



May 2017

Founded 1900

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

P.I.C.Y.A. Club of the Year in 2015, 2014, 2013, 2012, 2010, 2009, 2008, 2007 & 2006!



May 14

## UPCOMING EVENTS



### 118th GREAT VALLEJO RACE!

Saturday & Sunday, May 6 & 7



### Vallejo Yacht Club Cruise Out - Destination Change Pittsburg Yacht Club - May 12-14

*The turning basin at the Petaluma Yacht Club has silted in due to the rains this year.  
Instead, we will be going to the Pittsburg Yacht Club for our May Cruise-Out.*

### Vallejo Yacht Club Day at the Races

Friday, May 19 - Golden Gate Fields, Berkeley

Leaving VYC at 11:00 am - if you need a ride, please let Toni know

\$40.00 per person

For further information, contact Toni Borges at (925) 451-7231





## COMMODORE REPORT Bob Lockhart, Commodore

My congratulations to Rear Commodore Gina Barbosa for the fine job she did organizing the Opening Day ceremony and activities. Everything went very well from starting with the Color Guard right through to the Ducky Derby and even the weather cooperated. Hats off to the crew of "Best of Times," who upon having engine trouble, then persevered in their dingy during the Blessing of the Fleet.

The Great Vallejo Race and party are upon us this coming weekend. During this week before the big event, there will

be plenty of opportunities to help clean up the harbor and clubhouse. Keep an eye out for emails and flyers announcing work parties or check with House Manager Bill Zerby, Vice Commodore Rick, or me.

Regardless of how many have already signed up to help, Vice Commodore Rick Bastien can always use more hands for this event. So don't wait to be "Voluntold" (as Jeannie Forte would quote), come on down and have a great time.

Thank You, Bob 707-310-4275 bob.lockhart@sbcglobal.net

— Bob Lockhart, Commodore



## VOICE OF THE VICE Rick Bastien, Vice Commodore

The Great Vallejo Race Is coming up on us fast. I'm writing this article a couple of weeks ahead of the GVR and would like to thank everyone who has been involved. Much too soon to name names, you know who you are. I'll have more detailed information in the June

Binnacle. We have lots of jobs for volunteers, so please look at the sign-up board and pick a spot to your liking and let's make this another successful event at the Vallejo Yacht Club.

We are still looking for some last minute sponsors if you can think of anyone, please let me know. As of now our sponsor list consists of the following fine contributors. My thanks to Mt. Gay Rum, Recology Vallejo, Moschetti Coffee Co.,

Barrett Business Service, BoatUs, Svendsen's Boat Works, Whitecaps Marine Outfitters, Straits of Mare Island Rowing Association, Chris Steinberg Boat Bottom Cleaning Service, Napa Valley Marina, Twin Rivers Insurance, Vallejo Boat Works, Wheeler-Sonoma Printers, Pineapple Sails, Pirate's Lair, Sausalito Yacht Club and the San Francisco Yacht Racing Association.

Rear Commodore Gina Barbosa had a wonderful Opening Day with a band, a grand Blessing of the Fleet, an exciting Ducky Derby poker run and some amazing tri tip sando's and potluck.

See you on the water,

— Rick Bastien, Vice Commodore



## REAR REPORT Gina Barbosa, Rear Commodore

Greetings,

What a wonderful turnout to see so many members and family for our Opening Day! The start of the 2017 boating season was made official by Opening Day ceremonies on April

15th, starting with a tasty continental breakfast that Bill Zerby put together. Then the formal Flag Raising by the Jesse Bethel High School Junior ROTC. Thanks Cadets. A special thank you to Jennifer Charvez, the Vallejo High School Band for the flag raising and Taps for our departed shipmates. A very special thank you to our VYC Chaplain, the Reverend Jeanne Forte, and P/C Eric Jacobsen who presented a wonderful and heartfelt memorial service. We had nine boats participate in the Blessing, Parade and Poker Run. Thanks captains for taking the band kids out for the parade on your boats; they loved it. Thank you Bill

Thomas for volunteering 'Mi Casita' as the platform boat for the water activities. Congrats to the winners of the Parade, Poker Run and Ducky Derby and to all who attended the ceremonies and participated in the day's activities. And of course we can't forget the highlight of the day and that was an awesome lunch... a special thank you to John Giordano who marinated and BBQ'd that delicious tri-tip with all the trimmings for the tastiest sandwiches ever. Thanks to Austin, new members Scott, Kathy and Jean for jumping in and helping out with lunch. And, finally to our great Ducky Derby and raffle team, Jerry Bentkowski and Toni Borges, as well as our Ducky Derby announcer Chris Mendonca... nice job everyone! Finally, don't forget MOM... we want to wish all of you a wonderful and joyful Happy Mother's Day.

