

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



*Helmsman October 2020  
Volume 61  
Issue No. 3*

# The Peralta Helmsman

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

## America's Boating Channel Presents "Choosing the Best Life Jacket - Doing it Right"

### *Upsurge in Recreational Boating Drives Need for Boater Education*

Raleigh, NC, 8 October 2020 – America's Boating Channel™ is continuing to release boating safety and boater education videos for the Fall 2020 boating season. Every Friday afternoon at 4:00 PM Eastern Time, a new "Fall 2020 Safe Boating" title will debut on America's Boating Channel's website homepage and YouTube channel.

"Choosing the Best Life Jacket -- Doing it Right," the second video in the new series premiering on October 9, covers essential considerations for life jacket selection, testing, and wear. Next week's episode will be "How Life Jackets Save Lives -- Problems to Avoid."

As Americans have increasingly turned to boating as a recreational outlet during the coronavirus pandemic, the need for boater education has become more and more evident. Screening safe boating videos is an excellent way for boaters to prepare for safer experiences on the water. The service recently completed its debut of Season Four videos including "Boater Education," "Engine Cut-Off Devices," "Life Jacket Care," "Behavioral Consequences," "Introducing ATONS" (aids to navigation), "Dispelling BUI Myths" (boating under the influence), "Life



Article Continued on Page 9

#### Also in this Issue:

- Messages from our Commander and Bridge Officers
- Boat Operator Certification
- Mike Holmes' latest adventure;  
Patrol Run — Replenishing an Island Outpost
- Transitions
- The Gift of a Lifetime
- And a bit More ...



## Executive Officer's Report

By Lt/C Vickie Erickson, JN

Greetings fellow boaters.

This pandemic has kept us all indoors and out of contact, but despite the restrictions I managed to go on a charter cruise around the San Juan Islands. It was a great reprieve from being in the bay area where the fires have brought on very unhealthy air. We left the area just in time as they now have many fires and the air is very unhealthy as well.

We had our meeting Monday using free conference call it was a great time getting to hear everyone's voices especially Melba since she moved out of the area to Southern California.

As you all know we have been using the San Leandro Yacht Club for our meetings and club functions. I am sorry to say that the club took a big hit during the pandemic and will be closing soon. Until we can find a place to hold our meetings and functions Past Commander Barbara Waldstreicher has volunteered her patio yard to hold meetings, as it is big enough for social distancing. Our hats are off to her for affording us this opportunity.

In the meantime be aware of what you do and follow the CDC guidelines as of today they are:

To prevent infection and to slow transmission of COVID-19, do the following:

- Wash your hands regularly with soap and water or clean them with alcohol-based hand rub.
- Maintain at least six feet distance between you and people coughing or sneezing.
- Avoid touching your face.
- Cover your mouth and nose when coughing or sneezing.
- Stay home if you feel unwell.
- Refrain from smoking and other activities that weaken the lungs.
- Practice physical distancing by avoiding unnecessary travel and staying away from large groups of people.

I am looking forward to seeing you all again.



*Reminder, before you go out on the water, get a Vessel Safety Check in 2021.*

# Social Distancing When Boating

Only boat with those in your immediate household.

No beaching your boat right next to someone else.

Maintain your distance at the fuel dock – and remember to wash your hands.

No rafting up – keep your distance on the water.

**No guests on your boat!**  
This includes family members not in your immediate household or your closest boating buddies.

