - In

September 2007 the US Naval Sailing Foundation donated two Laser sailboats to the West Ashley High School NJROTC Unit. Master Chief Tim Strickland arrived in Annapolis with a trailer and two West Ashley cadets to assist in the loading of the sailboats.



He writes, "Even though the Lasers suffered minor damage, there was nothing that could not be repaired with the assistance of vocational schools in the Charleston County School District. This saves the NJROTC Unit money and provides projects and valuable experience for the vocational students to practice their fiberglass repair skills. The West Ashley NJROTC Unit appreciates the continued support of the US Naval Sailing Foundation."

## US Naval Sailing Association 2008 Newsletter & Yearbook

If you would like a hard copy of this newsletter, you will need to notify us and we will send you a copy. Otherwise, you may sign on to the member section of the website and read and print at your leisure.

Navy Sailing website:  
[www.navysailing.org](http://www.navysailing.org).

We will notify all of our current members that the latest edition of the newsletter is now online by sending you a postcard. This notification will have a twofold purpose:

- 1) to let you know that the newsletter is now available for viewing;
- 2) to let you know the current status of your membership and your expiration date.

**If you are due for renewal, we will notify you at that time.**

We realize that some of our members may not be connected to the internet or may prefer to continue receiving a hard copy of the newsletter. We assure you that we will make every effort to accommodate your request.

Last Spring we sent out a mailing to all of our current members. We enclosed a postcard for return, requesting any changes in your rank, branch of service and military status (active or retired). If you own a boat, we would like to know the name of the boat, manufacturer, model, length, and sail number, if any. If you no longer own a boat, we would need to delete that information from the database.

As USNSA operates with a limited staff, this project did not come to fruition in 2007 because much of our time was donated to our Vets on the Bay projects and our Sailing Instructor Certification classes. Well, we are back on track and working on this project right now. Many of you responded by returning your postcards or via email, providing us with updated information.

Many of you do have internet access and are able to communicate with us via e-mail. We ask that you respond via e-mail, if possible, with any changes to the above-referenced information that has occurred since last April 2007, i.e., if your status has changed from active to retired, or if you have had an upgrade in rank. Please let us know at your earliest convenience.

It our intention to issue the new Yearbook on CD rather than printed copy. In this format, we will be able to upgrade our data on a timely basis. When you request a new Yearbook, you know that you will be receiving the latest information we have available. The Yearbook will also be posted on the website for easy access by our current USNSA members.

Inside this Newsletter you will find a copy of our Individual Membership Form. If you prefer to update your information using this form, please do so. We ask that if you have an e-mail address, you please let us know. Eventually, we would like to be able to notify our members via e-mail that the newest Newsletter is now available online. For those of you who prefer your Newsletter and all correspondence via the U.S. Postal Service, please return this form, expressing your wishes. We aim to please. We will accommodate our

members in any way we can. We thank you for your understanding and your support as we strive to keep Navy Sailing alive and keep the standards of this organization at an all-time high.

## Newsletter & Current Yearbook Online

You can review the last newsletter and the yearbook on line in the members-only section of the website:

[www.navysailing.org](http://www.navysailing.org). If you have forgotten the log-in and password, contact us here at 410 293-2130 or [usnsa@usna.edu](mailto:usnsa@usna.edu).

## Member Branch News - CONUS

### Northeast Region

#### Coasters Harbor Navy Yacht Club/NAVSTA Newport, RI

USNSA would like to acknowledge the efforts of Ed Noll, CHNYC Facilities Coordinator, and CHNYC member, Bob Parent, for their high energy and commitment to the success of the first annual Boys and Girls Club Cruise this past summer. Seventeen boats left the dock, carrying 61 children and seven staff members. We are sure that the 2008 second annual Boys and Girls Club Cruise will introduce even more children to the joys of sailing.

The CHNYC End-of-Season Awards Banquet was held on 26 October at the Officers Club. As part of the evening's

agenda, the Induction of Officers introduced the CHNYC Executive Board for 2008:

Commodore, Paul Mankofsky;  
Vice Commodore, Kevin Hansen;  
ER Commodore, Ron Oard;  
Secretary/Treasurer, Janet Belson.

CHNYC members assisted with two important events last fall: The Special Olympics Rhode Island Annual Regatta, held on 22-23 September, hosted more than 75 special athletes in 26 four-man sailing teams from southeastern New England and Virginia. The Navy War College held its annual President's Cup Regatta in September. The Senior class took top honors. The Staff and Faculty team was second, and the Junior class finished third.

The 2007 Sail Training season closed out another successful year – over 240 students completed the Ground



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Training school as of year end. Four new Rhodes 19 were added to the fleet and four old O'Day hulls were retired. MWR has already purchased an additional new boat that will join the fleet this spring.

Website: [www.chnyc.org](http://www.chnyc.org)

## **Portsmouth Navy Yacht Club/ Portsmouth Naval Shipyard, NH**

The Portsmouth Navy Yacht Club Officers for 2008 are: Commodore, Mike Coffey; Vice Commodore, Tom Young; Secretary, Jodie Volner; Treasurer, Susan Tennant; and Cruise and Ski Programs, Bill Burns. In January PNYC members enjoyed a land cruise to Waterville Valley for a winter get-together and ski weekend.

