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# Peralta Helmsman

Change of Watch, Page 4



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Quarterly publication of the Peralta Sail and Power Squadron, San Leandro, California

# Executive Officer's Report

P/D/C RICK ERICKSON, AP

## Greetings, Shipmates!!

First, let me thank you for the opportunity to serve as the Squadron Executive Officer for the new Bridge Year. The Executive Committee has put together a great schedule of events for the upcoming year, and all are encouraged to attend at least one event. The next couple of items on the agenda are the Pacific Sail and Power Boat Show in Richmond, and really fun tour of the Red Oak Victory Ship followed by a tour of the Rosie-the-Riveter museum. Somewhere in that mix is a picnic lunch.

Having just finished my tour of duty as the District Commander, I have learned much about how the organization works. Each and every person I have had the opportunity to meet has but one thing in mind – the future of the United States Power Squadrons. In a nutshell, it's all about having fun, and being a boating club that is very good at education. We are America's Boating Club!!

There are lots of opportunities to do stuff, and lots of opportunities for you to be involved. Don't see something interesting on the activity calendar? Come and organize what you might like!!! There is always room for another suggestion, so reach out to any member of the Bridge and let us know. Having fun is encouraged. I learned recently that Squadrons across the country that are growing are the ones having fun!

I look forward to serving with you, and look forward to seeing you soon



# PERALTA'S PAST



BY P/C DICK FOLGER, AP

Because I have been around since the beginning, I get to talk about the good old days. In the early 1960s I remember being excited to go to the District Change of Watch which was held at the Oakland Naval Air Base Officers Club. The banquet hall was huge and it seemed like we numbered about 300 people. The men were in uniforms and I was impressed and proud to be part of it all.

When I was taking my Piloting and Advanced Piloting classes I was also impressed with our instructor Steve Getlik. He was a pro and he knew his stuff. I think there were about 20 students in that class. I thought the instructors were paid professionals. It was a surprise to learn that everyone was volunteering and truly invested in teaching me 60 D Street. They really wanted me to know how much clearance there would be under a bridge at 10:40 a.m. on a rising tide. I was humbled by their generosity.

I was really, really impressed with LeRoy McKissick. He invited me to his home where he stored a closet full of sextants. He loaned me one for my JN class. My sextant was housed in a varnished wooden box and it smelled of magic. Lifting the sextant to my eye I found the sun and took a sight. Carefully using the HO 211 tables I soared into the realms of navigators and followed the steps to get a position. I almost cried when my angles resolved to a plotted dot on my chart. It was incredible! The universe was now mine to explore.

One night at a squadron meeting with 20 members in the room, we needed to get an important mailing out. I remember we all pitched in and stuffed 143 envelopes. Peralta was huge.

In 2004 when Norm needed a laptop computer and a video projector in order to teach his classes, 45 members of this squadron donated the money to form the Peralta Educational Fund. We were able to then provide those tools. Those generous donors are named and still remembered and listed in the Peralta Sail and Power Squadron Roster each year.

We're a great group. It's been a great ride. I am ever grateful.



# Administrative Officer's Report

Lt/C VICKIE ERICKSON, P

# Co-Op Charting Chairman

P/C RICARDO MARES, P

Ahoy Shipmates,

I would like to take this time to introduce myself as the new Administrative Officer of Peralta Power Squadron. I have been affiliated with the United States Power Squadrons for the



past 10 years. The first six years I was affiliated with the Las Vegas Sail and Power Squadron, I spent time as the assistant treasurer and filled in for the secretary on an as needed basis. Most of you know who I am but those that don't I would love to get to know you.

I am looking forward to serving as your Administrative Officer in the coming year. If I can help you in any way you can contact me by e-mail at [Vickie8113@aol.com](mailto:Vickie8113@aol.com).

I've changed hats. My new position is Co-Op Charting Chairman.

As a note of information, Co-Op Charting was placed on hold for about three or four years because of electronic hacking to the NOAA system. Now that the issues have been dealt with and corrected, United States Power Squadron is back on track to update Nautical Charts for NOAA (National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration).

Peralta members will survey the waters on the Bay and Delta using their charts, and a depth finder along with a GPS to collect data that will be electronically sent to the USPS National Headquarters. USPS will forward the data on to NOAA for their use in updating U.S. Nautical Charts.

I will schedule a seminar at San Leandro Yacht Club and then schedule days to go out on the water. Further details to follow.



