

The Peralta Helmsman—Official Publication of the Peralta Sail and Power Squadron

**AMERICA'S BOATING CLUB®**  
For Boaters, By Boaters™



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# The Peralta Helmsman

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



*View of Cascade Bay from Rosario on Orcas Island Photo by Norm Pennington, SN*

## In this Issue:

- Messages from our Commander and Bridge Officers
- Educational Course Calendar Update
- Upcoming Events Information
- Boating Adventure in the Pacific Northwest
- Another way to visit the Executive Committee
- And Much More ...

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## Pacific Northwest Boating Adventure

D/Lt/C NORM PENNINGTON, SN

In July, Judy and I had the pleasure to be invited to cruise the **San Juan Islands** by our hosts; **Arnold and Nora Goldschlager** along with their friend, **Yuhum**. Our cruise started on Friday the 13<sup>th</sup> of July, leaving the San Francisco International Airport on our way to Seattle's SEATAC airport. From there we were whisked away to our waiting hotel in **Anacortes** on **Fidalgo Island** where our sea journey would start in less than 24-hours. While waiting for the big day, we relaxed and dined at **Anthony's** overlooking the **Cap Sante Marina**. The next morning our journey started as we arrived at the marina where we met **Captain Jack**, our skipper who welcomed us aboard **Ocean Romance**, our home for the next eight days. Once we were settled in, we departed for our first port of call at **Friday Harbor** on **San Juan Island**. Our next day journey took us to **Bedwell Harbor** on **South Pender Island**, where we had to clear Canadian Immigration. The next morning, we departed for **Sidney Harbor** on **Victoria Island** where we were joined by Arnie's & Nora's daughter **Hilary** and their son in-law **Ben**.

Our journey continued the next day where we left **Sidney** and travelled to **Ganges Harbor** on

**Salt Spring Island**. The next day we departed **Ganges** for a short ride over to **Montague Harbor** on **Galiano Island**.

**Montague Harbor** was our first and only port of call where we anchored as there was no dock or pier to tie up for our stay. After exploring the shore side where we enjoyed a great sunset meal prepared by Hilary and served up on the fly bridge.



As the evening turned to darkness we convened to the main cabin where some played dominos while others read or carried on a quiet conversation.



The next morning found that our vessel had turned around giving us a view of the shore whereas the previous evening our view was to **Parker Island**. After breakfast, we weighed anchor and carefully cruised out of the bay into **Trincomali Channel**, passing **North Pender** and **Stuart Inlands** on our port side in **Swanson**



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## Boating Adventure in the Pacific Northwest

CONTINUED FROM THE PREVIOUS PAGE

Channel making way to **Roche Harbor** on **San Juan Island** and back to the USA.



After clearing immigration, we were directed to our slip for our stay. The next day we journeyed to **Rosario Harbor** on **Orcas Island**. After negotiating a tight turn to port with the wind abeam we managed to squeeze onto the dock with all line handlers on station.

Once tucked in, it was time to relax, head to the **Mansion Museum** and restaurant while Hilary



and Ben took to the dinghy to set some crab pots. Early the next morning we departed on our way back to **Anacortes** passing **Lopez** and **Blakely** Islands, squeezing between **Blakely** and **Decatur** Islands on our way through **Guemes Channel**. As we approached **Guemes Channel** we spotted what appeared to be Or-



**cas Pods**, who managed to stay submerged staying out of sight. Our last course change took us around the north end of **Fidalgo Island** and **Cap Sante** to the marina in **Anacortes**. Lastly, our journey via shuttle back to SEATAC and San Francisco.

Our cruise in the San Juan Islands have taught us a different way of boating where new obstacles were always present such as the abundance of crab pots that dot the entire ocean landscape, floating logs the size of trees that are presumed to have fallen off of barges, swift cross currents in major channels and the occasional ferry that is shuttling passengers and their vehicles be-



tween islands. Another considering is the understanding of the steep tides (12 to 13 feet) in comparison to what we are used to in Northern

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California as well as keeping an eye out for that occasional Sea Plane that might be taking off or landing in the main channel. The weather was fantastic with temperatures in the low to mid 70's. Our ports of call were far better than I would have expected with very friendly people in the harbors, stores and restaurants. Our Captain, Capt. Jack, was very methodical in the handling of our boat, especially during docking maneuvers and providing guidance in the handling of lines as we approach and depart docks. Once in open water, Capt. Jack would turn the vessel over to Arnie or I for passage to our next port of call. Once underway, Capt. Jack would attend to organizing lines, fenders and the boarding ladder until our next stop.