Website: [www.pnyc.net](http://www.pnyc.net)

## **US Merchant Marine Academy, Kings Point, NY**

On 23 January at 2309, smoke was seen rising from the Prosser Boathouse. By the time the Fire Departments arrived the wooden roof of the low portion of the building was ablaze. The fire was out within an hour. It appears that there was a malfunction in a stereo or something smoldering in a trash can. Damage to the building is severe, but no one was injured.

More remarkable is the fact that 90% of the 60 dinghies were in the building for winter storage. The waterfront crew has started scrubbing the soot from the dinghy fleet in anticipation of spring training.

On 5-6 April, the ISAF-endorsed Safety-at-Sea Seminar will be held at the US Merchant Marine Academy. This two-day course will feature many of the "hands-on" stations that revolutionized Safety-at-Sea Seminars in the United States from two years ago. This year's Safety-at-Sea Seminar will exceed the US Sailing standard

and be certified by the International Sailing Federation.

Chris Gasiorek, USMMA Sailing Master, reports: "I just returned from a day at the Combat Survival Pool at the U.S. Military Academy and hope to apply some of what I saw to our in-the-water survival training. The Combat Survival Pool added realism to the drills by providing for darkness, waves, sound and rain. With these elements present, it helps students realize that survival skills must become second nature, as in the event of an emergency, so much mental capacity will be used in assessing and dealing with environmental and situational details."

ISAF certificates are good for five years and for all ISAF-sponsored events worldwide. This seminar satisfies the requirements of ISAF to compete in the Bermuda Race, Fastnet Race, Sydney-Hobart and other Cat. 0,1,2 events.

Website: [www.usmma.edu/waterfront](http://www.usmma.edu/waterfront)

## **Annapolis Naval Sailing Association/NAVSUPACT Annapolis, MD**

ANSA welcomes its new Officers for 2008: Commodore, Tom Warrington; Vice Commodore, John Bielat; Rear Commodore for Training, Jim Openshaw; Rear Commodore for Operations, Margy Hill; Secretary, Mary Rivulet; and Treasurer, Jan Gutierrez.

ANSA's winter sail training program for 2008 will offer Piloting & Navigation, and classes for Senior Crew will begin in early Spring.

Website: [www.ansa.org](http://www.ansa.org)

## **Carr Creek Marina/NAVSUPACT Annapolis, MD**

Carr Creek Marina will once again be offering basic keelboat sailing lessons

this summer, May to early September. Instruction begins on Friday evening from 1800 to 2100, followed by Saturday and Sunday on the water from 0830 to 1600. The course fee is \$165.00 per person and includes course materials. Applications for this course can be obtained at:

[www.usna.edu/MWR/  
MWRsailingLessonsForm.htm](http://www.usna.edu/MWR/MWRSailingLessonsForm.htm)

Website: [www.usna.edu/mwr](http://www.usna.edu/mwr)

## **US Naval Academy, Annapolis, MD**

In November the team from Navy won the 2007 Kennedy Cup in dominating fashion, winning six of ten races and never scoring worse than a third against eight other competitors. Navy Sailing hosted the three-day regatta aboard the Academy's fleet of 44' sloops. Cal Maritime finished second overall while NY Maritime won the last race and secured third.

By winning the Kennedy Cup, Navy earned the right to represent the United States at the Student Yachting World Cup in France in 2008. The Varsity Offshore Sailing Team (VOST) spring season starts in early March. [Reprint from [www.navysports.com](http://www.navysports.com)]

Website: [www.usna.edu/sailing](http://www.usna.edu/sailing)

## **Chesapeake Region Accessible Boating, Annapolis MD**

Don Backe, Executive Director of CRAB, writes: "For the first time in CRAB's history, our sailors entered the local racing scene in August competing against able-bodied sailors in the Boatyard Bar & Grill Regatta. A PHRF Pursuit Race was planned, with proceeds in excess of \$12,000 benefiting CRAB. The weather could not have been more perfect, and the performance of the CRAB sailors was very impressive. Everyone was thrilled with the success of the race, which is going to be an annual event that will continue to grow and help CRAB fulfill its mission."

Another growth area for CRAB has been its racing program. In addition to the CRAB Cup regatta each year, which is a qualifier for the National Sailing Championships for sailors with disabilities, CRAB has initiated an intramural racing program, which has piqued interest and honed the skills of CRAB sailors.

In July CRAB hosted a group of recovering Iraq War veterans and their families. Team River Runners, an active kayaking group from Virginia, provided the bus. The pond swarmed with their kayaks and CRAB's Freedom sloops. A picnic marked the end of a truly special day for all involved. Website:

[www.Crab-sailing.org](http://www.Crab-sailing.org)

## **Pentagon Sailing Club/Bolling AFB, Washington, DC**

The Pentagon Sailing Club annual Holiday Party and Awards Dinner was held in December at Fort Myer Officers' Club. Bridge Officers for 2008 were introduced:

Commodore, Tony Skivo;  
Vice Commodore, Will Kelchner;  
FVSM Coordinator, Don Hupman;  
Secretary, Rich Kowalczyk;  
Treasurer, Larry Paulson.