**Go right from your house to the boat and back –**  
no unnecessary contact with anyone.

**Enjoy your boat, the water and the fresh air; but enjoy it while boating responsibly.**

Social distancing is the best way to stay safe. **SEA TOW**

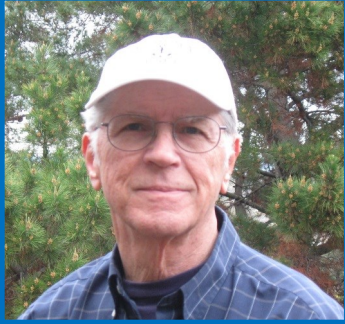
# Peralta Helmsman

Published in March, October, October and December

D/Lt/C Norm Pennington, SN, Editor  
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## Squadron Educational Officer's Report

D/Lt/C NORM PENNINGTON, SN-ON



### *For Boaters, By Boaters*

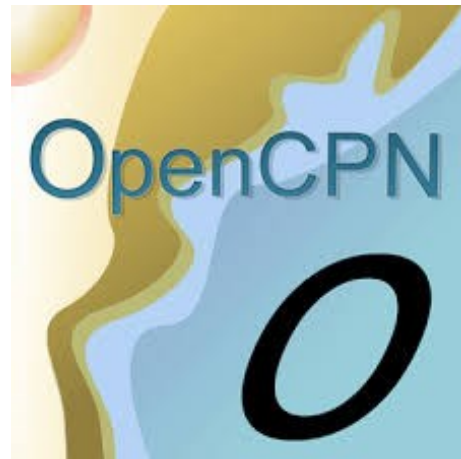
Due to Covid-19, we have pretty much shut down squadron educational, as we were not able to hold any classes beyond the navigation course that is complete with the exception of taking sights. I have offered two America's Boating Courses, but cancelled them, again due to the lack of a teaching facility. We have been using the San Leandro Yacht Club; however, due to state and county mandates to close in February, and now is closing as the club is going out of business.

As I have reported previously, the age of distance learning is here. Due to the lack of a suitable classroom, Covid-19, occasional civil unrest and increased traffic and toll roads, getting to a classroom is challenging. A viable alternative is to employ distance learning, the process of taking courses or seminars online from an instructor that is located anywhere. The distance makes no difference, and the quality of education should be similar to that of a classroom environment. The process is where the instructor and all students are online at the same time with the lesson is recorded for later viewing. Students can be online at different times, at their convenience viewing a recording of the lesson. The exception is during "chat" times when students must be online together to communicate with each other and the instructor in real time. As more student materials are converted to e-Books the cost of instruction will be reduced due to no shipping charges or facility use fee. Additionally, classes can be scheduled with a shorter lead-time since e-

Books are usually available within one day of ordering. Student syllabuses in paper will in most cases will still be available. Lastly, these courses can be offered to other squadrons in our district with the possibility of sharing instructors. This will have the potential of having a greater variety of courses for members to choose.

I routinely attend national meetings that are primarily on the east coast. On one hand, I was looking forward to attend the meeting in Raleigh, as it would give me the opportunity to meet with headquarters staff. On the other hand, flying in a commercial airline was not very appealing. Due to Covid-19, the Chief Commander cancelled the live meetings and replaced them with virtual online meetings and seminars covering a wide range of topics. Recordings of most of the sessions are available on the national website at Virtual Meeting Replays: <https://www.usps.org/index.php/memb-home>

One of the presentations I encourage all members to view is Andy Sumberg's presentation on OpenCPN. OpenCPN is a free nautical charting program that also includes access to free NOAA Charts. This is the standard program for all navigation courses.



OpenCPN is available on a variety of platforms including Windows, Mac, Android and many others.

By the way, Check out the "Currents" Newsletter for a lot more information about the Educational Department: [https://www.usps.org/images/eddept/files/Currents\\_Fall\\_Mtg\\_2020-09.pdf](https://www.usps.org/images/eddept/files/Currents_Fall_Mtg_2020-09.pdf)

## Mike's Next Adventure

### Patrol Run

MICHAEL HOLMES, P



On Saturday, September 12th I had the opportunity to again be crew on a 35 foot sailboat out to the Farallon Islands. This was a "Patrol Run" that was sanctioned to bring supplies and scientists out to the island and back.



