

Peralta's Tour of Red Oak Victory Ship



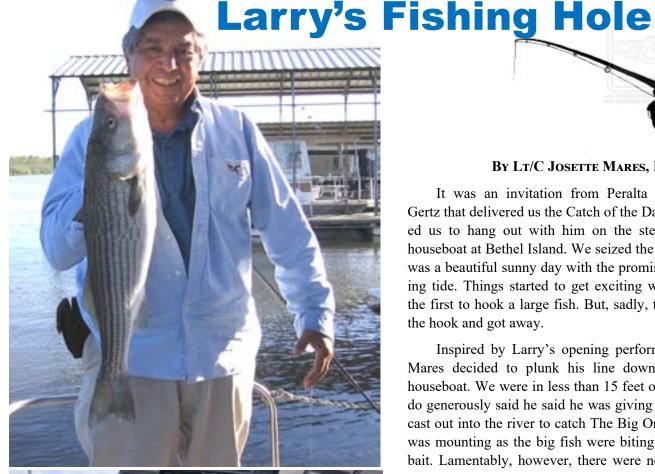
We Can Do It!

Commander Barbara Waldstreicher and Josette Mares stand with docents of the Red Oak Victory Ship, along with Peralta member Mike Chapman. There were ten USPS members who toured the ship. The Commander said, "We learned a lot about the history of the Victory Ships that were built by Henry J. Kaiser Shipyards at Richmond, CA. The Docents told about the sailors, the various positions they worked at and how they lived onboard the ship."

The Red Oak's tour of service during WWII was in the Pacific, and after the War she was turned into a merchant ship, carrying cargo.

In visiting the Rosie The Riveter Museum we found out that Henry Kaiser recruited men and women from the southern United States and relocated them to Richmond, CA in order to build up the labor force which was needed to construct the Victory and Liberty Ships.

Everyone walked away with a new understanding of how these ships were constructed and how they served during WWII.







By LT/C JOSETTE MARES, P

It was an invitation from Peralta Member Larry Gertz that delivered us the Catch of the Day! Larry invited us to hang out with him on the stern deck of his houseboat at Bethel Island. We seized the opportunity. It was a beautiful sunny day with the promise of an incoming tide. Things started to get exciting when Larry was the first to hook a large fish. But, sadly, the fish jumped the hook and got away.

Inspired by Larry's opening performance, Ricardo Mares decided to plunk his line down alongside the houseboat. We were in less than 15 feet of water. Ricardo generously said he said he was giving us a chance to cast out into the river to catch The Big One. Excitement was mounting as the big fish were biting and taking our bait. Lamentably, however, there were no fish on deck, yet.

Then it happened. All of a sudden Ricardo's reel started buzzing and after 10 minutes of fighting the fish he did, in fact, land a 29-inch Striped Bass weighing approximately 13 pounds. We came away with a total of three fish caught that afternoon.



Squadron Educational Officer's Report

D/LT/C NORM PENNINGTON, SN

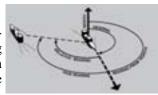


CLASS POSTPONED

Well, we are approaching summer and we had the Electronic Navigation course that will be completed at the San Leandro Yacht Club by the time you read this report. We offered the America's Boating Course to start on Tuesday, 18 April, however with only one student I had to postpone the class for later this year.

PILOTING

Next, starting on Wednesday, 7 June we will be holding the Piloting course at the San Leandro Yacht Club. For those considering the Advanced Pilot-



ing Course, Piloting is a prerequisite. I have several students registered for the Piloting. I am also planning on holding the Advanced Piloting starting September 20th after 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.