The Winter Training program began in December with Rules of the Road, followed in January and February with Piloting & Navigation, and Bareboat Chartering and Cruising, Anchoring and Rafting in March. The PSC members who participated in the October Sailing Greece trip were blessed with good wind and great weather. As a result, they were able to cover nearly 250 miles, with time left over for sightseeing at a wide variety of islands. Tim Christenson writes, "The sailing is much like BVI, though the legs are longer, as the islands are farther apart. Unlike the BVI, there's

very little snorkeling or scuba in Greece because the bottom drops away so quickly. But if there's less to see underwater, there's more to see ashore. Each island had its own personality and attractions, and the natives were definitely friendly. "Ouzo, however, is no substitute for rum."

Website: [www.pentagonsailing.org](http://www.pentagonsailing.org)

## **Quantico Yacht Club/MCB Quantico, VA**

USNSA would like to welcome Quantico Yacht Club as a returning member to the U.S. Naval Sailing Association after a long hiatus. The QYC Executive Board for 2007 includes:

Commodore, Ken Beutel;  
Vice Commodore, Ramon Williams;  
Secretary, Robert Lang;  
Treasurer, Bill Walker;  
Fleet Captain, Jerry Sagers.

The Change of Watch ceremony will take place in March. The Super Bowl XLII Party and Chili Cook-Off was held on 3 February, of course, Super Bowl Sunday. With the Redskins out of the picture, everyone hopefully found a team to cheer for while enjoying some delicious chili.

Website: [www.quanticoyc.org](http://www.quanticoyc.org)

## **Navy Patuxent Sailing Club/NAS Patuxent River, MD**

The Navy Patuxent Sailing Club has elected its officers for 2008:

Commodore, Chris Matthews;  
Vice Commodore, Jack Savage;  
Secretary, Christina Porter;  
Treasurer, Jim Shelton;  
Maintenance, Lee Allen;  
Training, Kristi Yurko.

Due to the hard work and enthusiasm of NPSC members, *Vigilant* won the "Most Original" Award in December's Parade of Lights. Participants were rewarded with a gift certificate to

Vincenzo's and bottles of wine. NPSC will enjoy one of the first events of 2008 on 9 March when all members get together for the annual sail fever dinner at DiGiovanni's Dock of the Bay in Solomons. Winter sail training continues in anticipation of the Spring sailing season.

Website: [www.navyfaxsail.com](http://www.navyfaxsail.com)

## **Norfolk Naval Sailing Association/NAVSTA Norfolk, VA**

NNSA Wins Tri-Services Cup!! In our Fall 2007 newsletter, USNSA reported that Army, represented by Old Point Comfort Yacht Club, took the trophy for the Annual Tri-Services Regatta in September. Navy lost first place by five points. NNSA Commodore John Peterson reports: "The diehard racers at Old Point Comfort started analyzing the race results to determine how everyone finished, only to discover that there was a math error in adding up the scores. Consequently, NNSA received ten extra points which moved them into first place. OPCYC, who had kept the TSR Cup since 1992, did the right thing and transferred the cup very graciously to us. NNSA last held the trophy in 1989 so this was a memorable moment. You can rest assured OPCYC will be out to muster every boat in their marina next year, and I would not expect anything less." NNSA will host the Tri-Services Cup next September.

The NNSA Annual Banquet was held 26 January at the Vista Point Club, Norfolk Naval Base.

The 2008 Officers are:

Commodore, Dick McCrillis;  
Vice Commodore, Mike Barber;  
Secretary, Carol Buck;  
Treasurer, Jim Gordon.

Website: [www.norfolknavalsailing.org](http://www.norfolknavalsailing.org)



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## **Cove Mariners Yacht Club/NAB Little Creek, VA *New member* Branch Welcome aboard!!**

The Cove Mariners Yacht Club Holiday party was held 22 December at the USO adjacent to the marina. The 2008 CMYC Officers are: Commodore, Ron Bennett ; Vice Commodore, Scott Pantone; Secretary, Israel "Rod" Rodriguez; Treasurer, Margaret Murry. A safe boating course will be held on 1 March and boat inspection weekend is set for 15-16 March. Their newsletter has some great ideas for other branches to consider. Website: [www.covemariners.com](http://www.covemariners.com)

## **Southeast Region**

### **Hancock Yacht Club/MCAS Cherry Point, NC**

The HYC 2008 Officers include: Commodore, Owen Smith; Vice Commodore, Peter Mack; Rear Commodore, Sandi Sanderson; Treasurer, Mike McCulley; Secretary, Katherine Mack; Fleet Captain, Dave Corbett; and Libations Officers: Paul & Loretta Sassin. The Winter Race Series began in January and will continue through March. The annual HYC Oyster Roast and the Season Opener cruise are scheduled for March. Website: [www.hancockyachtclub.org](http://www.hancockyachtclub.org)

### **Ragged Point Yacht Club/MCB Camp Lejeune & MCAS New River, NC**

Ragged Point Yacht Club's 2008 slate of officers is:  
Commodore, Bob Fifer  
Vice Commodore, Mark Sopkiw;  
Secretary, Kelley Brown;  
Treasurer, Sally Campbell;  
Minister of Propaganda, Don Snyder;  
Race Chair, Earl Hampton;  
Social Chair, Jeff Russell.

