

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



*Helmsman June 2019  
Volume 60  
Issue No. 2*

# The Peralta Helmsman

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

## **Peralta members to host the District 25 Rendezvous at Rio Vista on July 19-21**

Plans are finalized to make this rendezvous a great adventure. As members start gathering on Friday, there will be a hot dog and hamburger dinner followed by a movie under the stars. On Saturday there will be an interesting seminar of interest to boaters. There will also be games and activities, or simply time to visit friends to pass the lazy days of summer. To add a little excitement there will be a squadron competition.

Saturday evening will bring us a Barbequed Ribs and Chicken dinner. More details and how to register for this great event will be available with an announcement coming from Sail Angle. Mark your calendar and plan on attending. Delta Marina shown at right



Norm Pennington Collection

### In this Issue:

- Messages from our Commander and Bridge Officers
- District 25 Rio Vista Rendezvous
- Educational Course Calendar Update
- Travelling America's Backroads
- Upcoming Events Information
- And Much More ...



**Executive  
Officer's Report**  
By Lt/C Rick Erickson, JN

*Ahoy,  
Shipmates!*

It's Spring, and the boating season is in full swing. The weather, although somewhat unusual, seems to be trending warmer. It's a great time to spend time on or near the water. Take care to carefully inspect your boat before taking it out, and check to see that all of your required safety gear is on board and in serviceable condition. This is a wonderful time to schedule your Vessel Safety Check so as to confirm that your vessel is in tip-top condition. As you know, Norm and I are Vessel Examiners, and I would like to take this opportunity to welcome Nick Pack as Peralta's newest examiner!! Now all we need to do is keep him busy! And don't forget National Safe Boating Week, May 18-24, 2019

I was intrigued earlier this month with the Sail GP regatta that was run in the Bay. Sail GP is a new kind of sailboat racing similar to the 72' catamarans recently run during the America's Cup. The Sail GP boats are 50' foiling cats that can achieve speeds of 50 knots. Currently, there are six teams representing Australia, Japan, China, Great Britain, France and the good ol' USA. I can't wait until they come back next year - it's an awesome show!

The Squadron has a packed schedule for this year as you can see from the schedule. Land cruise to the Maritime Museum, Membership Appreciation BBQ, and the District 25 Rendezvous in Rio Vista. Peralta has been selected as the host Squadron for this year's event, and it promises to be a fun time

**Executive Officer Report continued on Page 8**

**Administrative  
Officer's Report**  
By Lt/C Vickie Erickson, JN



*Happy Days  
Matte's:*

Here it is almost the middle of May. Summer boating will be here before you know it. At this time, I would like to remind all of you to be aware of your surroundings especially when you are out enjoying a day on the water. Many people will be out to have a good time and there will be some that aren't as conscientious as others so be on the lookout for them. Also be on the lookout for our fellow boaters that may have some engine trouble and may need some assistance from us. Remember we are Americas Boating Club and need to be setting a good example for all those on the water.

As I have said before all members are invited to our monthly meetings that are held on the second Monday of the month at the San Leandro Yacht Club, 100 Mulford Pt, San Leandro, Ca. Or you have the option to log to our web meeting. If you are interested in attending the Web Meeting contact Norm Pennington for instruction on how to join the meeting.

We will be having our annual member ap-

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**Peralta Helmsman**

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San Leandro, California





# Mid-Summer Fling District 25



## Summer Cruise & Rendezvous

### July 19-21, 2019

### Hosted by Peralta Squadron



#### Friday July 19

The **cruise officially begins on Saturday**, but if you are free on Friday, Peralta will host an **informal get together** at the barbecue area of Delta Marina, for all us **early arrivers** – come join us at **1800**.

There will be burgers and hotdogs, Potato salad & cookies, bottled water and soda.

After dinner enjoy a movie under the stars.

Delta Marina Harbor is located in Rio Vista on the Sacramento River just south of the Rio Vista Bridge. From the river, look for “The Point” restaurant sign. Marina is tucked in behind it.

**Skippers, call ‘Foot Loose’ on VHF channel 71 before** entering marina, for docking instructions/position. Be sure to include your boat’s vital stats on the sign-in reservation form - attached.

**Land Cruisers welcome, too.** Rendezvous is for all squadron members in D25 to come & play.

#### Saturday July 20

Peralta will be the host squadron and has planned an exciting and enjoyable weekend for us. If cruising in on Saturday plan to **arrive by 1030** At **1100** a seminar on **AIS Tracking** will be presented.

At 1330 the **Squadron Competitions** gets underway.