CERTIFICATES

I have heard from members completing courses wondering when they are going to receive their little stickers to paste on the membership certificate. Headquarters is no longer printing the certificates; rather they are making available certificates of completion of courses and seminars. You can print



your own certificates of completion by logging onto the national website for which you will need your certificate number and your PIN. If you do not know your PIN you can request that your PIN be sent to you via the login screen. Once on the website you will need to login with your certificate number and PIN and then select the Member Home tab at the top of your screen. From there you will see your member profile on the right side of the screen. Scroll down and click on Manage Profile. On the resultant screen select Show training history. Follow the instructions on that screen to print the desired training certificate. (Note; the signatures will represent the current Chief Commander and National Educational Officer, not those when you completed the training activity.)

LAND CRUISES

Over the many years of membership in the Peralta Squadron we have gone on many of the nonboating day trips to places near and far. For example, we have toured the



USS Hornet Museum in Alameda, the USS Iowa while it was in Richmond being prepared for its journey to San Pedro, The Bay Model in Sausalito, Angel Island in San Francisco Bay and the rail trip to Old Town Sacramento. Most recently we toured the Red Oak Victory ship and the Rosie the Riveter Museum in Richmond. I found the Red Oak Victory to be a most interesting venue when led by a docent who explained the many facets of the ship:from the helm, the navigation cabin, the holds, the decks, and even the engine room. Anyone seeking an interesting day should consider the Red Oak Victory. Our next stop was the Rosie the Riveter Museum located adjacent to the old Ford assembly plant in Richmond. The museum is well done and the speaker did a great job. The docent seemed to dwell on post war social issues rather than explaining what it was like to be a Rosie in the Kaiser Shipyard during World War II. I do not know where our next adventure will take us, but it sure will be a memorable event.

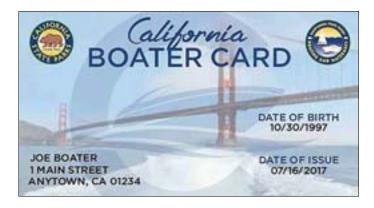
PICYA

The year 2017 marked the 100th Anniversary of PICYA's Opening Day on



the Bay that was celebrated on Sunday, April 23, 2017. The theme for this year's parade was "Cruising the Century", showcasing historic moments of all kinds: Nautical, Technology, Science, Historic Figures and more. This was a spectacular day to participate in the parade as PICYA was hoping that every club to have at least one decorated boat in the parade. Two Peralta members participated in the Parade; however they were representing their respective yacht clubs. Mike and Janis Chapman were seen aboard their 34' Sea Ray, Fresh Start II flying the USPS Ensign representing the San Leandro Yacht Club. George Zdasiuk and Julie Fouquet were seen aboard their 36' Beneteau Swift Trawler, Point of Aries representing the San Jose Sailing Club, which managed to come in third place in the Power Decorated to Theme category.





Continued from previous page.

CALIFORNIA BOATER CARD

Because of the importance I am repeating the following from my previous report: "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." I invite all members to join me in the next America's Boating Course for a review and to take the examination. There is no need to purchase the book, just participate in the review and take the examination for your certificate of completion that will qualify you for a California Boater Card.



DISTRICT 25 SUMMER RENDEZVOUS

I hope to see Peralta well-represented at the upcoming district summer rendezvous at Rio Vista over the week-end of 21-23 July. You should have received a flyer via SailAngle with the specifics and how to register you and your boat. It should be a great event open to all regardless if you are coming by boat or by asphalt cruiser. Delta Marina has a launch ramp so you will not have to drive far to join in for the fun and great friendship.



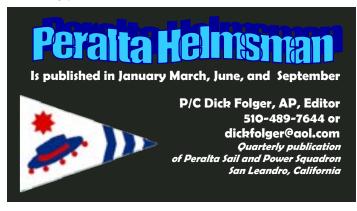
Greetings, Shipmates!!

