

Peralta Helmsman

Opening Night Performance of
Peralta's Christmas Cows Production.



January
2017
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No. 1

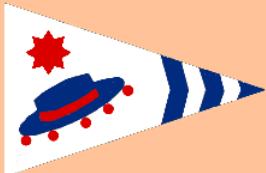


Proud recipient of multiple USPS National Distinction in Journalism Awards
Quarterly publication of the Peralta Sail and Power Squadron, San Leandro, California



Fifty Years in the Making — at the District Conference on August 22, P/C Richard L. Folger, AP, received a handsome plaque upon completion of 50 years membership in the United States Power Squadrons. Presenting the award was National Guest Bob Miller, SN (left) and District 25 Commander Rick Erickson. Especially nice was a group of Peralta members who showed up to support Folger during his "fifteen minutes of fame." Front row: Judy Pennington, Dorothy Pendleton, Dick, wife Pat, and Josette Mares. Back row standing: Melba Hale Janice Chapman, Conway Pendleton, Larry Gertz, Norm Pennington, Mike Chapman, Ricardo Mares, Barbara Waldstreicher, Vickie Erickson and Rick Erickson.

Peralta Sail and Power Squadron



Annual Crab Feed

Saturday, January 28, 2017

San Leandro Yacht Club

20 Mulford Point Dr., San Leandro, Ca. 94577

Attitude Adjustment 1800 Hours — Dinner 1900 Hours

Menu:

Salad, Pasta,
Fresh Crab
French Bread
Dessert, Coffee



Cost: \$45.00 Per Person Children 12Yrs & younger \$20.00

Pasta Only Dinner \$15.00

Please mail your reservations with check **Payable to the Peralta Power Squadron**
Deadline Wednesday January 26 *Space is limited so please reserve early.*

TO: P/C Judy Pennington, 16 Cobblestone Lane, Belmont, Ca. 94002-2310
Telephone 650-595-2169 E-mail judypenn@sbcglobal.net

Number of Persons _____ X \$45.00 Amount _____

Number of Children _____ X \$20.00..Amount _____

Pasta Dinner _____ X \$15.00 Amount _____

TOTAL ENCLOSED _____



Educational Officer's Report

BY D/LT/C NORMAN W. PENNINGTON, SN

A View of the Past

As we approach the holiday season I run into what I call writer's doldrums, meaning trying to discover an interesting topic for this newsletter. While reviewing some very old color slides that were taken by my father in the late 1930's and early 1940's I ran across a photograph of a boat on Lake Merritt named after Don Luis Maria Peralta. Having an interest in learning more about this boat, but without a journey to the Oakland Museum, I had to settle on some other interesting tidbits about the Peralta name.

As we know, the Peralta Power Squadron, later to become known as the Peralta Sail and Power Squadron was named after Don Luis Maria Peralta who was a soldier and patriarch of one of the largest ranchos in Mexican California. His father, Corporal Gabriel Peralta, brought his family with him during the Anza expedition in 1775-76 and was one of the first 15 families living in San Jose. When he reached the age of 21, Luis entered, as was traditional, into the military of the King of Spain. Wedding Maria Loreto Alviso in 1784, Luis afterwards transferred from the Monterey to the San Francisco Company serving with the Escolta at Mission Santa Clara, Mission San Jose and as corporal of the guard at Mission Santa Cruz. The Peralta Adobe still stands today and is the oldest building in San Jose built in 1797 and is located at 175 West Saint John Street.

Here is a view of the Peralta Adobe in San Jose. The original rancho was deeded to now Sergeant Luis Maria Peralta was about 44,800 acres that became Rancho San Antonio that covered parts of Oakland, Berkeley and areas east of Oakland. One of



those areas was known as San Antonio Slough that was a tidal area that later became Lake Merritt and what is now known as the Oakland Estuary.



On the north-east side of the slough and east of the inlet to what would become Lake Merritt was the town of Brooklyn. The town of Brooklyn (1856-72) was situated in what is now part of Oakland, named for the ship, Brooklyn that brought Mormon settlers to California in 1846 and formed by joining of two settlements, Clinton and San Antonio. In later years, Brooklyn was known for its brewery. Today, Brooklyn Basin is that area on the north-east side of Coast Guard Island.

I know what you are thinking, what does any of this have to do with a boat in Lake Merritt? Well, as I was researching material for this article I ran across a lot of interesting material that I thought I would share and that I hope that you find as interesting as I have.