It was quite evident that extensive planning went into this



trip as no detail was overlooked from hotel reservations, docking and restaurant reservations and ground transportation to and from Anacortes. If you are planning on visiting the San Juan Islands you would be prudent on starting your planning with current travel guides and maps/charts of the area. Judy and I truly enjoyed our vacation and would consider returning to the Pacific Northwest and the San Juan Islands. I would be remiss if I didn't acknowledge Captain Jack and the wonderful staff at Anacortes Yacht Charters, and most importantly Arnold and Nora Goldschlager for inviting us with their family on this fantastic ocean adventure.

## Travelling America's Backroads

P/C ALAN SMITH, P

This year I have not had my boat in the water yet. That does not mean I have not been on or around the water. My training from Power Squadron classes and other safety classes from work has help prepare me for any emergency that might come up.

Sometimes it is the simple things like observing your surroundings while walking on the dock or noticing things that are not right on someone else's boat before leaving the dock that can save you.

This summer there have been some tragic accidents of people on a cruise when the weather suddenly changed. The average person never thinks to put on a life vest when calm conditions change to stormy weather. Or better yet put a life vest when boarding a boat. One has to be proactive before a disaster strikes.

Even far away from the water the weather class that I took from the Power Squadron has helped me decide if the televised weather reports are correct in my area. Sometime micro climates vary drastically from one place to another.

In California we are spoiled with predictable weather. So it can be easy to let your guard down. On my recent adventure trip in late August around Yellowstone National Park I had to worry about snow storms over the mountain passes. The snow storms were bad enough that I decided to delay my visit to Yellowstone Park one day.

In this modern world we are dependent on cars, airplanes, and boats to function properly to make sure we arrive safely. It does not hurt to know how they work and what can go wrong. So I encourage everyone to take classes to be a better person.

## Squadron Educational Officer's Report

D/Lt/C NORM PENNINGTON, SN



### *For Boaters, By Boaters*

It appears that I am caught in the mid-summer doldrums with very little to report despite having traveled to Fall Governing Board Meeting in Minneapolis. Routine flight leaving SFO, as usual, we left three-hours late? The return to SFO went great with the plane arriving a few minutes early. Some of the social events, seminars and meeting were cut short to accommodate some of the off-site social activities. I managed to get in a little networking with colleagues from other districts to share ideas and thoughts.

In addition to classroom instruction, Webinars are becoming more popular and have become profitable to the organization while providing useful information to our members and recreational boaters. Coming up on September 25<sup>th</sup> is the Webinar on “**Oceanography – Wave Action.**” The Webinar planned for November is “**Living Aboard while Cruising.**” Moving forward, six additional Webinars are being planned. For a list of Webinars that are still available (recorded presentation) or for new Webinars, check out this website: <https://americasboatingclub.org/education-matters/online-boating-education/webinars/>

Following the names; **America's Boating Course**® and **America's Boating Club**® we now have **America's Boating Channel**™. America's

Boating Channel was formerly called the USPS Digital Media Library that contains a host of video messages on recreational boating topics such as navigational rules, life jackets, visual distress signals, MMSI radio, personal water craft and accident reporting. New videos are released every few weeks so one must go back to see what is new. For more information head over to their website at: <http://americasboatingchannel.com/>

Coming down the pike is a new **RADAR** course that is to replace the RADAR seminar that is supposed to be available about the time you read this. The course is planned to take about eight hours to present as opposed the two-hour seminar that is currently available. It is my understanding that this course does not have an examination for successful completion. Also in the pipe line is a new LPG (Liquefied Propane Gas) seminar that should be available later this fall. This seminar is reported to be a comprehensive review of the safe use of LPG fuel.