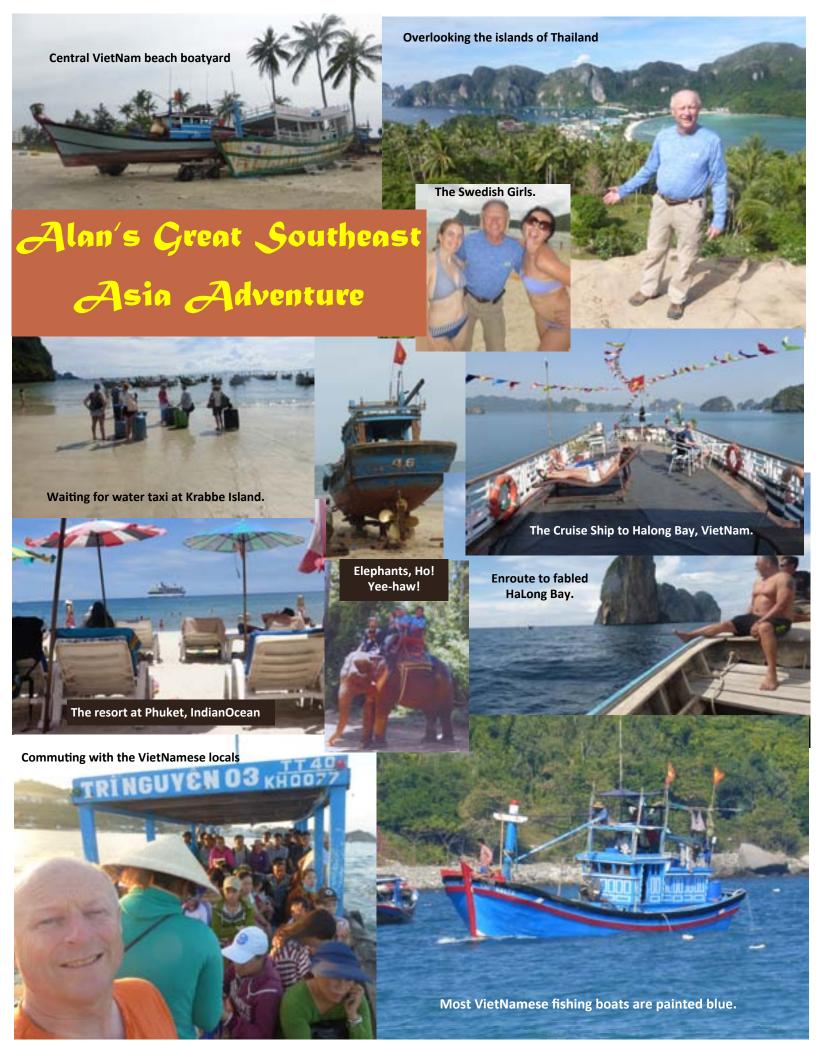
The calendar has been telling me for the past couple of months that it's Spring, but the cool weather seems to tell a different story. The weather experts attribute the cooler-than-normal temperatures to ocean water in the Pacific being a couple of degrees colder. Whatever the reason, it seems like boating season is getting off to a slow start.

Not so with our Squadron! Several of the mighty Peraltans ventured fourth recently to tour the Red Oak Victory ship in Richmond, as well as to visit the Rosie the Riveter Museum, also in Richmond.

The Red Oak Victory, named in honor of Red Oak, Iowa (a town that had experienced the highest per capita war causalities in WWII, saw service as a transport ship in the later part of WWII, Korea and Vietnam. She was rescued from the Mothball Fleet and has been undergoing restoration for the past several years. The ship had been operated in turn by US Navy and Merchant Marine crews, and was manned during our visit by some outstanding volunteers who brought the history of the ship to life. After lunch, we visited the Rosie the Riveter Museum, and saw many displays about life on the Home Front during WWII. I was particularly impressed with the information presented about how efficiently the Kaiser shipyards were building ships to support the war effort. There was also some interesting information about some of the challenges presented with the rapid influx of workers to support that effort. Special thanks to Rick and Josette for setting up a wonderful day.