The first cruise of 2008 took RPYC sailors down the New River to Surf City in January. The Ground Hog Race takes place in February, and US Coast Guard Auxiliary Boat Inspections are set for 16 February. Website: [www.raggedpointyachtclub.sytes.net](http://www.raggedpointyachtclub.sytes.net)

### **Charleston Yacht Club, SC**

The last event of the season, the annual Big Boat Regatta and Trotman Oyster Roast took place on 17 November. 33 boats showed up for the downwind spinnaker start in Charleston Harbor. It was a glorious day without a lot of wind, but that did not deter the sailors from racing hard then playing hard at the annual Trotman Oyster Roast which hosted over 200 guests. The annual Christmas Party was held on 14 December. The ChYC Executive Board for 2008 includes: Commodore, Mike Messinger; Vice Commodore, Keith Gannett; Fleet Captain, Fran Trotman; Treasurer, Jim Smith; House Committee, John Buck; Rear Commodore, Jack Wood; and Secretary, Fred Leslie. Website: [www.charlestonyachtclub.com](http://www.charlestonyachtclub.com)

Charleston Race Week will take place 17-20 April. Enjoy great racing in the harbor and offshore in one of America's favorite cities. PHRF, one-design and IRC. Online registration is open at [www.charlestonraceweek.com](http://www.charlestonraceweek.com)

### **Navy Jacksonville Yacht Club/ NAS Jacksonville, FL**

The Navy Jacksonville Yacht Club Change of Command Ceremony was held on 19 January. The new NJYC Officers for 2008 are:  
Commodore, Jeannie Bailey;  
Vice Commodore, Michael Tucker;  
Rear Commodore/Sail, Brian Paul;

Rear Commodore/Power, Mike Carter;  
Secretary, Annette Paul;  
Treasurer, Lecresa Tucker.

NJYC maintenance plans include rebuilding the walkways to the piers and repairing the bulkheads. The Spring cruise is scheduled for 15-16 March to Hallow's Cove. Sail training classes begin in March. NJYC is in the process of setting up a new website. We will pass that information on once we receive it. In the meantime, you can contact NJYC via its e-mail address: [yachtclubnavyjax@aol.com](mailto:yachtclubnavyjax@aol.com)

### **Mulberry Cove Marina/NAS Jacksonville, FL**

Mulberry Cove Marina will begin its 2008 spring sail training classes in Skipper B certificate. The course fee, \$150.00, includes use of sailboats and safety gear, classroom materials, classroom instruction. Extensive on-the-water practical training includes launching, retrieving, docking maneuvers, rescues, trip planning, weather, Rules of the Road, and much more. Classes will be held on weekends and adhere to US Sailing Association criteria. Contact Mulberry Cove Marina at (904) 542.3260 for more information. The Marina also offers a wide array of rental equipment including kayaks, canoes, and Flying Scot sailboats.

Website: [www.nasjax.navy.mil/mwr](http://www.nasjax.navy.mil/mwr)

### **Navy Yacht Club Pensacola/NAS Pensacola, FL**

Congratulations to Navy Yacht Club Pensacola as it enters its 77<sup>th</sup> year of existence!!

On 18 October, Pensacola was hit by an EF-1 Tornado (a rare event for fall), measuring 150 feet wide with 100 mph winds. The tornado formed near Pensacola Naval Air Station and

began its path of destruction through the Pensacola area. Several boats were destroyed or damaged in tornado's fury including the Commodore Cup Race #1- 1<sup>st</sup> Place Spinnaker class boat, *Evil Woman* and the Navy Yacht Club's Flying Scot, *Old Blue*. When it was all over, *Evil Woman* and *Wicked Woman* lay on the beach, side by side, with the masts broken and mangled. *Old Blue* was torn from its trailer, its mast and boom were damaged and some fiberglass was damaged. But never fear, NYC Pensacola plans to have its fleet shipshape in time for the spring sailing season.

On a happier note, everyone had a wonderful time at the Commodore's Ball on 14 December which took place at the Mustin Beach Officer's Club. The NYC Pensacola Bridge for 2008 includes: Commodore, Fred Russell; Vice Commodore, Ken Champagne; Rear Commodore, Doug Werber; Fleet Captain Racing, Dick Piatt; Cruise Captain, Bill Geyer; Secretary, Elaine Ciardello; Treasurer, Dick Wuthrich.

The first NYCP cruise of the 2008 season is set for February at Fort McRee with a bonfire and wiener roast on the beach. The first race of the season, Maxine #1, kicks off the Commodore's Cup #1 race series for 2008.

Website: [www.navypensyc.org](http://www.navypensyc.org)

**Freedom Sailing Association, Marietta GA**

The Freedom Sailing Association Officers for 2008 are: Commodore, Rich White; Vice Commodore, Steve Adams.



**BE PART OF NAVY SAILING!**

**Central Region**

**Great Lakes Yacht Club/NAVSTA Great Lakes, IL**

Great Lakes Yacht Club is pleased to announce its slate of officers for 2008: Commodore, Burrell Williams; Vice Commodore, Greg Grace; Rear Commodore/Power, Harry Bedenian; Rear Commodore/Sail, Susan Grace; Secretary/Treasurer, Don Janke.