With all the fires on the West Coast, smoke and fog persisted all day. About halfway out, there is a weather buoy which we used as a reference point for our trip. We couldn't see the buoy until it was only 400 feet in front of us! Luckily the visibility did increase a little as we approached the island and for our return trip home. It's an eerie place in the fog, but it was teeming with life in Fisherman's Bay with hundreds, if not thousands, of sea lions and birds. The water is crystal clear and we even saw two mola mola (a.k.a Sunfish) the size of large dinner tables. What an epic experience.



As for new adventures, I am tentatively going to be part of a delivery crew to Mexico on a 1929 72 foot schooner named "Viveka". She was designed by Frank C. Paine and built by Fred Lawley in Quincy, MA. She was origi-



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nally designed for JP Morgan who wanted a fast cruiser. After multiple owners and sailing around the world she ended up at Rutherford's Boatshop in Richmond in need of major TLC.

Rutherford's specializes in wood boat restoration and she is being completely overhauled with an anticipated delivery right before Thanksgiving. She will be sailed down to Mexico where she will be lifted onto a yacht transport ship destined for her new owner in Europe. Stay tuned to hear more about that adventure in the near future. In the



interim, attached are some photos of the construction work going on over the summer.

Fair winds and following seas.

<https://regularmike.com/>



*Article Photos courtesy of Mike Holmes*

## Transitions

Peralta member, **Dr. Arnold W. Goldschlager, P-IN**, passed away this August. Arnold, “Arnie” to his friends was dedicated to his profession as a Cardiologist. After attending Union College, medical school at the Albert Einstein College of Medicine. His postgraduate medical training was at Albert Einstein Mount Sinai Hospital, Columbia University, and UCSF. Arnie served in the United States Air Force from 1967 to 1969, and was chief of medicine at Selfridge Air Force Base in Michigan.

Arnie was an avid outdoorsman and active hunter/conservationist, he had leadership role in organizations that foster hunting education and conservation, including the Mzuri Safari Club and the Mzuri Wildlife Foundation. He was also a member of other organizations that promotes hunting ethics and conservation.



Nick Haney, Norm, Hilary and Arnie

Arnie starting boating in the San Francisco Bay on a small sailboat. As Arnie and his wife started their family and respective medical practices, he had little time to devote to boating until the early 2000’s when I first met him as a student in my Boat Smart Course. By that time he graduated to a Four-Winns Express Cruiser that he kept at the Coyote Pont Marina in San Mateo. Later, Arnie moved up to a 45-foot Carver Super Sport named Avenue-A. Arnie thought so much of the course, that he took it again



Norm, Nick and Arnie in BVI

bringing his wife **Nora** with him. Later, his daughter **Hilary** with her brother in-law, **Fred** took the course. I think that Arnie took Boat Smart, and the America’s Boating Course sever times. That was not enough for Arnie as he opened the waiting from in his office to hold more courses. To make sure that we were well fed, Arnie would have sandwiches and snacks for every student. Arnie completed at least eight courses, mostly electives while completing the requirements for Inland Navigator. Arnie has been a member of several yacht clubs, finally settling on the Saint Francis Yacht Club. Late in the spring, we would take Avenue-A to Tinsley Island, where it would be berthed over the summer. Arnie and his family, and friends would have the opportunity to go to Tinsley for the parties, or just to hang out. Shortly after the beginning of Autumn, Avenue-A would return to Brisbane for duty around San Francisco Bay. In addition to Arnie’s great story telling and his skill at Dominoes, he will be greatly missed as a true friend of Peralta.

**Rozanne “Roz” Clinton**, a transfer member from the Sequoia Power Squadron had been a member since 1981 passed away in October 2019.