Onward!

— Gina Barbosa, Rear Commodore

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 <b>Monday Nights:</b> Food & Fun & Games	2 Janet's Band practice... New Applicant Social 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm	3 <b>WEDNESDAY NIGHT RACE SERIES</b> VYC Art Campbell Perpetual Race (#1) 6:00 pm - 9:00 pm	4 U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary Division 5 Board Meetings (Will Sumner 776-7237) 7:00 pm - 10:00 pm	5 FRIDAY NIGHT DINNER 6:30 pm - 8:00 pm	6 <b>The Great Vallejo Race!</b>
7 <b>The Great Vallejo Race!</b>	8 <b>Monday Nights:</b> Food & Fun & Games	9 Board of Directors Meeting 7:00 - 9:00 pm	10 <b>WEDNESDAY NIGHT RACE SERIES</b> VYC Art Campbell Perpetual Race (#2) 6:00 pm - 9:00 pm	11 Coast Guard Auxiliary Flotilla 51 (Commander Phil Craig 707-260-4596 Norwood Maddry 208-9280) 6:00 pm - 9:00 pm	12 CRUISE-OUT to PITTSBURG YC  Friday LONGTABLE Dinner  FRIDAY NIGHT DINNER 6:30 pm - 8:00 pm	13 CRUISE-OUT to PITTSBURG YC  VYC North Bay Series Race (#2) - Brothers Race 10:00 am - 6:00 pm
14 CRUISE-OUT to PITTSBURG YC	15 <b>Monday Nights:</b> Food & Fun & Games	16 Janet's Band practice...	17 <b>WEDNESDAY NIGHT RACE SERIES</b> VYC Art Campbell Perpetual Race (#3) 6:00 pm - 9:00 pm	18	19 WELCOME: One Side-Tie 46' "STACY GIRL"  WELCOME: St. Francis YC (8 boats)  FRIDAY NIGHT DINNER 6:30 pm - 8:00 pm	20 PRIME RIB DINNER \$25  WELCOME: St. Francis YC (8 boats)  Learn-to-Sail Beginner's Session (1) 9:00 am - 3:00 pm
21 WELCOME: St. Francis YC (8 boats)  The Breakfast Club (Meal & Race!) 9:00 am - 12:30 pm  VYC Women's Book Club 11:00 am - 1:00 pm	22 <b>Monday Nights:</b> Food & Fun & Games	23	24 <b>WEDNESDAY NIGHT RACE SERIES</b> VYC Art Campbell Perpetual Race (#4) 6:00 pm - 9:00 pm	25 GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING 7:00 pm - 8:00 pm	26 WELCOME: Ballena Bay YC Zack "WIMM" sail '35 510-812-1959 9:00 am  FRIDAY NIGHT DINNER 6:30 pm - 8:00 pm	27 NO CLASS (memorial day) Learn-to-Sail Beginner's Session(1) 9:00 am - 3:00 pm  WELCOME: Ballena Bay YC Zack "WIMM" sail '35 510-812-1959 - 9:00 am  New Member Orientation Tour of Clubhouse w Club Manager & Napa River Boat Ride 12:00 pm - 2:00 pm
28 IRecreate TRIATHALON - VYC Sponsor Mark Bauder 7:00 am - 10:00 am  WELCOME: Ballena Bay YC Zack "WIMM" sail '35 510-812-1959 9:00 am	29 <b>Monday Nights:</b> Food & Fun & Games	30	31 <b>WEDNESDAY NIGHT RACE SERIES</b> VYC Art Campbell Perpetual Race (#5) 6:00 pm - 9:00 pm			



## BOARD CHAIRMAN MESSAGE

The Vallejo Yacht Club has been a beehive of activities this past month. Of course, the biggest project of all is the dock repair project. Ramrod and P/C Jim Glenn have spent countless hours working on the financial portion, as well as overseeing the project. Then there is Bill Sweitzer and his great crew that is completing the electrical and plumbing installations, Port Captain Cameron Kriens, and Captain Bill Thomas and crew who have moved all the affected boats several times. The list of member/volunteer workers is huge and all deserve special thanks for all they are doing.