Great Lakes Yacht Club ended its 2007 year-end membership with a total of 78 members.

We reported in our Fall newsletter that Great Lakes Marina was in the midst of a major renovation at the marina. Electrical and water upgrades are to be completed in Spring 2008. The marina, boathouse, and the main customer service center is under complete restoration. The project is estimated at \$5.8 million. By the time our Spring newsletter is ready to go out, we will have an update from Marina Manager, Doug Derginer, on the progress that has been made thus far, and what's left to be completed by year-end 2008. Website: [www.nsgreatlakes.navy.mil/mwr](http://www.nsgreatlakes.navy.mil/mwr)

**Western Region**

**Navy Yacht Club Channel Islands/Point Mugu NB, CA**

In October NYCCI members were decked out in their finest and scariest costumes at the Whacky Tacky Halloween Parties. During the festivities, nominations for 2008 Officers were accepted. In December at the Christmas Party and Change of Watch ceremony, the NYC Channel Islands Officers for 2008 were sworn in: Commodore, Teri Shephard; Vice Commodore, Paul Derby; Rear Commodore, Gabe Pesce;

Treasurer, Brad Langdale; Secretary, Janet Fredrick; Sailing Master, Bob Graab.

Contestants squared off at the Annual NYCCI Chili Cook-Off and General Meeting held 18 January at the VFW Hall Surfside Port Hueneme. Good times and good food were had by all. The first cruise-out of the 2008 season left port on 26 January for Ventura Harbor. Everyone enjoyed lunch at Malono's Restaurant. The annual NYCCI Sweetheart Dinner will be held 15 February, and everyone will be wearing green at the St. Patrick's Dinner in March.

The current newsletter on the NYC Channel Islands website offers the Navy's guidelines for Burial at Sea Ceremonies. This is helpful information for any other Branches that are interested in offering this service to military personnel in your area or to your Sponsoring Command facility. "The U.S. Navy requires that the ceremony be befitting the dignity we should bestow upon these Americans and their dependents who have served their country with honor." Website: [www.nycci.org](http://www.nycci.org)

**Navy Yacht Club Long Beach/NWS Seal Beach, CA**

The Navy Yacht Club Long Beach Annual General Membership Dinner Meeting was held on 10 November to elect officers for 2008. The 2008 Flag Officer Installation and Champagne Brunch was held on 27 January.

The 2008 NYCLB Flag Officers are: Commodore, Allen Kent; Vice Commodore, Ron Warren; Rear Commodore, Bill Mottinger; Fleet Captain, Mike Richards; Jr. Staff Commodore, Tony Rietdyk.

# WINTER 2008 - US NAVAL SAILING ASSOCIATION

The first race event of 2008, the annual Commodore's Invitational Regatta, was held 26 January. This race is an Invitational to boats from all SCYA (Southern California Yachting Association) yacht clubs, sailing associations and one-design fleets which establish a class. Though we do not know the race results at this writing, NYCLB expected a high turnout for this event.

Some NYCLB members will be upgrading their Ham Radio licenses in first quarter 2008: "Recent changes have eliminated the Morse Code requirement for ALL levels of Ham Radio licenses, opening the short wave radio bands to all Hams and Boaters. The licenses MUST still be taken in the correct order. The Technician Level is the entry level license and must be taken first. The General License is the intermediate level and can only be taken by holders of the Technician License. Website: [www.nyclub.com](http://www.nyclub.com)

**Naval Postgraduate School Sailing Association/Naval Postgraduate School, Monterey, CA**  
Blue Water Cove Marina has joined forces with Monterey Sailing to offer sail training classes to its patrons at the Naval Postgraduate School. Courses currently being offered by Blue Water Cove are Basic Sailing, Offshore Cruising, and Coastal Navigation. The sailing fleet includes: Capri 14, Capri 22; Santana 22, Celestial 32. For more information, contact the Marina at: 831.656-7953 or at this website. Website: [www.montereyyachting.org](http://www.montereyyachting.org)

**Presidio Yacht Club/Travis AFB, Sausalito, CA**  
Presidio Yacht Club welcomes its 2008 Officers:  
Commodore, D'Vonne Hutchins;  
Vice Commodore, Dave Chamberlain;

Rear Commodore, Lowell Olsen;  
Treasurer, Henriette Gordon;  
Staff Commodore, Steve Peters.

Presidio's Fall edition of *PORTHOLE* had two articles that are of importance not just to PYC members but to USNSA members in general:

1) The letter from the Travis Sailing Center Marina Manager regarding the National Park Service 'Master Plan' for the Travis area;

2) Presidio Yacht Club member, Walt Bondies, wrote a very informative article about his experiences sailing in Florida waters; specifically, the reciprocity of other yacht clubs and the monetary value of that reciprocity. The article is entitled, "Presidio & Reciprocity—A Great Club Benefit." [More details in the Miscellaneous Section of this newsletter.]

