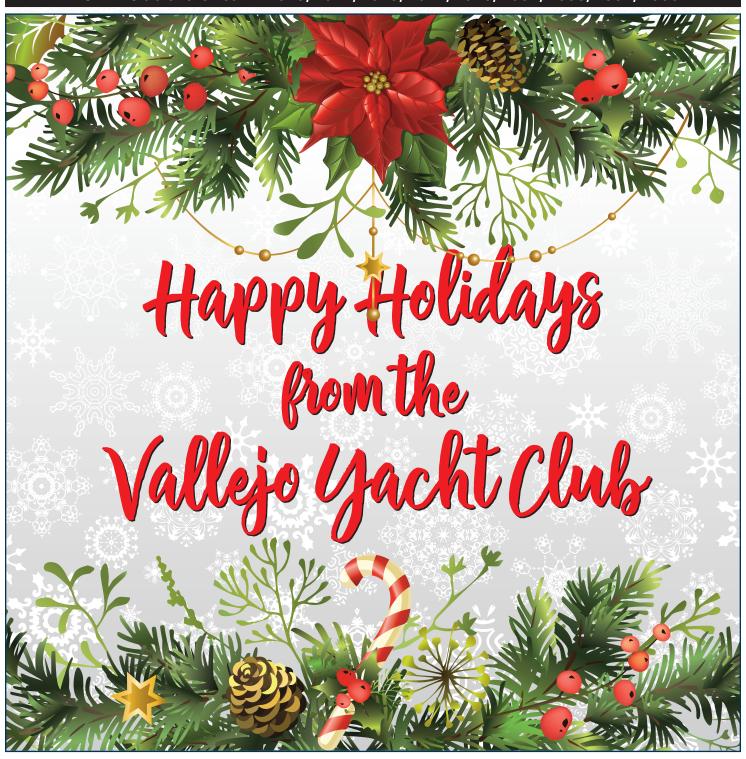


December 2022 Founded 1900 www.VYC.org

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



Special Events

	-	
7	Friday, December 1st, 5:30 pm Friday Night Dinner and Holiday Tree Lighting	<
	Saturday, December 2nd, 1:30 pm - 4:00 pm Mid-Winter Race and Dinner	
	Saturday, December 2nd, 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm Lighted Boat Parade (in conjunction with the City of Vallejo's Tree Lighting Event)	4
>	Tuesday, December 13th, 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm Board of Director's Meeting	
L	Saturday, December 10th, 9:00 am - Noon Kid's Christmas Party	<
	Saturday, December 17th, 5:30 pm - 11:00 pm Holiday Party	
_	Saturday, December 24th	
	Sunday, December 25th	•
	Office closed on Monday, December 26th in observance of the Christmas Holiday	
	Thursday, December 29th, 7:30 pm - 9:30 pm General Membership Meeting	
	Saturday, December 31st, 5:30 pm - 1:00 am	
	Sunday, January 1st, 2023 Happy New Year	_
	Office closed on Monday, January 2nd in observance of New Year Holiday	
	Tuesday, January 10th, 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm Board of Director's Meeting	7
	Saturday, January 14th, 6:30 pm	
>	Monday Night Fun and Games 6:00-9:00 pm	
	NEW! Thursday Night 8-Ball Pairs Tournament 7:00 pm -9:00 pm through Feb. 16th	
7	Wednesday Night Activities & Dinners 5:30- 8:30 pm	<

Friday Night Dinners 5:30 - 8:00 pm





COMMODORE REPORT Jeremy Haydock

Greetings Shipmates!

The holidays are here! November was another busy month, and we had quite a few successful activities and parties. The 2022 racing awards banquet was hugely successful with an extremely large turnout. Our sail

fleet captain, Mark Littlefield, did an amazing job as MC, and all the awards that skippers won are actually made by Mark at his home workshop, and they are amazing ½ hull boat replicas.

We had a successful Fashion show that our ship store manager Barbara Brown coordinated, which also coincided with a new member long table dinner with guest chef Kevin Lyons and his awesome family/galley crew. The food was delicious, and we all had a great time at the fashion show, with lots of sales in the ship store after the event.

December is a busy month at the VYC. We have lots of opportunities to get involved and have fun. The first event is our tree lighting/ decorating party on Friday, Dec 2. Then, the next day on December 3rd we have the first of the Midwinter races series starting at 1:00 pm, and then that evening, we have the annual lighted boat parade. The lighted boat parade is a very old tradition that we coordinate with the city of Vallejo to coincide with the city's tree lighting and parade on the waterfront. The lighted boat parade starts at 6:00, when the City's event starts. This event has suffered from a lack of attendance in the past, so please, if you have a boat and want to get into the holiday cheer, please decorate your boat with lights or other decorations and participate in the parade! I will certainly be there and hope to see many of you out there as well!! The added benefit is keeping your lights on your boat lit for the rest of the month, which really adds a festive atmosphere to our harbor.