Our educational program is currently underway with the **Junior Navigation** Course that is about three-quarters complete. Students are busy preparing their sight folder for their sighting of the sun and will be shortly embarking on the cruise to prepare them for the final examination. I have the following courses planned for the coming months. First, starting on Tuesdays in October, five weeks (8-hour version) of **America's Boating Course**. For those who have taken this course or one like it and would like to qualify for the California boater Card, this is a must have requirement especially if you are supervising under-aged drivers aboard your boat. In 2018, those who are 20-years and younger or those supervising those that are 12 through 15 years of age. In 2019, the age requirement is extended to those who are 25 and younger. Start-

# 2017-18 Bridge

**Commander:**

Cdr Barbara Waldstreicher, AP

**Executive Officer:**

Lt/C Rick Erickson, AP

**Educational Officer:**

D/Lt C Norm Pennington, SN

**Administrative Officer:**

Lt/C Vickie Erickson, AP

**Secretary:**

Cdr Barbara Waldstreicher, AP

**Treasurer:**

D/ Lt C Judy Pennington, P

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**Auditing**

Lt. Fred Holmes, AP

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**Nominating**

Vickie Erickson, P

P/C Melba J. K. Hale, P

P/Lt/C Josette Mares, S

**Rules**

Larry Gertz

P/C Ricardo L. Mares, P

D/Lt/C Norman W. Pennington, SN

ing Tuesday, January 8<sup>th</sup> I will be conducting **Seamanship**, or the new variant known as **Boat Handling**, that will run through the middle of March. Should I be conducting the new Boating Handling Seminar series, then the course will be reduced to seven, two-hour sessions, finishing in mid-February. Lastly, I will be conducting **Cruising and Cruise Planning** starting Tuesday, April 9<sup>th</sup> that should complete in the first part of June 2019. Due to the uncertainty of the availability of the San Leandro Yacht Club starting mid-year 2019 we may be putting classes on hold until a new facility is located. For more information on courses offered, simply browse the Peralta Squadron course calendar.

<http://www.peraltasquadron.org/education/calendar.html>

In wrapping up this report, I will be reporting on several advances underway in the Educational Department in the District Fall Council & Conference scheduled for Saturday, 20 October at the San Leandro Yacht Club. I hope to see as many members as possible from our squadron.

**Editors Note:**

Starting with this issue of the Peralta Helmsman you will begin to see changes in the format of this newsletter. The United States Power Squadrons® is changing their name to America's Boating Club® and along with it have established new branding standards for material that is published at the National, District and Squadron levels. The biggest change has already occurred with a new front page masthead showing our national identity, what is inside the publication, and all of the necessary fine print. We hope that you will like the new format and continue to enjoy the articles that your officers have prepared, and we hope that you will reach out to us for suggestions on how we can make the Peralta Helmsman better. Our next issue will be in December 2018.

**WANTED/SECRETARY**

*We need your participation: Peralta Nominating Committee seeks a candidate for Secretary of the Executive Committee for the 2018-2019 term. Taking minutes at the monthly meetings gives you an opportunity to learn how the Squadron operates. The Calendar Planning Meeting is held in January, and you will be part of planning the educational courses and activities for the coming year.*

*We need your fresh ideas and support as Peralta Sail and Power Squadron navigates into the future.*

Contact:

**Josette Mares, P, Chairman,**  
Nominating Committee  
[rjmares@comcast.net](mailto:rjmares@comcast.net).

## What's ahead for Peralta Squadron?



**October**

Mon, 8 October

Executive Committee Meeting, San Leandro Yacht Club

Sat, 20 October

District 25 Fall Council/Conference, San Leandro Yacht Club

**November**

Monday, 12 November

Executive Committee Meeting, San Leandro Yacht Club

Sat, 17 November

Peralta Potluck and General Get Together, San Leandro Yacht Club

**December**

Sat, 8 December

Combined SLYC—Peralta Holiday Party, San Leandro Yacht Club

Mon, 10 December

Executive Committee Meeting, Electronic Conference Call



## Executive Officer's Report

By P/D/C Rick Erickson, AP

### Ahoy, Shipmates!

Summer is fast running its course, and the JN class is in the grips of sights and sight folders. Soon we will be faced with the arduous task of the final. With fall approaching, there are several opportunities to gather and socialize. Please check your calendars for some good times, and come if you can

One of the most worthwhile events upcoming is the California Coastal Clean-Up Day. This is a time when those who enjoy the water and the waterfront gather together to clean up the trash and debris that have accumulated during the year. Each year, the City of San Leandro sponsors two areas to clean. Our function is to man the table and pass out bags as needed, as well as sign in participants. We generally participate with members of the San Leandro Yacht Club, who generally host a BBQ afterward at the club. If possible, please come out and support this effort.