To Presidio Yacht Club Members  
From the Marina Manager, Louis Canotas

*It's September. The fog is slowly lifting. There are outrigger canoe races happening even as I write. The top of the north tower of the Golden Gate Bridge is just visible through the fog. It's warm, for the bay, and all seems right at PYC...right? Hmmm, well, let's think about that. I should be ecstatic. Business is up, the weather is good, I love my job. Why the grey clouds you might ask?*

*Could it have something to do with the National Park Service 'Master Plan' that has no room for Travis Marina? Bingo. You've hit the nail on the head.*

*As we all know, there is no lease beyond October 2008.*

*I'm trying to have that lease extended in a meaningful way into the future. However, in my humble opinion, unless we make some noise to the Park Service and our representatives, and by we I mean the membership, the Air Force, the waterfront community and everyone who enjoys the Marina for what it is, Travis Marina and the PYC may well cease to exist in any recognizable form. I have enclosed a rough draft of a letter I would like to send to Rep. Lynn Woolsey, Diane Feinstein, Nancy Pelosi and Barbara Boxer. Any feedback from anyone who wants to help polish this letter up would be greatly appreciated. I realize this is an uphill battle at best, and maybe I'm just a sucker for lost causes (St. Jude, where are you now?). But if we don't make ourselves heard, the game is over.*

USNSA encourages all of its members to go to the Presidio website and read both of these articles. If you are so inclined, you may want to send a copy of the letter that Marina Manager, Louis Canotas, has proposed to the California politicians that are noted at the bottom of the page to help Travis Sailing Center and Presidio Yacht Club save Travis Marina. This letter is a draft, but we are sure the support would be appreciated by all affected by this Plan. The clock is ticking; October 2008 is the deadline. [Log on to the Presidio website, [www.presidioyachtclub.org](http://www.presidioyachtclub.org). Go to News, then to the Oct-Dec 2007 issue of *PORTHOLE*.]

Fleet Captain, Jack Machun, reports: "Since January 2007 the Rent-a-Skipper Program gave over 450 people a cruise on San Francisco Bay. About



400 of these cruisers were active duty military and their dependents, the rest other MWR-qualified people. The credit for this success story goes to a group of volunteer skippers who give their time to make it happen. Aside from our mission to provide recreation, the Rent-a-Skipper program generates a pretty good chunk of money to justify our existence. Since January 2007 the boat rentals generated over \$12,000 in rental fees. About 95% of this is by the Rent-a-Skipper program. The other 5% by



individual renters. It's pretty obvious without the volunteer skippers, the boats could not be justified."

The two Navy 44's that made their way to the West Coast earlier this year made a stop at Travis Sailing Center in the Fall on their voyage from San Diego to Seattle. Website:

[www.presidioyachtclub.org](http://www.presidioyachtclub.org)

## **Navy Yacht Club San Diego/NAB Coronado, CA**

The 2007 NYCSA Annual Meeting and Election of Officers took place on 20 October at Fiddler's Cove, and the Commodore's Ball was held on 3 November at the Handlery Hotel and Resort in San Diego. NYC San Diego proudly announces its 2008 Officers: Commodore, Ted Napolitano; Vice Commodore, Bill Edwards; Rear Commodore, Roger Robinson;

Treasurer, Bob Muff; Secretary, Blanche Gunther; and Jr. Staff Commodore, Robyn Phelps.

Navy Yacht Club San Diego Opening Day will take place on 2 March. NYCSA is traditionally the first San Diego yacht club on the bay to conduct Opening Day celebrations. Last year there were over 150 NYCSA members and visiting Yacht Club Flag Officers and Directors in attendance. A most impressive turnout to be sure.

The Bill Bunce Keel Series/SBC Spring Regatta #1&2 begins 9 February and continues on 9 March with #3&4. The Schooner Cup Regatta was a regatta in years past ran as an annual charity regatta benefiting the Navy & Marine Corps Relief Society. After a three-year hiatus, the Schooner Cup Regatta will sail once again. The event will take place on 5 April and is hosted by Silver Gate Yacht Club.

Website: [www.nycsd.org](http://www.nycsd.org)

## **Santa Margarita Yacht Club of Camp Pendleton/MCB Camp Pendleton, CA**

Santa Margarita Yacht Club welcomes its 2008 Board of Directors:

Commodore, Jon Elshaug;  
Vice Commodore, Sue Nelson;  
Rear Commodore, Liz Murtland;  
Secretary, Sue Ayres;  
Treasurer, Floyce Royer.

The 2007 OORAH! Regatta, hosted by SMYC at Del Mar Marina Camp Pendleton, was won by NYC Long Beach. "A good Northeast breeze enabled us to set a larger course in the Del Mar Boat Basin. We had some good finishes throughout the day; one especially tight crossing between Long Beach and San Diego was

measured in inches. But at the finish, the ladies of Long Beach were there. Congratulations to all participants; we hope to see you all at the 2008."

RC Marybeth Thayer writes, "The 2007 Frostbite Regatta was a smashing success on 8-9 December. Ann Smith, Port Captain at CP's DelMar Marina, held a race seminar and practice session on Saturday, which was well attended, even with the rain! Sunday there were 12 boats on the water. With winds shifting from northeast to east to west, we were able to complete a total of six races, with some surprising results." The Capri and Nomad classes were well represented.