A "first" for the VYC was its booth at the Pacific Sail and Powerboat Show in Richmond. Elvin Valverde, Chair of the VYC Development Committee, and his crew manned the booth all four days of the show to provide show patrons information about the Vallejo Yacht Club and possible membership. It was great exposure for our Club.

The VYC Opening Day on the Bay celebration organized by Rear Commodore Gina Barbosa was very successful. The celebration included the flag-raising ceremony, the "End of Watch" ceremony for VYC members who have passed this year, and the Blessing of the Fleet parade and poker run. Special thanks to the Vallejo HS Band and Jesse Bethel HS ROTC Color Guard.

Vice Commodore Rick Bastien has been working to finalize the hundreds of details for the Great Vallejo Race and party on May 6 and 7. I'm sure that we're all looking forward to having a great time.

Thanks to House Chairman Bill Zerby and work party for doing all the great work around the Club, cleaning the north lot, and doing a huge amount of work trimming the landscape plants; they must have filled 20 big yard waste bins. Coming Events: the Great Vallejo Race and party, cruise-ins and cruise-outs, Wednesday Night races (and dinner), Monday game/music nights (and dinner), Prospective Member mixers and New Member dinners, Sunday Breakfast Club and sailboat race (not limited to sailboats), John Giordano's Sunday dinners, Friday dinners with Chef Amy and great camaraderie with shipmates just about any time. Come on down.

Check out all these activities on the Club calendar, online on the new VYC website, in the Binnacle, or on the Club bulletin board. If you want to add something, make sure you first check with Club Manager Matthew Ceryes and/or Commodore Bob Lockhart to lock in a date.

Let's keep growing. Full steam ahead!

— Ken Leslie, Chairman of the Board

## THE SHIP'S STORE



Hello Shipmates,

My goodness the time sure does fly by when you are having fun!! It's already May and that means the Great Vallejo Race!!! Please let Gail or me know if you can help sell tee shirts on May 6th or 7th!!

We have a new member who has volunteered to help in the Ship's Store!! His name is Jay and you

most likely will see him on Fridays once or twice a month. We are so happy to have him along with Jeannie, Robert, Gail and I and we should be able to cover the bases!!

Hope to see you around the Club and in the store very soon!!

Fair winds and smooth sailing!!

Respectfully submitted by,

— Barbara Brown, Ship's Store Chairperson

# VYC Historian 2016-2017

## Historical Notes From The Past



Recently I was given a number of old Vallejo Yacht Club Binnacles from Margot MacKerrow from her father's personal collection. Her father, P/C Horace MacKerrow, was Vallejo Yacht Club's Commodore in 1975. In reading through these historic Binnacles, I found the following article in the April 1990 Binnacle about the

renovation of the Club harbor written by Club Historian, Tom Hosley. I think you will find it interesting to read how the harbor was in the early 1950's, how through the years we have continued to renovate the harbor as we are currently doing so now.

"Did you know that Vallejo Yacht Club berths once extended north almost to the municipal marina? The photograph shows that berths for sailboats were way out along the walkway built just inside the row of U.S. Navy dolphins then used by the Navy to moor barges, gunnery targets and dredge pipes. This is the area that is now being dredged for the expansion of the Vallejo Municipal Marina.

The history of how and why this northern extension came about was told to me by P/C Arthur Krause recently while we were going over the scrapbook of his year (1952) as Commodore. Because of the lack of regular dredging and lack of a seawall around the berths, the harbor silted in to the extent that by 1946, boats could only get in and out at high tide. By the early 1950's the inside berths were totally useless and the outside row was available only at high tide. In order to provide any berthing for sailboats, the walkway and berths to the north were built as a temporary measure until the regular harbor could be dredged and a seawall constructed. Both Art Krause and Leroy Taylor recall having their sailboats moored in this new area. It was a long walk out to one's boat in those days. Krause related that at low tide the mud at the bottom of the harbor was three feet above the level of the water. That was not too much different than the level of mud south of the present work dock at low tide.