The January 14 Peralta Planning Meeting at the Pasta Pelican was a three hour lunch with a cruise event tossed in. Pictured here, Misa's crew heads back at the end of the meeting.





(Above) Cdr. Barbara Waldstreicher swears in her 2017 Bridge Officers. (At right) Beside the inconvenience of running out of fuel, the Ericksons taste the bitter shame of receiving the notorious Peralta Broken Prop Award. (Lower right) New members Victor and Barbara Maylon receive their pins from the commander. (Below) Cdr. Waldstreicher calls the meeting to order.







Judy Pennington is named "Peralta's Woman of the Year" by Cdr Waldstricher.



"MMM-Good!" The steak and salmon dinners at the Change of Watch dinner were prepared by this great culinary crew.



Scotch samplers Dick, Conway and Ricardo.

Rick Erickson, AP appears here as Mayor Magoo in the recent Peralta Production of the Christmas Cows. As incoming EXO Rick promises to be our "Mayor of Mirth as he says: "Let's have fun!"



Halloween Hi-Jinx with Peralta and SLYC joining Forces with some crazy costumes, a generous round of music and a big barrel of friendship. Who says life after 21 is all downhill?



## *Peralta Adventurer Alan Smith takes us to the top of the world*

# Lake Titicaca Peru

By P/C ALAN SMITH, P

A few years ago I had a chance to visit Lake Titicaca, Peru. This lake is the highest navigable lake in the world, 12,000 feet. For those that are not used to that altitude, you can get light-headed very easily. We found that being around boats on the water can be dangerous.

On Lake Titicaca the 1862 iron-hulled ship *Yavari* still cruises the waters. The *Yavari* was built as a kit ship in England and assembled on Lake Titicaca. It took six years to haul all the parts of the ship over the Andes Mountains to Lake Titicaca. At the time it was the most powerful warship on the lake. Due to fuel shortages in the area dried lama dung was used to power its 60 horsepower steam engine. Today the *Yavari* has been converted from steam power to diesel power.



Due to the extreme dry weather most of the *Yavari* is still original.

Also on Lake Titicaca I came across an interesting culture whose lives centered on man-made floating islands. Thousands of years ago the Uros people were tired of being raided by other local tribes, so they developed a way to build floating islands and boats from dried totora reeds. The only way to reach these floating islands was through a maze of tracks through the reeds. This offered the much needed protection from the other natives. Intruders had to navigate a maze of pathways to reach these floating islands.

Today these manmade floating islands have a small hospital and schools for the Uros people. To help supplement the local incomes this is also a tourist destination. Tourists can even spend the night on one of these floating islands.

In the photo below a tourist boat is docked at one of these floating islands. In the background you can see the Andes Mountains. The town of Puno is along the shoreline. Despite the close proximity to the large city of Puno, it is a maze in the reeds to reach the floating islands.



The smaller floating island has three to five families living on it. The largest islands may have up to ten families living on it. These floating islands last approximately 30 years. Therefore each man will need to build up to two islands in his lifetime.

I was surprised how small the homes were on these floating islands. Each house was smaller than my bedroom. The Uros live a very simple life.



With so much dry reeds used to build the islands and



Homes, cooking is performed on special stoves. Walking on these floating islands has a strange spongy feel under your foot.



Later in the day we cruised over to Taquile Island where the culture was completely different. The only town on the island has no electricity, no cars and no bicycles. It looks like a very hard life.

In the photo below we are walking on one of the main roads or should I say paths on Taquile Island. On some parts of the trail we needed to help some of our group to walk over the rough areas. We were walking to the only town on the island to have lunch.

On Taquile I don't think the wheel has been invented

In the photo below is the downtown plaza.



yet. Since there are no cars or bicycles everything is transported on your back. If large heavy things need to be moved then a lot of people are used.

Both the Uros people and the inhabitants on Taquile Island have special buildings in the town of Puno to stay at when they leave their home.

Sadly there is much more I could talk about on this trip. A combination of the Andes Mountains and the jungles of the Amazon create different cultures across Peru. Some towns with thousands of people have no cars, motorcycles, bicycles, etc. The only way to reach these isolated towns is by aircraft, boat, or to hike there on a trail.

I guess you could say it was an adventurous trip.