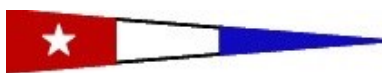
Knot ID

Spam Carving

Boat Scavenger Hunt

Cocktail hour begins at **1700** (bring your own). Dinner at **1800** will be BBQ chicken, and ribs, Green Salad, Beans, Garlic Bread, and Dessert, Wine will be served with dinner.

Following Dinner award for Squadron Competitions will be presented.



#### Sunday July 21

We will have a pot luck breakfast in the barbeque area, at **0900**, so please bring a dish to share.

At your leisure, head on back to your home port, practicing smart and safe boating all the way, of course.



**Reservation Deadline is Tuesday, July 16**

# Mid-Summer Fling

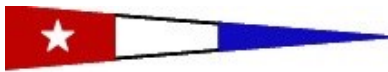
## District 25

### Summer Cruise & Rendezvous

### July 19-21 2019



Please send reservations to: D/Lt/C Judy



Pennington, P  
16 Cobblestone Lane  
Belmont, CA 94002-2310

YOUR NAME \_\_\_\_\_ SQUADRON \_\_\_\_\_

BOAT NAME \_\_\_\_\_

LENGTH \_\_\_\_\_ WIDTH (Beam) \_\_\_\_\_

PLAN TO ARRIVE AT: \_\_\_\_\_ ON: FRIDAY \_\_\_\_\_ SATURDAY \_\_\_\_\_

BERTHING FEES # of NIGHTS \_\_\_\_\_ at \$27.00 PER NIGHT \_\_\_\_\_

FRIDAY BARBEQUE DINNER: # \_\_\_\_\_ at \$10.00 \_\_\_\_\_

SATURDAY BARBEQUE DINNER: # \_\_\_\_\_ at \$30.00 \_\_\_\_\_

TOTAL ENCLOSED: \_\_\_\_\_

**MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO: USPS DISTRICT 25**

DOCKING FEES ARE TO BE PAID IN ADVANCE WITH RESERVATION

## Squadron Educational Officer's Report

D/Lt/C NORM PENNINGTON, SN



*For Boaters,  
By Boaters*

Time has us closing in on the first day of summer coming mid-June. Classroom activity is starting to come to a close over the summer boating season. During this time, I will be switching from conducting courses to presenting short courses and seminars.

Several of our members have previously started preparing for the various levels of Boat Operator Certification (BOC) program, which is a member only program consisting of four levels; Inland Navigator (IN), Coastal Navigator (CN), Advanced Coastal Navigator (ACN) and Offshore Navigator (ON). Within each level there are certification levels; Certified as in one who has completed all of the educational and has shown proficiency with the required skills, Certifier as in one who is a certified instructor and who is certified and who has completed certifier training and has been certified by a Certifier-Trainer. Each level of certification builds on a lower level meaning that one must get certified at the Inland Navigator level before they can get certified at the Coastal Navigator level. However, one may work towards certification at a higher level including the on the water exercises while waiting on completing requirements at the lower level.

In my review of those who have started qualification under the Boat Operator Certification program I've determined that the fol-

lowing seminars and courses are needed by one or more members seeking BOC qualification as follows:

### **Inland Navigator**

Engine Maintenance Course – 1  
Weather Forecasting Seminar or Weather – 1  
VHF/DSC Marine Radio Seminar – 1

### **Coastal Navigator**

Marine Communications Systems Course – 2  
Weather Course – 1  
Marine Compass Seminar – 3  
Anchoring Seminar – 3  
Rules of the Road Seminar – 5  
Tides and Currents Seminar – 1

### **Advanced Coastal Navigator**

Emergencies onboard Seminar – 4  
RADAR Course – 4  
Note: Those completing the RADAR seminar prior to May 2019 will not need to take the RADAR course, although due to new information, are encouraged to do so.

It is my goal to be able to elevate those desire to continue certification at the first two levels this year, and to continue with certification at the ACN level next year. The above courses are open to members seeking general knowledge or for those desiring to complete one or more certification levels.

Speaking of seminars, two new seminars are now available; AIS (or Automated Identification Systems). In this course, you will learn what AIS does, how it works, whether you need an AIS system, how AIS is different from RADAR, how to use AIS to navigate more safely and what to consider when integrating AIS with your existing electronics. The other seminar; Boat Propane Systems and Propane Safety. This seminar gives you the tools you need to use propane fuel safely on the water. Propane and butane, also known as LPG, are the most common cooking fuels used on boats. While efficient, cost effective and widely available, these fuels can also be dangerous. This seminar explains boat pro-

# Travelling America's Backroads

P/C ALAN SMITH, P

Hi All,

With this crazy weather so far this year I've not had my boat on the water this year yet. Usually I've had my trailer boat serviced and in the water a few times already. With my current busy schedule on the east coast I won't have my boat on the water until after the District 25 Rendezvous in Rio Vista.