Here is the photograph of the Peralta on Lake Merritt around 1940.



Photo from the William A. Pennington Collection

Here is a recent photograph of a typical tour boat on Lake Merritt.



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I think riding on the Peralta would have been more enjoyable and memorable.

A View of the Present

I am pleased to announce that at the December 7th District Council Meeting, the council approved the purchase of the Boating Skills Virtual Trainer (BSVT) for use at Boat Shows as well as ABC3, Seamanship and other courses and seminars as needed by the squadrons in this district.

The trainer will be equipped with the current BSVT software release, which has some enhancements over the previous version that we had back in January/February. Unknown at this time if the next version will be available as it is still in beta testing, but will be installed as part of routine maintenance. According to Virtual Driver Interactive, they hope to have our BSVT available shortly after the New Year.

The unit that was selected is a single screen self-contained system that consists of a 34" monitor with built in speakers and processor, an external wheel and throttle assembly and a few accessories. All



components are expected to fit into two cases and with only three cables to connect.

The district is planning on having the BSVT at the Sacramento Boat Show in March and the Richmond Pacific Sail and Power Boat Show in April.



Please drop me a line if you have any thoughts on which BSVT model we should consider.

Congratulations go to George Zdasiuk, SN for completing the Marine Navigation Systems course with the Santa Clara Power Squadron earning him the grade of Senior Navigator. Senior Navigator is the highest grade one can earn after completing all of the Advanced Grade and seven Elective Courses. Congratulations also go to Associate Member, Luther Abel, SN for being nominated by the district and winning one of three National Chapman Awards. Congratulations again both of these members for their outstanding effort and accomplishment.

In case you missed it, the United States Power Squadrons have developed a Digital Media Library (DML) that contains a lot of images, slideshows, animations, as well as streaming media with topics such as "Maneuvering on Plane", "Vessel Safety Checks", "Pivot Turns", "Stopping a Boat on Plane", "Man Overboard", "Docking" and others. Simply go to <http://uspsdml.org/> and find out what is new. Make sure to go back often as new material is added frequently.

A View of the Future

Three courses are scheduled for the first half of 2017. Starting on Wednesday, January 18th I will be starting the Piloting Course. Piloting is the first of the navigational classes focusing on techniques for piloting a boat in coastal and inland conditions. The course emphasizes planning and checking along with the use of GPS for determining position, and introduces digital charting along with tradi-

SEO Report ... continued from previous page

tional charting, compass and dead reckoning skills. Plotting, labeling, use of the compass, aids to navigation and a host of related topics are included in this all-new approach to coastal and inland piloting.

Marine Navigation Systems is scheduled to start after Piloting on Thursday, March 23rd. Marine Navigation Systems, the CPS-ECP Electronic Navigation course is a good introduction to navigation using electronic tools and is suitable for experienced as well as novice boaters with basic charting knowledge. It focuses on navigating with electronic tools, rather than on navigation systems hardware.

Lastly, America's Boating Course is scheduled to start following the Richmond Sail and Powerboat Show on Tuesdays, beginning on April 18th. If you are interested in any of these courses you can sign up online, or drop me a line and I will register you. Check the Educational page on <http://www.peraltasquadron.org>.

In addition to classroom courses, I hope to be able to offer Boat Operator Certification and related seminars for Inland and Coastal Navigator with the expectation of doing Advanced Coastal Navigator in the fall.

The latest on the 2018 implementation of Senate Bill 941, California Vessel Operator Card, also known as California Boater Card (CBC) is that the Division of Boating and Waterways (DBW) is working on getting the infrastructure in place by the last half of 2017. Starting on January 1, 2018 all persons 20 years of age and under will be required to have a CBC to operate a boat. Persons of any age supervising an underage operator will also need to have a CBC. In the following years the age group will be increased by five or ten years to have everyone by the year 2025. The cost is expected to be no more than \$10 with a replacement costing about \$5.