It was 1952, during Art Krause's term as Commodore, that work actually started on dredging the harbor. He relates that a lease from the City of Vallejo was proposed that would create both a berthing area south of the old clubhouse and north of the clubhouse extending 100 feet

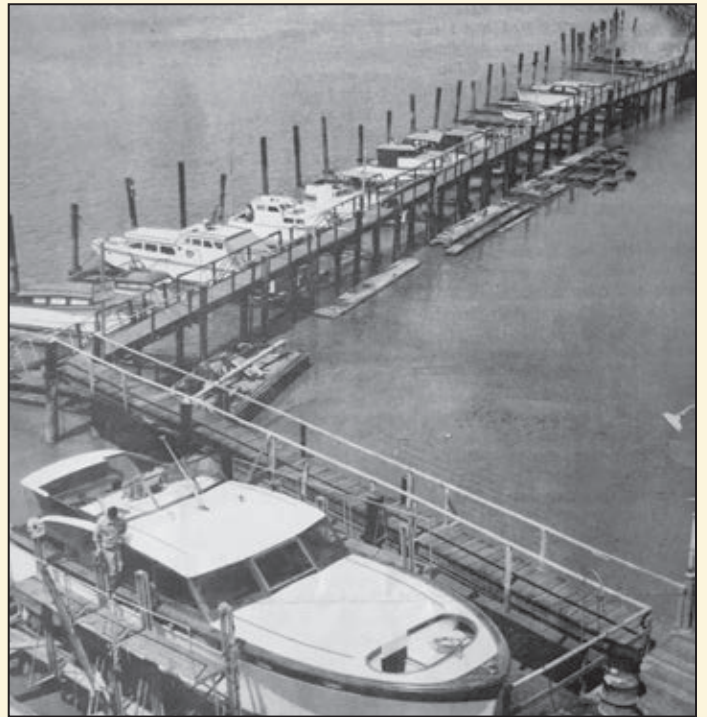


Photo courtesy of P/C Arthur Krause

1952 Berthing North of the Clubhouse. Ed Brovelli's "Teema" is on the ways.

further out into the deeper water and be a total of 1500 feet in length. The south area would include that of the old Virginia Street wharf and extended to Raahauge's ferry operation. He objected because of possible silting in of his waterfront and the City would not approve of the south extension. The decision was made to build a new berthing facility north of the clubhouse with three rows of berths in place of the single rows north and south of the clubhouse. After the necessary permits were obtained, a dredge was built and a pile driver purchased. Construction was started in 1952 with all volunteer member help. The job was not completed until 1956 when the seawall was completed. The temporary north berthing was demolished and the old berthing area south of the clubhouse abandoned. The Club still retains a lease on an area south of the work dock for future additional berthing."

See you at the Great Vallejo Race on May 6-7! There is a sign-up sheet on the Club bulletin board for the May 19 Day at the Races.

— Toni Borges, Historian

## PICYA REPORT



The April 3, 2017 PICYA meeting was held at the Pittsburg YC. VYC Delegate Maggie Sabovich, husband Roger Karlsrud, alternate VYC delegate Wendell Snyder and 100 other delegates attended. The next scheduled PICYA meeting, featuring Awards for Opening Day boat parade entrants, will be held at the Oyster Point YC on May 1.

The 100th Anniversary of PICYA's Opening Day on the Bay was held on Sunday, April 23rd, and Commodore Linda Blue had asked all member clubs to enter at least one boat from each respective club for this historic event. The theme this year was "Cruising the Century," which used themes from any nautical, historic, or scientific event from the period between 1917 and 2017. Every commodore from each PICYA member club was asked to cruise aboard the PICYA Hornblower Committee Boat to be present for the 100th Anniversary photograph, which was taken on-board. VYC Commodore Bob Lockhart was on-board the Hornblower Committee boat for this photograph. Maggie Sabovich and Wendell Snyder were also aboard representing the VYC, and were also responsible for all the table decorations for the fifty long tables provided for those eating breakfast and luncheon aboard.

At press time, we did not have a completed list of VYC boats participating in the Opening Day on the Bay boat parade, so these boats and their skippers will be listed in the June 2017 Binnacle. The parade featured over 100 historic workboats, fireboats, towboats, and classic and modern craft, all decorated to theme. Both power and sailboats competed for "best decorated" honors. This year's parade Grand Marshal is Lt. Colonel John Morrow of the US Army Corps of Engineers.

Each PICYA member club had been asked to contribute merchandise, wine or other nautical gift items worth at least \$250, which will be awarded to the 16 Decorated Boat Parade winning boat crew members at the May 1st Oyster Point YC Delegate meeting. Our Ship's Store contributed 8 shirts at \$20 each plus Maggie had 17 West Marine bags, valued at \$5.00 each, left from last year's GVR. Maggie also contributed 6 VYC shirts valued at \$20 each, plus two \$20 bottles of wine, all of which add-

ed up to a total of \$405, which placed the Vallejo YC in the "Bronze" contribution category for Opening Day on the Bay donations.