I remember during my younger years I had thoughts of cruising the oceans someday. I attended boating seminars or talks of people that did cruise the world. I took the cruise planning, weather, and other boating classes. I did find cruising the world in one's own boat fascinating but it looked like a tough adventure, maybe too tough for me. The dis-

tances I found were extremely far on a slow tiny boat on the vast ocean.

Today I'm more content to cruise the inland waters of our lakes and rivers. If I was to take a long cruise on my boat, I think I would do the Intracoastal Waterway on the eastern half of our country. I think that would be enough boating adventure for me. I like the atmosphere along our shores.

Lately even my wife is warming up to the idea of taking a cruise on a large cruise ship someday. In the past she would not even consider going anywhere on the huge ships. So I guess we change over time.

Alan



## What's ahead for Peralta Squadron?



### June

Sat, 8 June

Peralta Land Cruise to San Francisco Maritime Museum and Park. 10:00 a.m. Meet at the Aquatic Park Bathhouse Building, at 900 Beach Street

Mon, 10 June

Executive Committee Meeting, 7:30 p.m., San Leandro Yacht Club, or Electronic Conference Call

Sat, 28 June

Peralta Annual Barbecue and General Membership Meeting starting at 6:00 p.m. at the San Leandro Yacht club, 20 Mulford Point, San Leandro Marina.

### July

Thurs-Sun, 19-21 July

District 25 Summer Rendezvous, Delta Marina, 100 Marina Drive, Rio Vista. Peralta Host Squadron

### August

Mon, 12 August

Executive Committee Meeting, 7:30 p.m., San Leandro Yacht Club, or Electronic Conference Call



## Boat Maintenance Tip

### Cooling System—Part I

D/Lt/C NORM PENNINGTON, SN

Lubrication and cooling are the life-blood of the marine engine. In this report I am going to concentrate on the inspection and maintenance of cooling systems in an inboard marine engine. While many smaller boats will have an open cooling system where sea water is brought in and passed through a sea water strainer, or not, then circulated through the engine and passed into the exhaust system and directed over board. Some small boats and most large boats will have a closed cooling system where sea water is brought in and passed through a sea water strainer and heat exchanger and passed into the exhaust system and directed overboard while coolant is circulated in the engine and the heat exchanger.

The closed cooling system is an advantage over the open cooling system as sea water is not circulated within the engine block, but limited to external components such as a sea water pump and heat exchanger. In the closed system, the internal components are bathed in coolant designed to resist corrosion and wear and compatible with aluminum components. Engine coolants on the market use Ethylene Glycol that lowers the freezing point of the water in the cooling system and it also raises the boiling point and helps inhibit corrosion. However, all brands and formulas are not the same and should not be mixed as incompatible formulas can “gel” resulting in hot spots inside the engine. With nearly 60-years’ experience in automotive mechanics, I thought I knew nearly everything, at least with legacy systems. Victor Maylon reminded me that I shouldn’t have used automotive coolant in my diesel engines, so I did some research and found that he was correct. If I had left the automotive coolant in my engines, I could expect some expensive repairs in the future.

Consulting with a marine mechanic, I determined that I should consult with the manufac-

turer of my engines and use what they recommend. Looking at their documentation I found five different products with differing classifications; OAT, NOAT, Hybrid and Conventional. Without going into what they mean here, I went with Organic Acid Technology (OAT), which included extended life with 1,000,000 miles or 20,000 hours. This product was about twice as expensive as Prestone, however the Prestone product would have to be changed in three to five years and I would still have to deal with damage to the engine. The Cummins product I used is considered to be in for the life of the engine and that I would only need to add the same product as needed.

Next, what is the proper way to drain coolant from a marine engine and replace it with new coolant? This actually turned out to be a complicated process since coolants may say they are compatible with other coolants; but they actually are not. The first step is to drain the existing coolant and replace it with distilled water and run the engine for about 30-minutes and then drain the water. Next, refill the engine with distilled water with about a pound of Oxalic Acid diluted in the water and run the engine for about six-hours. Drain and refill the engine with distilled water and run the engine for 30-minutes, and repeat a second time. Finally, fill the engine with the recommended coolant and run the engine for 30-minutes checking for leaks, and the coolant level in the surge tank as well as the recovery tank.

This covers the internal, or fresh water side of the cooling system, but there is another side that needs attention, the raw water side. Watch for Part II in the next edition of the Peralta Helmsman.