Please check the calendar for the next event: we'll gather together to have our General Membership meeting and BBQ at the San Leandro Yacht Club. I look forward to seeing you all there! *See You On The Water!*







By P/C Alan Smith, P

Last April I was invited to visit a friend, Brad, who had retired in Vietnam eight years ago. Two other friends of mine joined me and we flew into Saigon, Vietnam. After the 20-hour flight we "crashed." After some shut-eye we were joined by a few more locals and were soon on our way to a great Southeast Asian adventure.

My retired friend knew the cheaper ways to travel and see the sights, so this trip was fairly inexpensive except for the airfare to and from Vietnam.

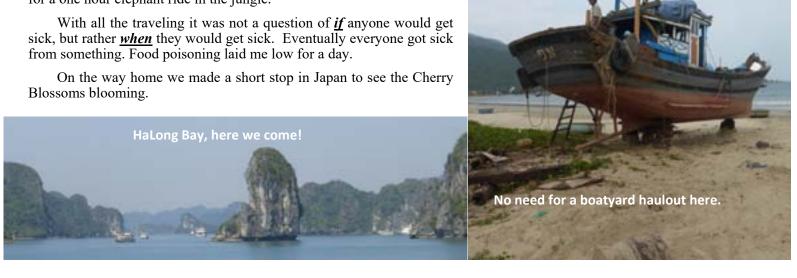
In Vietnam I was surprised to see that most boats are still made out of wood. There were very few fiberglass or metal boats. Of course the big ships are made of metal. The few fiberglass boats that I saw were fast speed boats that cost a lot to ride on. The traditional wooden boats were much cheaper to hire.

We visited DaNang, NaTrang and Hanoi. After a week and a half we were ready for the next phase and flew off to Thailand.

On this trip most of my time was spent along the coast. The one place I really wanted to visit was HaLong Bay in Northern Vietnam. We took a two day, one night boat trip to visit this world class scenic area. In HaLong Bay we did kayaking, toured caves, fished, and even visited a pearl farm.

While in Thailand we went to visit three coastal locations: Phuket Chai and Krabe. A couple of times we hired someone to take us out on the ocean on a "long boat" to visit other islands. At the smaller islands we swam in the very warm waters and snorkeled.

Also in Thailand we visited a snake show. I also managed to go for a one hour elephant ride in the jungle.





Deadly Combination:

Water and the unknown presence of Electricity

By P/C Ricardo Mares, Safety Officer

In the past two months I've heard from news reports that in California there were two drownings, one on a hot day in a marina where two youths jumped in the water to cool off and were electrocuted. One youth died and another was seriously injured. In the same month in another case, a person dove into a backyard swimming pool and received an electric shock from a faulty light fixture mounted in the pool. From these two recent cases, I recall an article that I read that I'd like to bring to your attention:

Electric shock drowning happens when electricity from a dock, boat, pool, hot tub or marina seeps into the water and electrifies it. As swimmers enter the water the electricity paralyzes their muscles, causing them to drown. What's more, trying to rescue someone experiencing electric shock drowning remains difficult because anyone entering the water receives a disabling stun.

While many people remain unaware of electric shock drowning, Jimmy Johnson learned more about it than he ever wanted. Last year, his 15-year-old daughter, Carmen, died when she was swimming in a lake near the family dock, which was trickling electricity into the water.

"If I would have known this could happen, or heard about it before — I am not sure if this would have happened to my daughter," he told TODAY.

Since then, he's worked to increase awareness surrounding electric shock drowning. "This happens a lot more than people think," he said. "There is no telling how many drownings there are caused by electric shock drowning."

In 1999, Ritz's 8-year-old son died when he was swimming in a river near the family boat. No one realized electricity from the boat was seeping into the water and when he grabbed the metal ladder, he received a shock that paralyzed him and caused him to drown. Since then, Ritz has worked to increase awareness of it and has noticed that trends are changing.

"We now have more fatalities from dock wiring than boat wiring," he said.

What's more, pools and hot tubs can be just as dangerous. Many times faulty pool lights cause electricity to flood the pool or hot tub, causing fatalities.