### Members Leaving,

Jack Kern member since 2017

Ray, Mariam and Sydney Marshal members since 2019

Nick Tarlson member since 2003

Lily Yee member since 2010

### The Gift of a Lifetime

By D/Lt/C Norm Pennington, SN-ON

A few months ago while visiting with fellow member and very good friend, Dr. Arnold W. Goldschlager, I was presented with the gift of a lifetime. Arnie often asked me to assist him with his boat and through his generosity, invited me to join him on cruises to Tinsley Island and on several cruises to the Eastern Caribbean, and another and the most recent to the San Juan Islands. The ocean cruises were organized St. Francis Yacht Club cruises to honor their new commodore. I featured our cruise to the San Juan Islands in the September 2018 issue of the Helmsman. Arnie had plans to revisit the San Juan's, however due to his failing health bestowed his cruise upon me. I was very shocked that he felt so much of our friendship to present this cruise to me, for which I am truly grateful. This cruise out of Anacortes Yacht Charters (AYC) was on the yacht, Ocean Romance, the same yacht that we were on two years ago. Unfortunately, Arnie, Nora, and the others were not there to enjoy this adventure a second time.

Due to Covid-19, we chose to drive to Anacortes verses taking a 90-minute flight. Because of the Northern California fires, smoke was very noticeable until we reached Mountain Gate on the California side of Lake Shasta. After 16-hours on the road, we finally reached the same hotel we stayed two years ago.

On the cruise there were six Peralta members, Barbara Waldstreicher, Vickie Erickson, Ricardo and Josette Mares, and as stand-in hosts, Judy and Norm Pennington. We were not able to travel to Canada, nor was AYC able to provide provisions due to Covid-19,

so we held a staff meeting at the local Safeway. Those who know me know I easily get lost in grocery stores, so I just stayed out of the way and let the shoppers fill the column of rolling baskets to the brim.

At the appointed hour, I checked in to AYC and the staff announced that the "Admiral" had arrived. I think I heard a faint bosons whistle coming from the havens. At that point, I knew that Arnie was with us in spirit, as he would often introduce me as the Admiral of the Power Squadron. When Arnie booked the cruise, he requested to have Captain Jack De Friel, however due to an injury to Jack's bicep; Nick Jinker took over the duty as Captain. We were very comfortable with Nick as he was originally from Sacramento and received much of his captain training from Capt. Pat Carson, who has a monthly column in Bay and Delta Yachtsman.



We boarded Ocean Romance, stowed our gear and provisions, headed out of the harbor, and cruised along the eastern shore of Lopez Island keeping Decatur and Blakeley Islands on our starboard side to our first port of call,

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Rosario located on Orcas Island in the East Sound.



On Day 3 we explored East Sound, finally turning south passing the southern tip of Orcas, heading east, then north in Rosario Strait to Sucia Island for a one-night stay on the hook in Echo Bay. On Day 4, we hoisted anchor and headed Southwest in President Channel to Stuart Island on our way to Roche Harbor on San Juan Island. Prior to reaching Stuart Island, we managed to get boarded by the US Coast Guard for a Safety Inspection. (I must be lucky, as this was my second boarding in 2020, with the first with Arnie near the Golden Gate Bridge) Due to the size of our yacht, that process took almost 90-minutes before we could continue our journey.



We managed to find a slip at Roche Harbor Resort and spent the day touring the small hamlet around the harbor. Our evening meal was at the restaurant outside Hotel De Haro. A daily ritual at the resort is the lowering of the colors (in the service we called it "retreat") where the National Anthem of the United States and Canada were played at sundown. While in the harbor, I recognized a large yacht on the opposite dock flying the St. Francis Yacht Club burgee.



On Day 5, we departed Roche Harbor, traveling southeast in San Juan Channel keeping Shaw Island on our port side to Friday Harbor. For two nights, we were on the outside dock near the ferry and seaplane terminals. After a day exploring and obtaining additional provisions (including ice cream), we returned to the boat for dinner. The next day we had to reposition Ocean Romance a bit closer to the ferry terminal where we could hear the rumble of engines well after dark. Capt. Nick escorted us to the San Juan Island Brewing Company for dining on the patio. Due to social distancing, we had to dine at several tables strategically spaced to keep us safe.