As a course approved by the National Association of Boating Law Administrators (NASBLA), it is expected that the United States Power Squadrons® America's Boating Course to be DBW approved as one of the courses to qualify an individual for a CBC. DBW has determined that it will accept proof of passing a NASBLA and DBW approved-boater education course taken between Jan 1, 2015 and Dec 31, 2017. Persons who have passed an approved

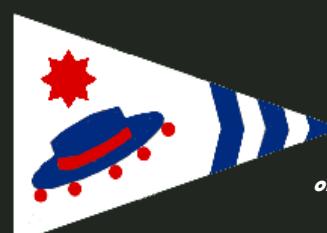
examination during this timeframe will have six months from the effective January 1, 2018 implementation date to apply for their California Boater Card to receive the "grandfathering" exemption regardless of their age. Older courses may not include recent state or national changes to navigation law. There are a few exemptions such as visitors to the state, rentals and for those holding professional license issued by the United States Coast Guard.



P/C Alan Smith, P captured this photo during the Oakland Estuary Lighted Boat Parade on December 3 at Jack London Square.

Peralta Helmsman

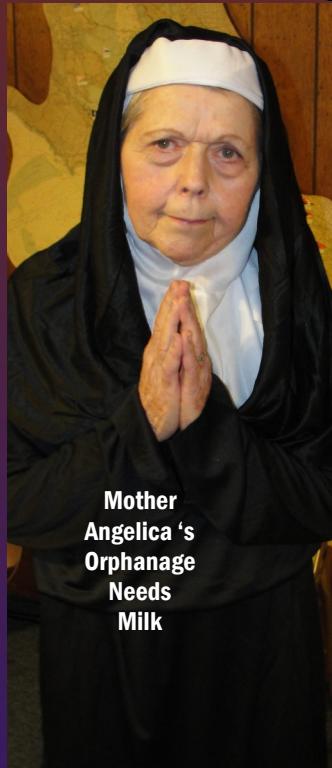
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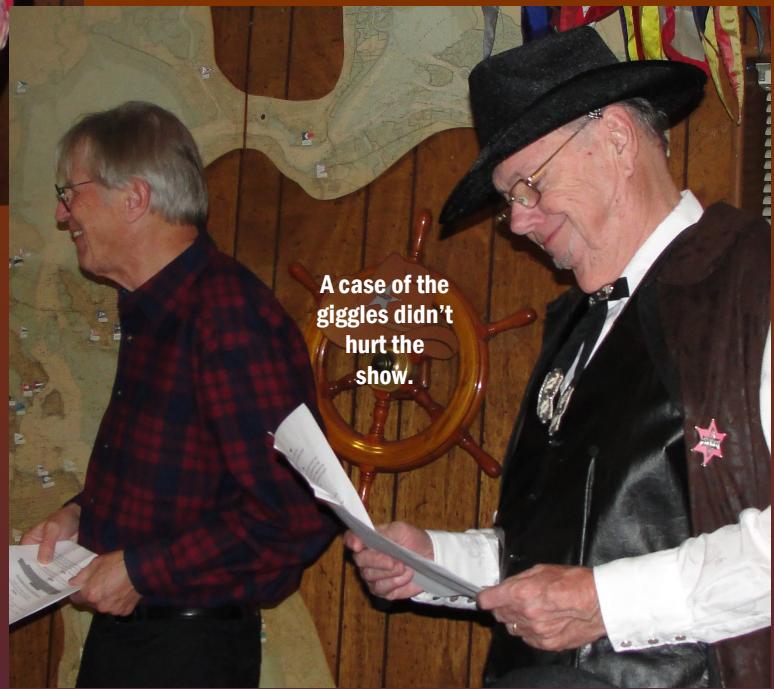


P/C Dick Folger, AP, Editor
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*Quarterly publication
of Peralta Sail and Power Squadron
San Leandro, California*

The Christmas Cows





MIGHTY MIDGET

By P/C ALAN SMITH, P

Living in the Bay Area we are lucky to have a few interesting World War II vessels. One of them is a submarine.

I thought I knew all of those WWII vessels but a friend of mine talked about an odd ship he had seen tied up at old Mare Island Naval Shipyard. This ship is the USS LCS 102 (Landing Craft Support). They were also known as "Mighty Midgets". This is the sole survivor of the 130 built in World War II.

Construction time for these ships was one month or less. Six of these ships were sunk and 21 badly damaged.

These ships were 158-feet long with a crew of 6-officers and 65-enlisted men. The list of weapons these ships carried was almost endless. This class of ship had more fire-power per ton than any other ship in the Navy. Everyone including the cook was trained on all of the weapons.

They were originally designed to beach themselves to support the marines on the beaches in the Pacific. They also performed picket duty for the convoys.

The photo at right shows the massive anchor mounted on the stern. This anchor was used to pull the ship off the beach.