Winter storms forced the cancellation of the 2008 President's Race. Originally scheduled for 27 January; the new race date is 10 February. This is the first "outside" race where all the big boats go to play. Visit the SMYC website for race results. Website: [www.santamargaritayc.org](http://www.santamargaritayc.org)

## **Treasure Island Yacht Club/San Francisco, CA**

TIYC held its Change of Watch dinner welcoming in the new Bridge and Board. Treasure Island Yacht Club is pleased to announce its slate of officers for 2008:

Commodore, Desmond Thorsson;  
Vice Commodore, Russell Breed;  
Rear Commodore, Atta Pilram;  
Staff Commodore, Reginald Smith;  
Corporate Secretary, George Knies,  
Treasurer, Fred Gibson.

In November the Treasure Island Yacht Club was well represented at the annual PICYA Awards Dinner (see photo next page) and the extra manpower was put to good use with some impressive honors bestowed upon the club. Some of them quite heavy!

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During the awards ceremony, the presenter noted that while it is not uncommon for a yacht club commodore to take a back seat after a term, some remain as involved and dedicated even 23 years after they've held the office.



In recognition of his continued dedication to the stewardship of the sea and its traditions through active involvement, Past Commodore George Knies was awarded the Robert S. Olson Poseidon Award for providing that inspiration and furthering the protection of the sea. Congratulations and thank you, George.

Last month a yearly event that everyone looks forward to, the annual Crab Dinner hosted by George Knies, saw no disappointed faces of palates. The yearly calendar features many cruise-ins and -outs; a Delta picnic as

well as the TIYC monthly dinners which are always a good time for friends to get together.

Website:

[www.tiyc.org](http://www.tiyc.org)

## **Navy Yacht Club Everett/NAVSTA Everett, WA**

Navy Yacht Club  
Everett welcomes its  
2008 Officers:  
Commodore, John  
Sipkens;  
Vice Commodore,

Wally Davis;

Rear Commodore, Chuck Motson;  
Fleet Captain, Susie Pool Moses;  
Secretary, Carrol Walker;  
Treasurer, Carolyn Michaels; and,  
Past Commodore, Ron Barrow.

Navy Yacht Club Everett presented the Navy Base Chaplain's Fund with a huge check this year. The final amount raised from the club was \$2,300. The money will be used to provide grocery gift cards for Sailors' families that are in need. Congratulations NYCE for a job well done!

The first NYC Everett Cruise of 2008, 11-13 January, took its members to Hat Island. While there they toured the state's largest desalinization plant. Twelve boats signed up for this cruise; a good start to the 2008 cruising season. Cruises are scheduled for Edmonds, Bell Harbor and Coupeville. The NYC Everett Opening Day is scheduled for 19 April.

The speaker for the March 20<sup>th</sup> meeting is author, Clyde Ford, who will be speaking on the topic of "50 Ways for Boaters to be Green." Visit Mr. Ford's website at

[www.clydeford.com](http://www.clydeford.com).

Website: [www.nyce.info.org](http://www.nyce.info.org)

## **Whidbey Island Naval Sailing Association/NAS Whidbey Island, WA**

While the weather warms up in these winter months, WINSA will put the finishing touches on the 2008 Events Calendar at their General meetings – with comraderie and tall tales. But come March, the Frostbite Series begins. The hulls will hit the water and the sails will rise to catch the wind. We all look forward to that!

Website: [www.winsa.org](http://www.winsa.org)

## **Offshore Branches**

### **Pearl Harbor Yacht Club / NAVSTA Pearl Harbor, HI**

Aloha from Pearl Harbor Yacht Club! The 2008 Officers of Pearl Harbor Yacht Club are: Commodore, Caroline Heinrich; Vice Commodore, Dean Smith; Rear Commodore/Sail, Ann Ford; Rear Commodore/Power, Donna Austin; Treasurer, Debbie Deshias; Secretary, Barbara Purisweiz.

Website: [www.ussailing.net/phyc](http://www.ussailing.net/phyc)

### **DIEGO GARCIA YACHT CLUB / USNAVSUPFAC Diego Garcia**

If your next assignment takes you to Diego Garcia, you won't find time to be bored. Diego Garcia Marina, home of Diego Garcia Yacht Club, sits on the beautiful lagoon of Diego Garcia. The lagoon offers the perfect location to learn how to sail, windsurf or sharpen your advanced sailing and windsurfing techniques. The marina offers sailing, windsurfing classes and powerboating classes.

The sailing fleet includes Hobie Cat 16; Laser-Pico; Colgate 26; and Hunter 170.

The Diego Garcia Marina is operated by Marina Manager, Rick Pascua. The Diego Garcia MWR Director is Chad Quinn. Website:

[www.dg.navy.mil/marina](http://www.dg.navy.mil/marina)

## Cruising

USNSA recently received a cruising report from Bob & Carolina Vasmer-Diecks aboard *S/V ARMOREL*. As of November they were in Kuto Bay Isle de Pinas, New Caledonia, waiting for a weather window to make their way back to their homeport of Whangarei, New Zealand. While there, *ARMOREL* made the newspapers Fair winds, *ARMOREL*, Keep us posted.