Both Johnson and Ritz hope that people will take the lifesaving step of including ground fault devices on power sources at the breaker. A ground fault device protects the entire power source from its start, and prevents the current from following any unintended paths during a ground fault (contact between an energized conductor and the ground).

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

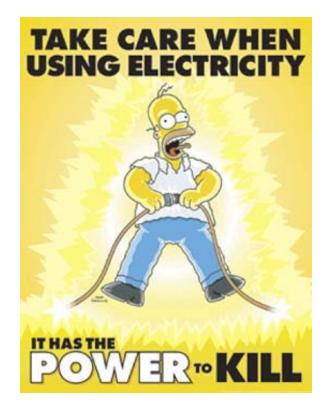
Lt. Fred Holmes, AP P/C Janis K. Chapman, AP Susan Ann Holmes, S

Nominating

Vickie Erickson, P P/C Melba J. K. Hale, P Lt/C Josette Mares, S

Rules

Larry Gertz
P/C Ricardo L. Mares, P
D/Lt/C Norman W. Penningon, SN



Administrative Officer's Report BY VICKIE ERICKSON, P



Greetings Shipmates! This is my second month as the Administrative Officer and I can tell you I am learning a lot about my job. It is very interesting to learn how the executive board of the United States Power Squadrons works. I hope that one day you all will get the same opportunity to serve on the board as

I have. If you are interested, just let me know. You can reach me by email Vickie8113@aol.com or by telephone (702)232-8367.

What's ahead for Peralta Squadron?



JUNE

Sat, 10 Jun National Marina Day

Sat, 10 Jun Membership Meeting w/Guest Speaker, San

Leandro Yacht Club

Mon, 12 Jun Executive Committee Meeting, San Leandro

Yacht Club

JULY

Fri, 21-23 Jul D/25 Delta Rendezvous, Rio Vista

AUGUST

Executive Committee Meeting, San Leandro Mon, 14 Aug

Yacht Club

SEPTEMBER

Tue, 1 Sep Deadline for articles for the 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

USPS Fall National Governing Board – Dallas Mon, 11-17 Sep

Sat, 16 Sep California Coastal Cleanup Day – San Leandro

Marina

OCTOBER

Mon, 2-9 Oct San Francisco Bay Fleet Week

Mon, 9 Oct Executive Committee Meeting, San Leandro

Yacht Club

Mon, 9 Oct Peralta Merit Mark Recommendations due to

Merit Mark Chair

Sat, 28 Oct D/25 Council Meeting & Fall Conference, San

Leandro Yacht Club

NOVEMBER

Mon, 13 Nov Executive Committee Meeting, Conference

Peralta Merit Mark Recommendations submis-Wed, 15 Nov

sion to Area Monitor

DECEMBER

Wed, 6 Dec D/25 Council Meeting/Party, Oyster Point

Yacht Club

Sat, 9 Dec Peralta Holiday Party & Potluck, San Leandro

Yacht Club

Executive Committee Meeting, Conference Mon, 11 Dec

Call Meeting

A group from the squadron went on the springtime outing to the SS Red Oak Victory Ship and then on to the Rosie the Riveter Museum. What an awesome experience. Most everyone brought bag lunches with them but a few of us did not, so we had the opportunity to have lunch at the Assembly Restaurant that is located at the Crown Pavilion adjacent to the Rosie the Riveter Muse-The restaurant won the Diners Choice award in 2015, and I must say, they deserved the award. I ordered a Grilled Chicken Salad and it was superb.

We sure missed those of you that were not able to attend the outing. If you get the chance, you may want to check it out. I learned a lot about the history of the local area that I did not know before. If you get the opportunity to go there you will see what I mean.

We are having our annual membership meeting and bar-b-que on June 10, 2017 starting at 1700 with no host cocktails and dinner at 1830. I am looking forward to meeting all of you at the membership meeting. It would be wonderful if you all decided to come and enjoy the camaraderie with all the members.