In the bottom photo Alan is sitting in the seat of the 3-inch cannon mounted on the bow.

After the war this ship was transferred to Japan. After Japan it was transferred to other countries in the area where it served coastal patrols for drug runners, pirates, smuggling, etc. It served until almost 10-years ago when it was finally retired.



More information about this unusual ship can be found at:

www.mightymidgets.org



PERALTA SAIL & POWER SQUADRON 2017 Nominations, Committees and Appointments Change of Watch, March 4, 2017

BRIDGE

| | |
|----------------|-----------------------------------|
| Commander | Cdr. Barbara A. Waldstreicher, AP |
| Executive | D/C Rick Erickson, AP |
| Education | D/Lt/C Norman W. Pennington, SN |
| Administrative | Open Position |
| Secretary | Lt/C Josette V. Mares, P |
| Treasurer | D/Lt/C Judith A. Pennington, P |

GENERAL COMMITTEES

Auditing

- 3 Year Term P/Lt/C Fred Holmes, AP
2 Year Term P/C Janis K. Chapman, AP
1 Year Term Susan Ann Holmes, S

Nominating

- 3 Year Term Vickie Erickson, P
2 Year Term P/C Melba J. K. Hale, P
1 Year Term Lt/C Josette V. Mares, P

Rules

- 3 Year Term Larry Gertz
2 Year Term P/C Ricardo L. Mares, P
1 Year Term D/Lt/C Norman W. Pennington, SN



DISTRICT CONFERENCE GIVES MANY AWARDS

At left is the winner of the Prince Henry Award – most students completing JN or N. Winner was Diablo Squadron with one student.



The Bateson Birkett Award was given for the greatest number of members completing Instructor Development, also factored by membership.



The McKissick Award was presented to Diablo Squadron for best all-around performance based on the number of students completing courses, factored by membership.

Greetings and Happy Holidays to all of you

The boating season has passed (mostly) except for the die-hards, and we look forward to the Spring. With the Spring come the annual renewal as well as the Change of Watch for the Peralta Squadron. I have been honored with a nomination to serve the Squadron next year as the Executive Officer. Thanks to you all for the confidence you have shown in me to serve in this capacity.

As I finish my tenure this year as the District Commander, I am struck by the differences I have experienced from when Vickie and I joined USPS. We spent our first five years in the organization in a small (but very energetic) squadron in Las Vegas, where our primary water was Lake Mead. We were pretty remote, and our District usually only visited once a year for the Change of Watch. It was over 250 miles to drive to Southern California to attend

District functions, so we attended 'in spirit'.

Since coming to the Bay Area, we found lots of Squadrons in a relatively close proximity, and lots of people attending the annual rendezvous! Our Squadron seems to be a leader in District affairs, and the support that you have shown had been beyond belief!! I was so proud and amazed when, at the D-25 Fall Conference, Our own Dick Folger received his 50 -year plaque. The place was filled with you all in support of our shipmate. Very impressive indeed, and I was honored to be a small part.

I look forward to serving with you during the next Bridge Year and hope that you can all plan to attend the events we are planning. Our themed Holiday parties, costume party for Halloween, participation in the California Coastal Clean-Up have been pretty successful and a lot of fun. Try to come out when you can and we'll look forward to seeing you soon!

All the best during the Christmas and Holiday Seasons, and Vickie and I join in wishing each of you a very happy and prosperous New Year!

D/C Rick Erickson, AP

What's ahead for Peralta Squadron?



January 2017

Saturday, January 14—Peralta Planning Meeting and Executive Meeting, 12 Noon at Pasta Pelican Restaurant.

Wednesday, January 18—USPS Piloting Course begins, continuing most Wednesdays thereafter. More info and registration at peraltasquadron.org.

Saturday, January 28—Peralta Crab Feed at San Leandro Yacht Club. Sign up form on page 2.

February 2017

Thursday, February 2—USPS Founder's Day. See website for more information.

Monday, February 13—Peralta Bridge and Executive Committee Meeting, 7:30 p.m. at San Leandro Yacht Club. All are welcome. (Commander Barbara may declare a conference call meeting.)

March 2017

Wednesday, March 1—Peralta Helmsman call for articles, stories, photos and other input. March issue due in your mailbox on March 15th.

Saturday, March 4—Change of Watch. It's a gala night, Peraltaq's "Oscars". Details to come. San Leandro Yacht Club.