# What's ahead for Peralta Squadron?



## Peralta 2017 Calendar

- Wed, 5-9 Apr** Pacific Sail & Powerboat Show, Richmond  
**Mon, 10 Apr** Executive Committee Meeting, San Leandro Yacht Club  
**Tue, 18 Apr** ABC3 Course runs until 16 May, San Leandro Yacht Club  
**Sat, 22 Apr** Peralta land event: Rosie the Riveter Memorial and MSS Red Oak Victory, Richmond  
**Sun, 23 Apr** PICYA Opening Day on the Bay  
**Fri-Sat, 5-6 May** South Bay Opening Day, San Leandro, Peninsula and Sequoia Yacht Clubs  
**Mon, 8 May** Executive Committee Meeting, San Leandro Yacht Club.  
■ Helmsman Articles due to Editor  
**Wed, 10 May** D/25 Council Meeting – Yerba Buena Island  
**Sat, 20-26 May** National Safe Boating Week  
**Sat, 20 May** D/25 Building Bridges, San Leandro Yacht Club  
**Thurs, 1 Jun** Publish June Issue of the Peralta Helmsman  
**Sat, 10 Jun** National Marina Day ■ Membership Meeting w/Guest Speaker, San Leandro Yacht Club  
**Mon, 12 Jun** Executive Committee Meeting, San Leandro Yacht Club  
**Fri, 21-23 Jul** D/25 Delta Rendezvous, Rio Vista  
**Mon, 14 Aug** Executive Committee Meeting, San Leandro Yacht Club  
■ Helmsman Article Due to Editor – September Issue  
**Tue, 1 Sep** Publish September Issue of the Peralta Helmsman  
**Sat, 9 Sep** Peralta Boating Activity (Bay or Delta)  
**Mon, 11 Sep** Executive Committee Meeting, San Leandro Yacht Club  
**Mon, 11-17 Sep** USPS Fall Nat. Governing Board – Dallas Hilton  
**Sat, 16 Sep** California Coastal Cleanup Day – San Leandro Marina  
**Mon, 2-9 Oct** San Francisco Bay Fleet Week  
**Mon, 9 Oct** Executive Committee Meeting, San Leandro Yacht Club  
■ Helmsman Article Due to Editor – October Issue. ■ Peralta Merit Mark Recommendations due to Merit Mark Chair  
**Sat, 28 Oct** D/25 Council Meeting & Fall Conference, San Leandro Yacht Club Mon,  
**13 Nov** Executive Committee Meeting, Conference Call Meeting  
**Wed, 15 Nov** Peralta Merit Mark Recommendations submission to Area Monitor  
**Wed, 6 Dec** D/25 Council Meeting/Party, Oyster Point Yacht Club  
**Sat, 9 Dec** Peralta Holiday Party & Potluck, San Leandro Yacht Club  
**Mon, 11 Dec** Exec. Committee Meeting, Conference Call Meeting  
**Mon, 11 Dec** Helmsman Article Due to Editor – January Issue Peralta 2018 Calendar of Events Fri, 1 Jan Publish January Issue of the Peralta Helmsman  
**Sat, 27 Jan** Peralta Crab Feed – San Leandro Yacht Club  
**Mon, 12 Feb** Executive Committee Meeting, Conference Call Meeting Mon,  
12 Feb Helmsman Article Due to Editor – March Issue



## Peralta Sail and Power Squadron

### 2017-18 Bridge

#### Commander:

Cdr Barbara Waldstreicher, AP

#### Executive Officer:

P/D/C Rick Erickson, AP

#### Educational Officer:

D/Lt C Norm Pennington, SN

#### Administrative Officer:

Lt/C Vickie Erickson, P

#### Secretary

Lt/C Josette Mares, P

#### Treasurer:

D/Lt/C Judy Pennington, P

### General Committees

#### Auditing

P/Lt/C Fred Holmes, AP  
Cdr Barbara Waldstreicher, AP  
Open

#### Nominating

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

#### Rules

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



# Education Officer's Report

By D/Lt/C NORMAN W. PENNINGTON, SN

Well it is spring time and we are gearing up for courses to take us through the first part of summer.

First up is the **Electronic Navigation course** that will be underway at the San Leandro Yacht Club by the time you read this report. Electronic Navigation introduces GPS technology from the most basic receiver to chart plotter systems for navigation on board. The process of navigating by establishing waypoints and routes, and then running the planned courses, is demonstrated. Further, electronic charting software for the desktop computer is examined, with creation of waypoints and routes on the desktop and subsequent download to the onboard unit. Despite differences among the various manufacturers' offerings, a thorough discussion of the features being made available is included.