**Educational Officer Report continued from Page 5**

pane systems, propane safety, and how to keep your boat and crew safe.

We have two programs that are open to members and non-members and they are called Jump Start and Hands-On-Training (HOT) (formerly called Practical On-the-Water Training (POTW)). Both programs are designed for the inexperienced boat owner seeking basic information about boating, or guidance in learning boating in general. The Jump Start program is about two-hours in length while the HOT program is eight-hours. There is no-cost for Jump Start, whereas the HOT program can cost several hundred dollars. The good news, the basic HOT program is essentially the same as Inland Navigator described above and is significantly more affordable.

The cost for the boat operator certification passport is \$50 for each level. Seminars cost about \$30 each and are two-hours in length. We offer special seminar pricing for members in the same household. To wrap up this report, I'm going to concentrate on seminars for the spring and summer boating season and return to courses for the late fall and winter. If you see something you like, or are not seeing what you would like, drop me a line and I'll see if I can schedule it in.



**Executive Officer Report continued from Page 2**

for all. Food, beverages, games and general frivolity will be the order of the day!! The Bridge has been working hard to organize this stupendous event, and the hope is that we will have a ton of our membership to set the tone - and Peralta knows how to Party!!

Norm and I have been in several discussions about the Boat Operator Certification program. Interest? Want more information? Let us hear from you, and we can all take that next step in our boating education. There is a seminar on "Rules of the Road" that I am particularly interested in taking, and I'd love to have some company!! Looking forward to seeing you all on the water!

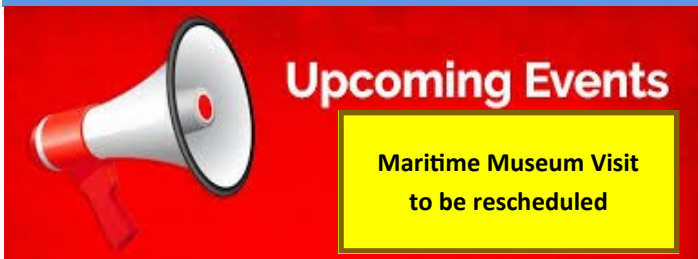
**Administrative Officer Report, continued from Page 2**

preciation barbeque on June 28. I look forward to this one every year we have such a good time and much needed camaraderie. Mark your calendars to have a great time.

The next function will be the annual rendezvous' that is held at the Delta Marina in Rio Vista July 19-21, 2019. See the flyer that is attached for further information on this event.

I am looking forward to seeing all of you at these functions it so much fun when we all get together. I know last year we all had a great time. I for one am looking forward to it again this year. If you have any questions, please feel free to call any of the board members for information.





You have already heard about the Peralta Squadron hosting the **District 25 Rendezvous** over the week-end starting Friday, of July 19<sup>th</sup> at Delta Marina in Rio Vista.

However, we also have two other events that you might find exciting and educational. First up, the educational activity is a **land cruise to the San Francisco Maritime Museum on Saturday, June 8<sup>th</sup>** starting at 10:00 a.m. where we will gather at the entrance to the Aquatic Park Bathhouse Building located on Beach Street at Polk Street.

Inside we will have the opportunity to visit the various exhibits of nautical lore. Then, walking two blocks east on Beach we will reconvene at the visi-



tor's center located at 499 Jefferson Street at the corner of Hyde Street. The visitor center is housed in the Park's 1908 historic brick cannery warehouse, that tell the stories of voyage, discovery and cultural diversity. Since 1849, the world has rushed through the Golden Gate, and each wave of population or industry has left its own fascinating imprint on America's West Coast (and the City by the Bay). For those that wish to continue the journey, take a stroll and visit the historic ships at Hyde Street Pier. There is no sign-up, simply meet us at the Bathhouse building at 10:00 a.m. The shore exhibits are free while the dockside exhibit entry is \$15. For more information, visit: [https://www.nps.gov/safr/planyourvisit/upload/AccessGuide\\_Sep2015-3-1-with-Cover-page-1-2.pdf](https://www.nps.gov/safr/planyourvisit/upload/AccessGuide_Sep2015-3-1-with-Cover-page-1-2.pdf)

Our next activity is the **Annual Barbeque and General Membership Meeting** starting at 6:00 p.m. on Saturday, June 29<sup>th</sup> at the San Leandro Yacht Club where we will be serving barbecued hamburgers and hotdogs. Come and meeting your leadership team and take an opportunity to drive the small boat simulator through many of the available



exercises to test your skill in operating a small boat with an outboard motor. Please refer to the sign-up form in this newsletter.