### CALIFORNIA BOATERS CAN NOW TAKE FREE BOATING SAFETY COURSE AT HOME

BoatUS Foundation online boating safety course approved by California State Parks Division of Boating and Waterways. A new law says California boaters will need to go to school, and the BoatUS Foundation for Boating Safety has the right course to fit their schedule and budget. Starting January 1, 2018, Golden State boaters ages 20 or younger who operate a motorized vessel on state waterways will need to have a boater safety card showing successful completion of a boater safety education course. Each year thereafter on January 1, more age groups will be added to the requirement so that by 2025 all California boaters will need to carry a boater card issued by California State Parks Division of Boating and Waterways (DBW).

The easiest and most affordable way to meet the requirement is to take the BoatUS Foundation's free online Boating Safety Course, now approved by DBW, which allows boaters to take the course in the comfort of their own home. Once successfully completed, the course does not expire so boaters of all ages don't need to delay and can complete their boating safety education now. "We've loaded the course with interactive animations, videos and photos to give boaters an education that goes well beyond the basics of boating," said BoatUS Foundation President Chris Edmonston. "The best part is that our course is free and can be taken at home. It's designed so that you can stop and continue at any time."

Upon finishing the course, boaters can print their own certificate of completion, and beginning in 2018, the state will begin to issue official California Boater Education Cards to students who have completed the course between January 1, 2015 and December 31, 2017. The course and exam is approved by the National Association of State Boating Law Administrators and recognized by the US Coast Guard as exceeding the minimum requirements for the National Recreational Boating Safety Program. To take the course, go to [BoatUS.org](http://BoatUS.org). For more information about California boater education, go to [californiaboardercard.com](http://californiaboardercard.com).

**To learn more about the latest RBOC (Recreational Boaters of California) Actions to Protect California's Boaters, please visit [www.rboc.org](http://www.rboc.org)**

— Maggie Sabovich, PICYA Delegate



## SAFETY REPORT



Shipmates, most of us should know by now that at the time of this writing the work on B/C row is nearing completion. However, the walkway connecting A row to the rest of the harbor is a work in progress. If you plan on going to B, C or D row, please use the South Dock entrance. It may be inconvenient but it would

sure beat going for a swim trying to negotiate the floats and framework of the yet to be completed walkway connecting the rows. Our docks and fingers are narrow so please keep them free of electrical cords, hoses, jerry cans, bottom brushes, and other personal items. All are tripping hazards and can result with someone ending up in the water. Be happy, be well, be safe.

— Jeff Dickey, Safety Committee Chairperson



## PORT CAPTAIN REPORT

It's nice to see many slip holders beginning to clear and clean around their spaces. I have posted my Project wish list on the bulletin board for everyone to see. I hope to see all of our membership at the Great Vallejo Race. Please remember that once the racers begin to arrive, it will be nearly impossible for any berther to leave their slip. I'm sure we'll all have fun, but let's be safe out there too.

— Cameron Kriens, Port Captain

## Cruise-Out to Point San Pablo Yacht Club



## NEW/PROSPECTIVE MEMBERS



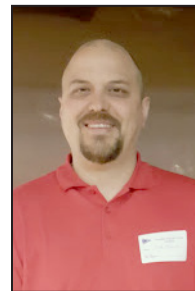
Mike Munn

Hello VYC members! I am looking forward to joining your ranks and swapping stories about sailing events. We all have some! I've been crewing on boats for the last 20 years and have been enjoying the Great Vallejo Race just as long. My wife and I have our own little Catalina 27, Katie Bay-B, named after our daughter Kaitlin who also enjoys crewing along with her husband Paul DeMers. We have two grown kids and 5 grand kids, all living in Benicia that we enjoy seeing almost every weekend. Thanks very much for considering me as a potential member. I really appreciate how VYC is truly dedicated to being a vibrant sailing club and I look forward to making a contribution to keeping that tradition alive for future generations.



Ernie Serpa

I developed my interest in boating when I served in the Navy during the Vietnam War. I was a gunner on a destroyer. I have enjoyed recreational boating ever since then. I am originally from the Central Valley where I learned to fish. I currently have a small fishing boat. My wife and I retired to Vallejo mainly because the proximity to Mare Island and San Pablo Bay and the many other waterways. I am looking forward to learning to sail and making new friends who share similar interests and a love for being on the water. I am a retired Maintenance Engineer and welcome the opportunities to volunteer whenever and wherever I am needed.