Next we will be offering **America's Boating Course** to start on Tuesday, 18 April. At this time we have not decided on the venue as we are considering the San Leandro Yacht Club, or another venue in Alameda. The timing of the course is to start after the end of the Pacific Sail and Powerboat Show in Richmond as we are hoping that we will get some students from the show.

Lastly, starting on Wednesday, 7 June, we will be offering the **Piloting course** at the San Leandro Yacht Club. For those considering the Advanced Piloting Course, Piloting is a prerequisite. We are considering offering Advanced Piloting in the fall after completing the Piloting course. If you desire a course or seminar that is not currently offered, just ask and I'll see if I can put one on.

I am sure you have heard of the new mandatory boater education law that is to take effect in 2018. The law will be implemented gradually, meaning that in 2018 all boaters 20 years of age and younger will be required to apply for a California Boater Card (CBC). Then in 2019 the law will apply to all those that are 25 years and younger. Each year thereafter the age limit will be increased 5 or 10 years as determined in the implementation schedule until it will apply to everyone who is not exempt such as those with commercial Coast Guard License. Those that may be not required to have a CBC because

they have not reached the required age will actually be required to have a CBC if they are supervising under age operators such as young children or grandchildren. The state will accept Safe Boating Certificates from approved courses taken from 1 January 2015 to December 2017 for applications in 2018.

George Zdasiuk joined the Peralta Squadron back in January of 2009 and was recently honored that the Dis-



trict 25 Spring Conference. George received his Senior Navigator plaque. George managed to complete all of the Advanced Grade and Elective courses earning him his full certificate, or more appropriately, Senior Navigator. Congratulations to George for his exceptional accomplishment.

District 25 has purchased the Boating Skills Virtual Trainer (BSVT) for use in boat shows as well as classes



and squadron social activities. The BSVT will be showcased at the Pacific Sail and Powerboat show at the Craneway Pavilion and Marina Bay Harbor in Richmond April 6-9. Please mark your calendar and plan on visiting the show, and take a test drive on the virtual Trainer.



## Peralta Sail & Power Squadron's Springtime Outing Along the Picturesque San Francisco Bay Richmond, California—Saturday, April 22, 2017

The SS Red Oak Victory is the only surviving ship of 747 vessels built in the Kaiser's Richmond Shipyards during World War Two (WWII). On Jan. 10, 1945: She departed San Francisco for Pearl Harbor. She supplied ammunition for various ships in the South Pacific until the end of WWII. From 1947 to 1968: She served as a Cargo Carrier in the Merchant Marine, both in the Korean and Vietnam conflicts.

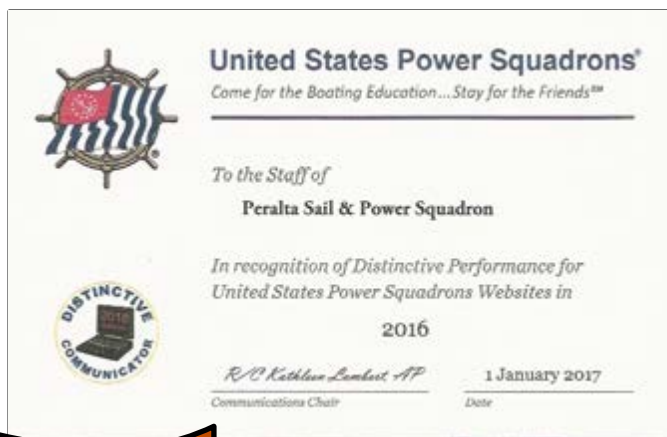
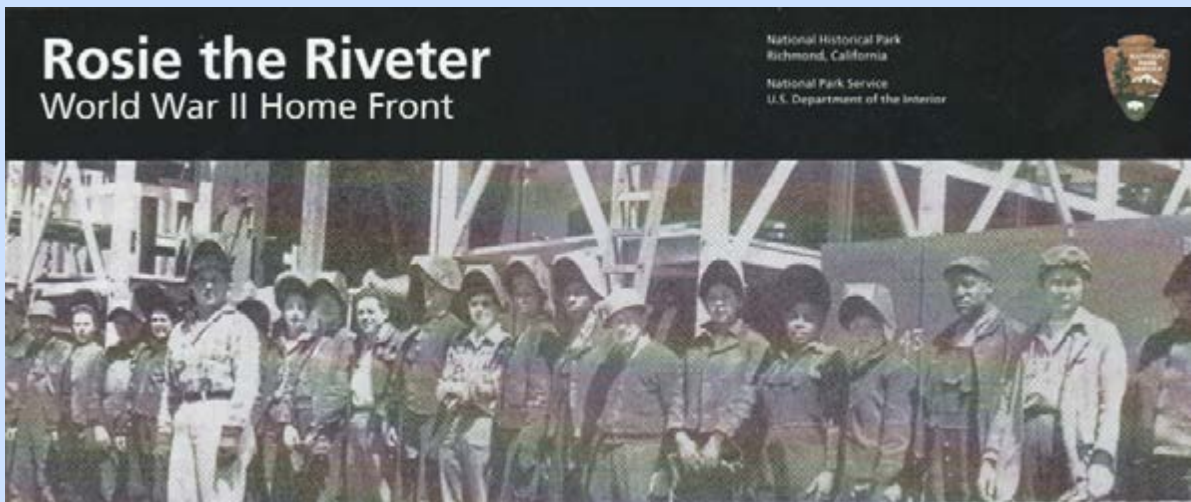
**Meet at 10:00 a.m. for a Two-Hour Guided Tour. Free Parking.**