Be aware also that the Executive Committee/Bridge meetings are open to all, and you are invited to attend. How about the upcoming Halloween Party? Costumes and fun. Your participation makes it all the more fun for all!

### *See you on the Water!!!*

Rick

Executive Officer

Back in the day we lived closer in town and commutes were relatively short by comparison to today's massive congestion. When Judy and I first joined the squadron and serving on the Executive Committee, we had time to get home from work, have dinner and still arrive in time for a meeting or class. Those easy days are gone, but we still hold meetings and offer classes.

For those that live a great distance from San Leandro, it was suggested that we hold our monthly business meeting electronically. Actually we already hold three meetings a year as allowed in our bylaws where all participants are at home. Anyway, we have the capability of using Free Conference Calling.

## Administrative Officer's Report

By Lt/C Vickie Erickson, AP



### Happy Days Matte's:

To all my friends in the Peralta Power Squadron. Just wanted to let you know we had another successful annual meeting/barbeque. Everyone had a great time and there was plenty to eat. The Virtual Trainer was available, and many took advantage of using it to learn more about maneuvering their boats in the water. Fun was had by all.

I would like to extend an invitation to all members that the meetings are open to all who would like to attend. We are in the business to make boating safe, and we would like all to participate to get some brainstorming going. We are always looking for new way we can make the waters safer in the Bay area. Check the website for the upcoming meetings. They are open to all members.

Remember that the holiday season is coming up fast and we will be celebrating them all starting with the Halloween Holiday. Check the website for further information and be on the lookout for mailings considering the upcoming get together

Vickie

Administrative officer

As a member, if you would like to be able to join in on any of our monthly meetings. Our meetings are usually held on the second Monday of each month starting at 7:30 p.m. and usually only last one-hour.

Additionally, we will be recording the meeting so if you cannot join the meeting when it is being held, you can listen to it at your convenience. Please contact me for dial-in instructions.

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## THE PERALTA HELMSMAN

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# Commander's Comments

## The Summer Boating Season is upon us,

I hope everyone is doing well enjoying this summer, on land and water. The weather has been perfect all summer to enjoy being outside. Our Membership Meeting and BBQ went well and Norm set up the Boating Skills Virtual Trainer for those interested in testing out their skills. The D25 Rendezvous was held in July at Delta Marina in Rio Vista. San Joaquin and Diablo Squadrons hosted this year and it sounded like a lot of fun with many activities/games that were planned. Next year, our squadron will be hosting, so plan ahead to attend to support our squadron.

If you are interested in helping us on our planning committee or any other open position, please contact any one of our Executive Committee members. We can always use the assistance. Unfortunately, our land cruise had to be postpone so keep your eyes out for information in the Winter or Spring and plan on attending. It's always a nice time to see something new and have a good time with good company.

My hat's off to Norm for stepping up and taking over the Helmsman. He has worked hard to learn the program and maintain our award winning newsletter. We have an opportunity to win another award for Distinction in Communication for the newsletter and Norm is working hard on conforming to the criteria so we can be nominated. Norm has also been busy teaching the JN class. He was able to get enough interest to offer the class. Rick and Vickie Erickson, Nick Paek and I are students and we are learning so much. I personally, have learned to use a sextant which I have been interested in. If you have a chance to take a class from Norm, you should definitely take advantage of it. He is an excellent instructor and you will learn a lot.



There has been interest in our board meetings being on Free Conference Call. Norm said he should be able to work it out so members will be able to listen in on our meetings and keep informed. Keep a look out in your e-mail. Lastly, I want to congratulate Julie Fouquet, one of our members, for earning a 99% on her JN exam. I know the hard work that goes into that course, and she is to be commended for an awesome job.

I hope to see many of you at our upcoming events. Here's to many safe and enjoyable times on the water.

Commander Barbara Waldstreicher