Scott Bryson



Scott Webster

## PROPOSED 2017 CRUISE-OUT SCHEDULE

June 23 – 25 .....	Napa Valley Yacht Club
July 14–23 .....	Delta Cruise (Sacramento)
August 11 – 13 .....	San Francisco Yacht Club (Commodore's Cruise)
September 8 – 17 .....	Bluewater Cruise

— Noble Brown, Cruise Director

## RICHMOND BOAT SHOW April 7-9



Jennifer and Elvin Valverde setting up the VYC booth at the Richmond Boat Show.



Vallejo Yacht Club member Thomas Lee enjoying the boat show.



# VYC OPENING DAY








## May Birthdays


Jeff Ellis	5/1
Ken Leslie	5/1
Donna Seabrooks	5/1
Willie Healer	5/2
Ralph Hyde	5/2
Dale Elick	5/3
Ladonna Bubak	5/6
Gina Hiemstra	5/6
Charko Lemke	5/6
Lewis Mitchell	5/6
George Tsiopos	5/8
Leon Garcia	5/9
Matthew Halstead	5/10
Ellie Carroll	5/11
Valerie Suzawa	5/11
Wesley Eifert	5/15
Ann Burgess	5/16
Harold Helbock	5/17
Steve Kraus	5/17
Deborah Rocchild	5/18
Donna Crouch	5/19
Greg Moore	5/19
Rick Bastien	5/22
Scott Green	5/22
Jennifer Lucchesi	5/23
Chris Platzer	5/23
P/C Russ Eichner	5/24
Cameron Kriens	5/25
Michelle Halpin White	5/25
LF Joan Almstrom	5/26
Patrick Callahan	5/27
Joel Madore	5/27
Janet Pecorella	5/27
Jim Mueller	5/28
LF Colleen Thomas	5/28
Jones Quan	5/29
Cathy Riley	5/29
Gina Barbosa	5/31
James Kuykendall	5/31
Karimah Karah	5/31
Val Taft	5/31



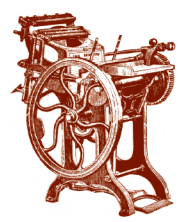
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If you attend any of the Vallejo Yacht Club events and take pictures, please send the pictures (jpegs) to the Binnacle Editor at [cvanvessem@sbcglobal.net](mailto:cvanvessem@sbcglobal.net) for inclusion in the Binnacle. Thanks.

## 2016 - 2017 Elected & Appointed Officers

Commodore ..... Bob Lockhart  
 Vice Commodore ..... Rick Bastien  
 Rear Commodore ..... Gina Barbosa  
 Staff Commodore ..... John Cole  
 Treasurer ..... Michael Carr  
 Secretary ..... Maggie Sabovich  
 Port Captain ..... Cameron Kriens  
 Fleet Captain-Sail ..... Hugo Knief  
 Fleet Captain Power ..... Capt. Bill Thomas  
 Fleet Chaplain ..... Jeanne Forte  
 Fleet Surgeon ..... Bryan Barber, MD  
 Bar Manager ..... Clare Harmon  
 Club Manager ..... Matthew Ceryes

## Board of Directors

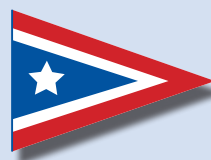
Chairman ..... Ken Leslie  
 Director ..... Tom Ochs  
 Director ..... Bill Sweitzer  
 Director ..... Bill Zerby  
 Director ..... Mike Coleman  
 Director ..... Scott Green

## Committee Chairpersons

Social Director ..... Available  
 Safety ..... Jeff Dickey  
 Learn To Sail ..... Dale Anderson  
 Membership ..... Keith Clark, Assistant Chris Wagner  
 Grounds ..... Jennifer Valverde  
 Historian ..... Toni Borges  
 Ship's Store ..... Barbara Brown  
 House ..... Bill Zerby  
 Binnacle ..... Cathy Van Vessem  
 Development ..... Elvin Valverde  
 Webmaster ..... Bill Zerby and Assistant Jack Vrins

## Delegates

PICYA ..... Maggie Sabovich  
 YRA ..... TBD



## VALLEJO YACHT CLUB

485 Mare Island Way  
 Vallejo, CA 94590

First Class