**Cost per person: \$15.00 – Includes the tour. Website:**

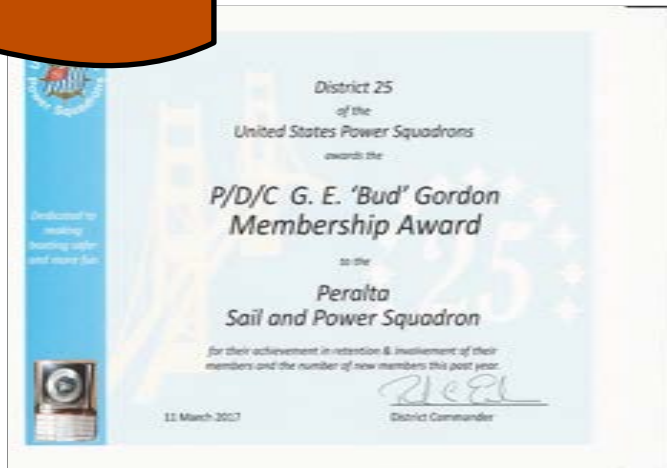
[www.ssredoakvictory.org](http://www.ssredoakvictory.org)

**NOTE:** Two-week prior RSVP to schedule tour of SS Red Oak Victory. Call Josette Mares @ 707-980-3306

Meet in front of the Museum at 1:00 p.m. for lunch at the picnic area. Bring your own lunch/drinks. A self-guided tour of the museum to follow. Free Parking. Cost per person: Donations are kindly accepted. Website: [www.nps.gov/roni](http://www.nps.gov/roni)



### Our Recent Awards







# Peralta Crab Feed 2017



**PERALTA SAIL & POWER SQUADRON  
Nominations, Committees, and Appointments**

**EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT**

Executive Officer D/C Rick Erickson, AP  
 Public Relations Officer P/C Richard L. Folger, AP  
 Safety Officer P/C Ricardo L. Mares, P  
 Radio Technical Officer Lt/C Gerald N. Bartling, AP  
 Military Liaison Officer  
 Chairman Cooperative Charting P/C Ricardo L. Mares, P  
 Ch Boat Show Committee\ P/C Alan Smith, P  
 Ch Vessel Safety Examiner\ D/Lt/C Norman W. Pennington, SN

**EDUCATION DEPARTMENT**

Education Officer D/Lt/C Norman W. Pennington, SN  
 Assistant Education Officer D/C Rick Erickson, AP  
 Chairman Boating/Seminars D/Lt/C Norman W. Pennington, SN  
 Chairman Advanced Grades D/Lt/C Norman W. Pennington, SN  
 Chairman Elective Courses P/C Ricardo L. Mares, P  
 Chairman Seamanship P/C Ricardo L. Mares, P  
 Chairman Piloting P/C Ricardo L. Mares, P  
 Chairman Advanced Piloting P/C L. Conway Pendleton, SN  
 Chairman Junior Navigation D/Lt/C Norman W. Pennington, SN  
 Chairman Navigation\ D/Lt/C Norman W. Pennington, SN  
 Chairman Teaching Aids D/Lt/C Norman W. Pennington, SN  
 Ch. Engine Maintenance D/Lt/C Norman W. Pennington, SN  
 Chairman Sail D/Lt/C Norman W. Pennington, SN  
 Chairman Weather D/Lt/C Norman W. Pennington, SN  
 Ch. Instructor Development D/Lt/C Norman W. Pennington, SN  
 Ch. Operations Training D/Lt/C Norman W. Pennington, SN