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On Day 7, we departed Friday Harbor proceeding south in San Juan Channel between San Juan and Lopez Islands, then east keeping Lopez Island on our port side heading towards Fidalgo Island through Deception Pass to Similk Bay and Hope Island. Deception Pass is narrow and we found the current to be very strong. For our last night, we were on the hook along the south shore of Hope Island. The next morning we weighed anchor for the last time and headed out Deception Pass on a strong ebb through a bank of fog that nearly covered our foredeck.



Once clear of the pass we changed course to north and proceeded to have breakfast on our return to Anacortes around to the east Shore of Fidalgo Island. After fueling and pump out we arrived back to port for our land cruiser journey home. By 3:00 p.m., we were back on the road returning to the Bay Area. Fortunately, we left before the fires caused Interstate-5 to close. We drove straight through arriving home before 8 a.m. on Labor Day.

If you are planning to visit the San Juan Islands, there are yacht charter companies in the

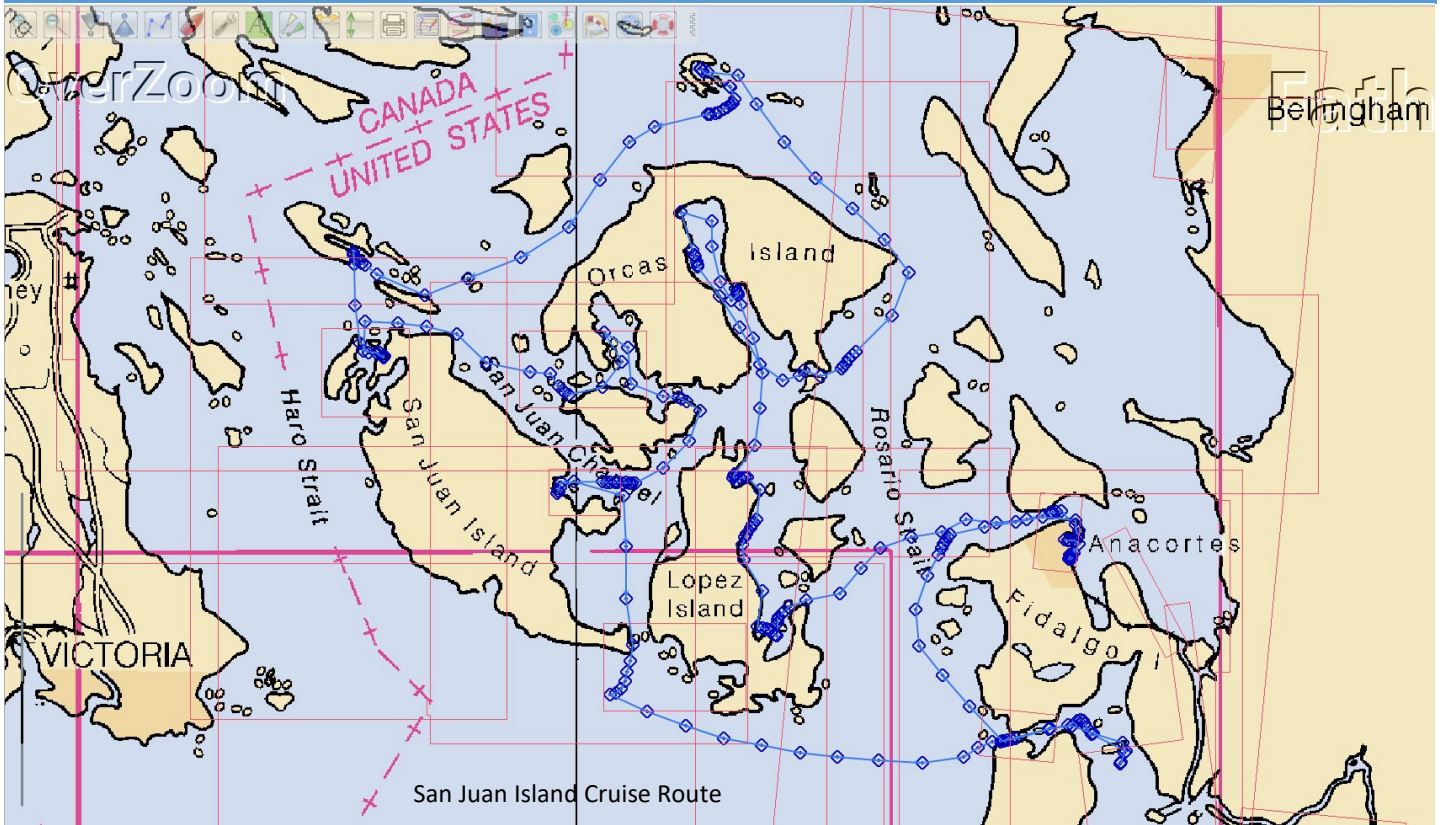


Anacortes area. Alternatively, you can fly to Seattle, then take a shuttle to one of several ferry terminals and visit those islands that have ferry service. Driving is another option so that you can visit islands while having your automobile to tour larger islands with roads and logging and of course, restaurants. Some of the more remote areas are available by small regional air service companies with seaplanes.

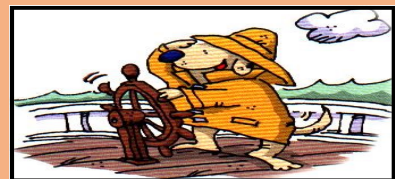


This was indeed, and Gift of a Lifetime, Thank you Arnie.

*Article Photos courtesy of Norm Pennington with permission*



# What's ahead for Peralta Squadron?



## October

Monday, 12 October at 7:30 p.m..

Peralta Executive Committee Meeting via Zoom Electronic Conference Call

Wednesday, 28 October at 7:00 p.m..

District 25 Special Council and Fall Conference via Zoom Electronic Conference Call.