We are pleased to announce that we have three new members join America's Boating Club and the Peralta Sail and Power Squadron.

Joining in March, **George Patrikeyev** from San Jose, has been taking courses for the past couple of years earning his Advanced Pilot grade along with taking Engine Maintenance. George owns a 38-foot Bayliner that he keeps in Marina Village. George is an avid fisherman and loves to head out the gate to tend to his crab pots.

Joining in mid-April, **Leslie Dubin** from San Francisco. Leslie is also a member of Club Nautique in Alameda and Sausalito. She has been taking a number of courses on both power and sail and is always eager to explore the bay to practice new skills she is learning. Leslie does not have a boat yet, but I heard that she might favor a trawler.

Joining towards to the end of April is **Elsa Miranda Tran**, also from San Francisco. Elsa is the proud owner of a Pearson 422 Sail Boat. Elsa started her boating education in Florida, taking the USCGAux Boating Skills and Seamanship Course in June 2017. We are glad that she found us.

Welcome aboard and we look forward to seeing each of you in our classroom and at our social events.

## 2018-19 Bridge

### Commander:

Cdr Barbara Waldstreicher, JN

### Executive Officer:

Lt/C Rick Erickson, JN

### Educational Officer:

D/Lt/C Norm Pennington, SN

### Administrative Officer:

Lt/C Vickie Erickson, JN

### Assist. Admin Officer:

1st/Lt, Nicholas J. Pack, JN

### Secretary:

Cdr Barbara Waldstreicher, JN

### Treasurer:

D/Lt/C Judy Pennington, P

### General Committees

#### Auditing

P/Lt/C Fred Holmes, AP

P/C Janis K. Chapman, AP

Susan Ann Holmes, S

#### Nominating

Lt/C Vickie Erickson, JN

P/C Melba J. K. Hale, P

P/Lt/C Josette Mares, S

#### Rules

Larry Gertz

1st/Lt Ricardo L. Mares, P

D/Lt/C Norman W. Pennington, SN

### Commander's Report, continued from Page 12

supporting our squadron.

On the education front, keep an eye out for more classes offered by Norm. There are some interesting ones coming up that haven't been offered in a while. If you haven't taken a class from him, you are certainly missing out. You can learn a lot from his teaching style in a stress-free environment.

Here's to a great summer with family and friends on the water and land and I hope to see many of you at our upcoming events.

Commander Barbara



# You are cordially invited

*To Peralta Sail & Power Squadron's Annual Kickoff Summer BBQ*

WHERE: **San Leandro Yacht Club** - 20 Mulford Point Drive , San Leandro

WHEN: **Saturday, June 29, 2019**

TIME: **1800 Hours (6:00 p.m.)**

MENU: **Hamburgers, Hot Dogs, Potato Salad, Pasta Salad, Beans,  
Coffee & Dessert**

PER PERSON: **\$10.00**

-----  
Please mail reservations to: **Vickie Erickson**

**1105 Tulane Ave.**

**San Leandro, Ca. 94579**

**Tel: 702-232-8367**

**e-Mail: vickie8113@aol.com**

**Name** \_\_\_\_\_

**Number of Persons** \_\_\_\_\_ **@ \$10.00/Each** **TOTAL** \_\_\_\_\_

**Please R.S.V.P BY Wednesday, June 26**



## THE PERALTA HELMSMAN

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



# Commander's Comments

## Greetings,

I hope everyone is gearing up for a warm boating season even though it has been postponed by mother nature's extended colder weather. Your Executive Committee has been busy planning our squadron activities as well as preparing to host the District 25 Rendezvous in Rio Vista in July. Many fun activities and good food are in the works so make your plans and reservations to come by land or water to have a good time, catch up with old friends and make new ones. I want to thank the Rendezvous planning committee for their hard work and dedication to make this event a memorable one for everyone.

An ongoing commitment I made when I became Commander was to increase our membership. It has been slow, however recently we have progressively been increasing our members. Hopefully we will be able to officially welcome them at our Membership Meeting and BBQ in June or any of our other future events. Another fun outing, we have planned is the San Francisco Maritime Museum. I wonder how many of you who have lived in the Bay Area have been to this site? There are so many historical nautical places



in this area that we, as a boating community, should experience and support. This would be a great way to do it, with our squadron. I want to thank Josette Mares for her assistance in obtaining information on venue.

I want to acknowledge Norm Pennington and Rick Erickson on their diligence keeping up with the Vessel Safety Checks. They have already completed and surpassed their minimum for the year. I also want to congratulate Nick Pack on becoming a Vessel Safety Check Examiner Trainee and stepping up to

Commander's Report continued on Page 10