**ADMINISTRATIVE DEPARTMENT**

Administrative Officer Lt/C Vickie Erickson, P  
 Ch. Membership Committee All Past Commanders  
 Ch. Membership Involvement All Past Commanders  
 Chairman Boating Activities P/C Alan Smith, P  
 Port Captain P/C L. Conway Pendleton, JN  
 Squadron Photographers P/Lt/C Fred Holmes, AP and P/C Richard Folger, AP  
 District & Nat'l Correspondent Cdr. Barbara A. Waldstreicher, AP

**SECRETARY'S DEPARTMENT**

Secretary Lt/C Josette V. Mares, P  
 Chairman Roster Committee D/Lt/C Norman W. Pennington, SN  
 Squadron Historian Lt/C Josette V. Mares, P  
 Squadron WebMaster D/Lt/C Norman W. Pennington, SN

**TREASURER'S DEPARTMENT**

Treasurer D/Lt/C Judith A. Pennington, P

**COMMANDER'S APPOINTMENTS**

Supply Officer D/Lt/C Norman W. Pennington, SN  
 Educational Fund Representative D/Lt/C Judith A. Pennington, P  
 Merit Mark Chairman D/Lt/C Norman W. Pennington, SN  
 Personnel Committee All Past Commanders

**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 Lt/C Vickie Ericson, 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

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# Commander's Comments

## Greetings ,

I hope your holidays were filled with enjoyable times with family and friends. I am now in my third term as your Commander and have enjoyed the last two years very much. Thanks to my Bridge Officers, it has gone very smoothly with very little stress. There is so much knowledge, experience, enthusiasm and friendship that our meetings go just as smoothly. I truly enjoy being around my squadron mates and look forward to each meeting. I am proud to say that this year we have a full Bridge. I look forward to the future!!

Peralta's Holiday Party, combined with San Leandro Yacht Club, was fun and entertaining with good conversation and food. We had our Calendar Planning Meeting in January and were able to complete our events for the year. Dick and Pat Folger graciously invited the planners to cruise down the estuary onboard "Misa," It was a short trip to the Pasta Pelican Restaurant where we met the land cruisers who were on the dock to greet us. Hooray for the few sailors who braved the cold for another "on the water" event.

The new Peralta year offers some interesting events in store and hopefully we can have a lot of members attending. It is fun to meet new people and catch up with old friendships.

We had our annual Crab Feed at the end of January. It was a lot of fun and with great tasting crab everyone had a full plate and ate their crab quota.

Our 2017-18 Change of Watch was held at the San Leandro Yacht Club on March 4. It was obvious everyone had a good time as the "gab" level reached very high decibels and pegged the meter with a lot of laughter. The catered event was nice and the food was very good. Our District 25 rep was D/Lt/C Lu Abel, SN who represented District Commander Rick Erickson, AP, who was also in attendance. The two annual awards I handed out were the Robert Arenkiel Woman of the Year, which went to Judy Pennington for all of her hard work, assistance and friendship during my first two years. The William Hanke Award for Member of the Year went to Norm Pennington for all of his hard work, knowledge, advice and the 100% effort he gives to Peralta, D/25 and



National.

Our first "land cruise" of the year will be touring the Rosie the Riveter memorial and MSS Red Oak Victory ship in Richmond. It sounds very interesting, so come out and join us for a fun and interesting time and maybe even learn something! Norm will be offering two courses this Spring. It's not too late to sign up and advance your boating education. The ABC3 Course (America's Boating Course) will be mandatory for the California Boater Card so start thinking about enrolling in the class now. Please do not procrastinate. The Marine Navigation Systems course sounds interesting and I signed up to take it.

The Pacific Sail and Powerboat Show will be in April in Richmond. You should think about attending that, and checking out our District Booth (maybe even hanging out and helping in the booth). Norm will be setting up the Boating Skills Virtual Trainer so go and experience it. It is a fun way to learn.

Here's to another fun and enjoyable year and getting back on the water with family and friends with great weather and more great times.

**Commander Barbara Waldstreicher**