## November

Monday, 15 November at 7:30 p.m..

Peralta Executive Committee Meeting via Zoom Electronic Conference Call

## December

Monday, 14 December at 7:30 p.m..

Peralta Executive Committee Meeting via Zoom Electronic Conference Call

Due to the Covid-19 Pandemic, most activities have been cancelled. Please refer to the Peralta website Calendar Page for e-mail links to join Zoom Meetings <http://peraltasquadron.org/events/calendar.html>

*from Page 1*

Jacket Labels,” “Electric Shock Drowning (ESD),” and “Social Distancing for Boaters.” America’s Boating Channel is now accepting suggestions for subject matter to be covered in Season Five. Email [INFO@AmericasBoatingChannel.com](mailto:INFO@AmericasBoatingChannel.com).

America’s Boating Channel™ is produced by United States Power Squadrons® (USPS) under a grant from the Sport Fish Restoration and Boating Trust Fund administered by the U.S. Coast Guard. America’s Boating Channel features professionally produced high definition safe boating and boater education videos. As the premier boating organization dedicated to “Safe Boating through Education” since 1914, USPS is America’s Boating Club® – For Boaters, By Boaters™.

[AmericasBoatingChannel.com](http://AmericasBoatingChannel.com)

#### **Boat Operator Certification**

D/Lt/C Norman W. Pennington, SN-ON

The Boat Operator Certification program recognizes the skills of USPS members at different levels of recreational boating proficiency. A certified boat operator will represent the fulfillment of a USPS training program: an operator who is knowledgeable, competent and safe. To achieve certification at a given level, a candidate must complete Advanced Grade courses, Elective courses and USPS Seminars relevant to that level. In addition, candidates must demonstrate their proficiency in a set of practical skill tests. BOC Certifiers are trained to conduct and evaluate these skill tests and provide coaching to members for skill development.