Meet Peralta's new members

By Patricia Ann Folger, S

Among the newest members of Peralta Sail and Power Squadron are Nicholas Pack and his wife Mary. They have enjoyed boating for 40 years. The Pecks own a 24' Bayliner which they keep on a trailer in Alameda. Nick is currently working on the outdrive on boat hoping to get it ready to cruise around the bay. They have no trip plans right now, but next year they will take it to the Delta.

The Packs live in Belmont. After getting to know P/ D/C Norm Pennington, who lives in the same city, Nick mentioned that he had been taking classes for seven or eight years. That was the "magic word" and Norm signed them both up for his classes. Mary took the beginning boating class.

Nick and Mary have two grown children. Their son is an electrician and the daughter designs web pages. They also have four grandchildren.

Nick is retired from his job as a machinist with the Mercury News newspaper. Mary worked for a florist and did designing. She is also retired. Nick was born in SF. Mary born in Livermore.

The couple has always been interested in boating.

Other new Peraltans to be introduced in future issues are Barbara and Victor Maylon. They live in San Leandro and own a 33.5' Hunter Sloop named Phoebe Snow. They have dreams for a new catamaran on which to sail the seven seas.



D/LT/C Norm Pennington, SN

As we all know all too much, we experienced record rainfall this past winter, and it is not over yet. Well the rain part is over, but there is still a lot of snow in the Sierras waiting to melt and fill the streams and rivers. There is plenty of evidence of the vast rains as the rivers appear to be as much as two feet higher than usual at high tide. This may not seem to be much except that areas that showed a beach at low tide appear to be gone. The water is also cooler than normal for this time of year, and the currents are swifter than usual. The biggest problem is the amount of debris in the water. There is a lot of schoenoplectus acutus (better known as tule) in the water and there are early signs of small patches of water hyacinth. The real danger is the abundance of floating tree limbs and branches that can easily cause damage to propellers, rudders and outdrives if struck by your boat. The amount of runoff from the storms is also causing record currents in the rivers and even Suisun Bay. Be aware and keep aware of what is in the water.

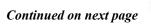
I recently attended the Aquatic Invasive Species Prevention Workshop at the Benicia Yacht Club sponsored by the California State Parks Division of Boating and Waterways. I found the four presentations informative and well done. One of the presentations covered regional species issues such as the difference between plant life native to California and plant life that has been imported to California waters either intentionally or un-

Non-Indigenous invasive species have intentionally. found their way to our waters from ships coming from foreign lands while others have made it from human activity. For example, Water Hyacinth came from South America while other species were dumped in the rivers from home aquariums. Some of the invasive species are upsetting the eco balance in the water such as causing too much shade thus creating algae that is harmful to fish. The State is trying to control many of the species, mainly with chemicals, but also with mechanical removal or in a few cases hand removal. Not all species respond to the same chemicals, thus different chemicals are used that are approved, and when they can be used, strictly controlled by the California and Federal Environmental Protection Agency.

A few of the invasive species that were discussed include Brazilian waterweed, curlyleaf pondweed, Eurasian watermilfoil, coontail, fanwort, floating pennywort, water hyacinth, Uruguay water prim-

rose, and South American spongeplant.

Another kind of invasive species are Quagga and Zebra Mussels. These are among those classified as Sessile, which are those that attach themselves to structures such as boats, docks and pilings. Other types include solitary



United States Power Squadrons



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USPS District 25 Website: http://www.usps.org/localusps/sds-D25



Trouble in the water... from previous page

and colonial sea squirts, tube works and barnacles. Other species are Mobiles, those that craw and swim. A few of these include the skeleton shrimp, sea slug, small crustacean, cirratulid and brittle star.

The Department working with the Smithsonian Environmental Research Center has been studying patterns of marine introduction over time and geographical space. The primary focus is detection of introduced species in California waters. A method that they have employed is the placement of "settlement plates" in ports and marinas. After three months they retrieve the plates from the water and take them to the lab and identify all of the organisms under the microscope. From this they can determine if any invasive species are present and to what extent.