The headline reads: Une pièce of musée tire des bords dans le lagon [Translation: A museum piece pulls into the lagoon]

Subheadline: L'usure du temps faisant son oeuvre, surtout en atmosphère marine, les vieux gréements de plus d'une cinquantaine d'années sont devenus des pièces de musée. L'un d'eux, Armorel, navigue actuellement dans in lagon. [Translation: The wear of time(weather) making its work, especially in marine atmosphere, the old sailing ships of more than fifty of years became museum pieces. One of them, Armorel, navigates at present in lagoon.]

## Miscellaneous

### A USNSA Membership Benefit:

Please remember when you are in cruising mode that the U.S. Naval Sailing Association is a member of the Yachting Club of America (YCA) Website: [www.ycaol.com](http://www.ycaol.com). So keep your USNSA membership current, and recoup that investment in reciprocity – one of the many benefits of “Being Part of Navy Sailing.”

For those Branches that are not members of YCA, you are able to offer your members a yearly membership in USNSA at the reduced rate to take

advantage of these benefits. Yearly membership is \$32.00; Membership via Branch is \$26.00 if your Branch is a current member. A small price to pay for such a valuable return on that investment. Join & Save!

Don't Forget: USNSA is a cooperating member of Boat US, Member#GA82665S. Under this agreement, USNSA members can join Boat U.S. at \$12.50, half the regular annual rate of \$25.00. For more information, contact BoatU.S. at 1-800-395-2628 or at the website, [www.boatus.com](http://www.boatus.com). BoatUS offers discounts on marinas, fuel, car rentals, hotels, etc. Take advantage of these perks as often as possible when you are on the water. Another good reason to “Be Part of Navy Sailing.”

Two websites worth mentioning: [www.marinasdirectory.org](http://www.marinasdirectory.org) - Directory of marinas throughout the United States and abroad with services for boaters and marina owners. [www.marinas.com](http://www.marinas.com) - Provides aerial photos and useful information on marinas over the world.

**For Sale:** The Foundation has a 1983 Catalina 27' for sale. Excellent condition. Asking \$12K. Also, we have a never used Garmin GPSMAP 2006/2010 GPS 17N Color Chartplotter. Asking \$1300.

## Safety Issues

**Everett WA** [From NYC Everett]: “Puget Sound Pilots are expressing concern about the growing risk of accidents between large transport ships transiting the sound and recreational boats. Their Association is setting up meetings with various boating organizations around the Sound to develop ideas for publicizing risk awareness.”

**Charleston SC** [Excerpts from [www.marinelink.com](http://www.marinelink.com)] “The Coast Guard completed its preliminary investigation of the collision between the tour boat, *Spirit of Charleston*, and a sailboat July 22, 2007 in Charleston Harbor. The Coast Guard charged Captain O.C. Polk, the operator of the *Spirit of Charleston*, with negligence and misconduct for his role in the collision and for failing to report the incident to the Coast Guard.

The *Spirit of Charleston* left its dock at Liberty Square in Charleston July 22 with 250 passengers aboard. Polk was navigating through a fleet of small sailboats who were preparing for an upcoming race and several sailboats, including the one operated by Joel Lambinus, crossed safely in front of the tour boat without incident. The collision occurred when Lambinus altered course back into the tour boat's direct path only 50 to 75 yards ahead of the vessel. It was apparent that Lambinus was not aware of the vessel's location when he altered course back into its path. Polk did not sound any sound-signals prior to the collision but witnesses reported that the tour boat's engines were stopped seconds prior to the collision.

Immediately after the casualty, the *Spirit of Charleston* made multiple radio calls on VHF Channel 16 (hailing and distress frequency) to race officials. The calls were answered by a race committee boat located near the commercial anchorage on the east side of the Middle Ground. During the subsequent conversation, the race official was apparently confused as to where the incident occurred and told the tour boat that no assistance was required and that the vessel need not remain in the area any longer. The Coast Guard was first notified about the collision an hour later by one of

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the race committee members who came to the sailor's rescue.

"The nautical rules of the road required all vessels to maintain a proper lookout, proceed at a safe speed consistent with traffic conditions and take necessary action to avoid collision", said Cmdr. John Mauger, chief of prevention at Coast Guard Sector Charleston. "This collision occurred due to failure to follow these important rules by both parties."

Per the nautical rules of the road, Polk was required to yield the right of way to the sailboats ahead of him. The rules further require that all operators take all possible actions to avoid imminent collisions. "We were

fortunate that Mr. Lambinus's injuries were not more serious," said Capt. Mike McAllister, commanding officer of Coast Guard Sector Charleston. "Our waterways are congested and have to support both recreational and commercial uses. This case highlights the need for all mariners to operate their vessel in a safe manner respecting the rights of use by all boaters."

Coast Guard investigators also identified a need for the race officials to establish and maintain better communications with commercial traffic during regattas. Only one of the race committee boats responded to the call on VHF Channel 16 at the time of the accident and neither the

commercial vessel's captain nor the regatta officials communicated with one another on prior transits. As part of the event permitting process, the Coast Guard will require event safety officials to monitor both shipping and distress radio channels during future events in order to coordinate the safe passage of commercial vessels in the vicinity of events. Since the accident, the Coast Guard has started disseminating weekly announcements for approved marine events to maritime stakeholders in an effort to increase awareness among the community. These bulletins are accessible to the general public on the Internet via the Coast Guard Homeport website.