Monday, March 13—Peralta Bridge and Executive Committee Meeting, 7:30 p.m. at San Leandro Yacht Club. All are welcome. (Commander Barbara may declare a conference call meeting.)

Thursdays beginning March 23—

USPS Marine Navigation Course begins. More info and registration at peraltasquadron.org.

SAFETY CORNER

Peralta Members: *You're in Good Hands*

Yes, you're in good hands with our Vessel Safety Check Examiners, District 25 Educational Officer Norman Pennington, SN and District 25 Commander Rick Erickson, AP.

If you haven't had a check of all your safety equipment on your boat this year, then this Winter give a call and schedule an appointment with one of the Vessel Safety Examiners. It's a good time to get caught up with maintenance issues and to make sure all your safety equipment is in good working order. You'll be ready to go out on the water this Spring or Summer.

Ricardo Mares, P, Safety Officer



Peralta Sail and Power Squadron

2016-17 Bridge

Commander:

Cdr Barbara Waldstreicher, AP

Executive Officer:

P/C Ricardo Mares, P

Educational Officer:

D/Lt C Norm Pennington, SN

Administrative Officer:

Open

Secretary

Lt/C Josette Mares, S

Treasurer:

D/ Lt C Judy Pennington, P

General Committees

Auditing

Lt. Fred Holmes, AP
Lt/C Barbara Waldstreicher, AP
Open

Nominating

Lt/C Josette Mares, S
Patricia A. Folger, S
Open

Rules

D/Lt/C Norm Pennington, SN
P/C Alan Smith
Open



Peralta Helmsman
16 Cobblestone Lane
Belmont, CA 94002-2310

Commander's Comments

Greetings,

I hope this holiday season is bringing you healthy, happy and enjoyable times with family and friends. The Executive Committee has had three online conference call meetings which have been very successful. We will continue to use this format next year. By-laws limit the number of tele-con meetings but we like to eliminate the heavy traffic and long commutes the Ex-Comm members have to travel for face to face meetings. If you are interested in listening in on the meeting, contact one of the Ex-Comm members for information.

I am happy to report that Norm Pennington is able to put on another ABC3 class and possibly a Piloting class at the end of January, if there is enough interest.

We had our Delta Picnic and boat ride on Footloose. Norm and Judy Pennington graciously donated their boat and we cruised from River Point Marina in Stockton to Delta Yacht Club for a picnic lunch . We all had a great time and beautiful weather.

We also, along with San Leandro Yacht Club, participated in the California Coastal Clean Up at the San Leandro Marina, held every year, for which there was a good turn out.

Peralta hosted the D25 Council Meeting and Fall Conference at the San Leandro Yacht Club. Norm gave a presentation on current Education information and Peralta was well represented with one of our members, Dick Folger, receiving his 50 Year Pin!! What a great accomplishment. He reminisced about many memories and events with us.

Peralta was also well represented at the District 25 Holiday Party at Oyster Point Yacht Club in which everyone brought a toy for the "Toys for Tots" program. District Commander Rick and Vickie Erickson (who was recently appointed District Chaplain), District Education Officer, Norm Pennington and District Treasurer, Judy Pennington and I attended and had a nice meal and enjoyable time. Norm presented information he has received from several meetings he has attended regarding the new Boating Skills Virtual Trainer which the district voted to



purchase for each squadron to use. The new California Boaters Card will take effect next year.

Unfortunately, the Chili Cook-Off was cancelled due to lack of interest.

Our Vessel Safety Check Examiners, Norm and Rick have successfully performed their minimum number of checks for the year.

Everyone had a wonderful time at our Holiday Party at the SLYC, combined with the SLYC members, with great food, conversation, music and entertainment!! Thanks to director Dick Folger and his cast members for an entertaining skit, Pat Folger for her piano playing, Melba Hale for her accordion skills and Dwight (SLYC member) for his guitar playing and singing!

Upcoming events are our Calendar Planning Meeting/Lunch at Pasta Pelican Restaurant combined with a short sailboat ride on Dick and Pat Folger's "Misa" down the Oakland estuary to the restaurant, Crab Feed at the end of January and our COW in February. Please plan on coming out to join us for our upcoming events to join in on the camaraderie and friendship and fun times. Here's to spending quality family and friend time, on land or water, for the holiday season.

Commander Barbara Waldstreicher, AP