Is Boat Operator Certification for you? Ask yourself, do I want to be a better and well-educated boater with the confidence to operate your boat safely? Do I want to learn new on the water skills in the operation of my boat, or another boat that I am not familiar? Do I want to put all of that boater education that I have received to good use? If you answered “yes” to one or more of the above questions, then Boat Operator Certification is for you. I am prepared to offer Boat Operator Certification

## **2020-21 Bridge**

### **Commander:**

Cdr Rick Erickson, JN-IN

### **Executive Officer:**

Lt/C Vickie Erickson, JN

### **Educational Officer:**

D/Lt/C Norm Pennington, SN-ON

### **Administrative Officer:**

Lt/C Nicholas J. Pack, JN

### **Secretary:**

Lt/C Barbara Waldstreicher, JN

### **Treasurer:**

D/Lt/C Judy Pennington, P

### **Assist Educational Officer:**

1st/Lt Ricardo L. Mares, P

### **General Committees**

#### **Auditing**

P/Lt/C Fred Holmes, AP

P/C Janis K. Chapman, AP

Susan Ann Holmes, S

#### **Nominating**

P/C Melba J. K. Hale, P

Lt/C Vickie Erickson, JN

P/Lt/C Josette Mares, S

#### **Rules**

1st/Lt Ricardo L. Mares, P

D/Lt/C Norman W. Pennington, SN-ON

locally at the Inland and Coastal Navigator levels. Later, offering certification at the Advanced Coastal Navigator level. If there is interest, I am prepared to offer certification at the Offshore Navigator level. So, what are you waiting for?

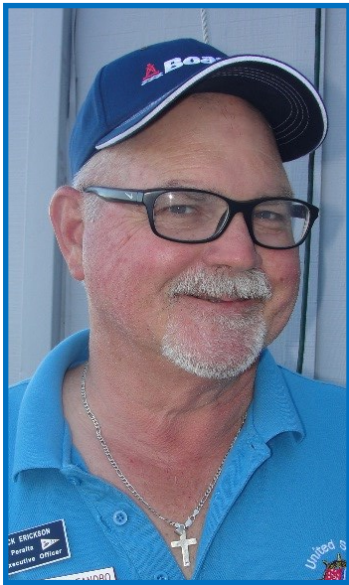


## THE PERALTA HELMSMAN

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



# Commander's Comments



### Greetings, Shipmates,

Another summer season is drawing to a close. It's been one of watching and waiting, and wondering when the COVID pandemic will allow for us to come together once more. Then we have fires, smoke, exceptionally poor air quality, civil unrest, and even some record-setting high temperatures just to make things interesting. Or not. Every event on the social calendar has been cancelled, but

the Executive committee continues to meet. Earlier this week, the meeting was joined by several members, and it was wonderful to 're-connect' with old friends again. I have missed so many of you during this long drought, and I am looking forward to the day we can gather again to hoist a glass to our fellowship.

While our social calendar has been on hiatus, the Education Department remains in full swing. Norm Pennington is wrapping up the Navigator course as of this writing. This course was unique in that all of the material was presented in a 'distance learning' environment. A new and interesting approach, it has proven to be a safe and efficient way to teach – and learn. The class was presented using the Free Conference Calling

app, and there is some consideration to moving toward the Zoom platform in the future.

Have you considered 'upping your game' by participating in some on-the-water training? The BOC program is a great way to refresh your skills and apply them in a practical setting on your boat.

I will close with my best wishes to each of you, and a reminder that we will emerge from this difficult time if we remember to be safe and look out for each other. I encourage you to reach out to your friends and fellow boaters, staying in touch and keeping our collective spirits up. Remember: "Smooth Seas Never Make for a Skilled Sailor".

See You On The Water,

Cdr Rick Erickson, JN-IN