What we can do to help prevent the spread of Quagga and Zebra Mussels is to remove plants, animals and mud from the boat, gear, trailer and vehicle and completely clean before leaving the area. Drain bilge, ballast, wells and buckets before leaving the area and completely dry equipment before launching into another body of water. You can expect to wait before launching into different fresh waters. Waiting periods can vary—check with your local water body. If you plan to bring your boat in from another state you should expect that it could be quarantined for at least 21 days before launching in California waters.

For more information on invasive species you can refer to the following websites. California State Parks Division of Boating and Waterways: http://

www.dbw.parks.ca.gov/ (Environment Tab and look for Aquatic Invasive Species); Natural Resources Agency: http://www.resources.ca.gov/quagga and the Aquatic Nuisance Species Task Force: http://www.anstaskforce.gov/default.php. Lastly, a very informative 28-minute Youtube video on inspection and decontamination: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JX8TmwTx-tU and while you are there check out the video on not moving a mussel at: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4uLKK09TljI

Finally, I am sure that you heard that the California State Legislature created a bill to raise taxes on fuel for motor vehicles. Unfortunately this also applies to boats, so you can expect higher fuel costs later this year when the bill is imple-A portion of mented. this new tax is attributal to boats and it will be placed in the State Parks and Recreation Fund together with other funds



with the statutory direction that these funds be used for state parks, off-highway vehicle programs, or boating programs. For more information on this and other initiatives that the Recreational Boaters of California are reporting, check out the summer 2017 edition of the Boater Brief at http://www.rboc.org/

THE HELMSMAN

Peralta Sail and Power Squadron 16 Cobblestone Lane Belmont, CA 94002-2310



Commander's Comments

I hope you are all excited for the beginning of a new boating season and you and your boat are ready for smooth seas and sailing. The weather sure has been cooperating.

A group of Peraltans went on a "land cruise" to Richmond to see the Rosie the Riveter Museum and the SS Red Oak Victory Ship. It was a very enjoyable and interesting day. We split up into two groups and had a docent lead the tour of the ship which was so informative. The tour took us all over the ship from the officers quarters, crews quarters, galley, bridge and all the decks with information on all the equipment on each deck.

After the tour, we drove over to the Rosie the Riveter Museum. Some of us had a picnic lunch while others had lunch outside at the restaurant next to the museum. After walking around the exhibits and watching videos, we went into a small theatre and listened to a talk from the oldest park ranger, Betty Reid Soskin. She is 92 years old. Betty talked about her experiences before and during World War II in Richmond. Everyone had a good time and enjoyed themselves and learned something in the process.

The Pacific Sail and Power Boat Show was held in Richmond and, thanks Chairman Norm Pennington, the District 25 booth was set up and manned throughout the show by various members of the D/25 squadrons. Norm was there pretty much every day to make sure everything ran smoothly. The Boating Skills Virtual Trainer was set up and was successful in bringing people over to the booth. Unfortunately, the tent that the booth was in was very far from the main tent. It was over by the boats that were in the water and the turnout wasn't great due to the location.

I think the simulator will be good tool for gaining interest and raising questions during public events and also in the courses. A big thank-you to



Norm for all his hard work in coordinating the booth and for keeping it running so smoothly.

Our next Peralta event will be the Membership meeting. It will be very informal, so come out and enjoy the BBQ, food, conversation and comaraderie and catch up with old, and new friends.

The D/25 Rendezvous in Rio Vista will be in July. It is always a fun time with good food, conversation with members of other squadrons and just hanging out. Sacramento Squadron used to host it in past years, but now it will be hosted by different squadrons each year. You don't have to have a boat and can come as a land cruiser. The major events are on Saturday, so plan on joining us this year.

I hope you are able to enjoy the upcoming weather and have a successful boating season with many smooth days on the water with family and friends. I hope to see many of you at the upcoming events.

Commander Barbara Waldstreicher