On Saturday, December 10th, we will have our Kid's Christmas party from 9:00 am till 1:00 pm. We will host our New Member Long table dinner on Friday, December 16. Our adult Christmas party will be on Saturday, December 17th. Don't forget our annual, awesome New Year's Eve party on Saturday, December 31st, with a

live DJ getting the dance party started.

Now for business. As many of you might know, the California Alcohol Beverage Control board (ABC) has instituted new rules for any entity that serves alcohol. Any person who serves alcohol is now required to be a certified server and must take an online course and pass a 50-question test. The program is called the Responsible Beverage Server program (RBS). This rule applies to our honor bar as well. What this means for our club is that any member who wishes to use the honor bar and pour themselves or others a drink must be RBS certified with a server ID. Members who do not have this RBS certification with a server ID WILL NOT BE allowed to serve themselves or others at the honor bar. Failure to comply with this new law will result in the club losing its liquor license, which would be a huge blow to us all.

There is a list at the bar that shows all the members who have taken the test and are now RBS certified with a server ID. **These are the only people allowed behind the bar to serve themselves or others.** YOU MUST BE WEARING YOUR NAME TAG TO GO BEHIND THE BAR. As more members go through the program and pass the test and get their certificates, more members' names will be added to the list. The goal is to get as many members certified as possible so that we comply with the rule.

We held two different training sessions on Wednesday nights in November, and many members attended and registered for the course, registered with the ABC, and many have taken the online course, and taken the ABC test and passed the test to be certified. Moving forward, we will be doing one of these training sessions 1 Wednesday night per month to help facilitate our members getting certified. The cost for the certification and the online training is less than \$20. The club can credit your account for the fees once you have passed the test and have a server ID. We will send out an email to the membership when the next Wednesday training session will be. It will also be posted on the bulletin board.

Respectfully, Jeremy Haydock, Commodore

Welcome New Members

Our club continues to grow. It's so exciting to welcome new members into the group. We welcomed several new members at the end of October and in November. Please extend a warm welcome to our new clubmates!



Clark Hawley and Commodore Jeremy Haydock



James Stewart and Commodore Jeremy Haydock



Robbin Sheltren and Commodore Jeremy Haydock





VICE COMMODORE REPORT Scott Green

Greetings shipmates, friends, and colleagues! s some of you may have heard me say over The years, my favorite time of year at the Club is indeed, the Holiday Season. Heck! I enjoy zillions of fun events all year, but somehow the shenanigans between October

and January just get me going. This is also one of the main things I tell prospective members since many people seem to think that all we do is go out on boats and race. Well, many of us do that, indeed! But we all know there's a lot more fun to be had just hanging around the Club for an evening, putting around with your endless boat projects, or just stopping by to say hello to whomever you encounter. I cherish these things. But I also am humbled by how fragile these events and spontaneous fun times are: all it takes is one little misstep, and everything can go differently in a flash. I'll give you some examples...

A week or so ago - as of this writing - I got zonked with a nasty (non-COVID, fortunately) bug that has mostly had me hiding. In an effort not to pass it on to anyone at the Club, I felt it prudent not to attend the Membership meeting in person. So Zoom it was for me last week. Not ideal, but oh well. However, this also meant that I missed out on one of my favorite goofiest events, the Fall Fashion Show. Barbara Brown hadn't been allowed to pull this off during pandemic times, so I was really looking forward to going and (begrudgingly) modeling. The point here is that we must all continue to practice responsible social hygiene and be respectful of all our Mates, especially those for whom exposure to bugs can have dire consequences. My big ask here is that I would love for everyone at the Club to treat each other with the knowledge that one day that person may be gone suddenly. We all know how shockingly quickly something can come up, and the next thing you know, that person is gone.

This includes being civil with each other at all times and respecting societal decency. Otherwise, rude or inappropriate comments can drive folks away just as quickly. Then one day, someone asks, "Gee, I wonder whatever happened to so-n-so?" Let's all enjoy each other's company as if it's the last day you'll see them, for it just might be!

So when I look at the usual times we see each other, there's one central theme: our wonderful, cozy bar. What would we be without it? Yeah, that's right: not much.

As mentioned in the Commodore report and many general membership meetings, everyone who walks behind the bar and pours a drink MUST have their Responsible Beverage Server certification. Now, I have a mission: to get my certification by the time of the annual Lighted Boat Parade, taking place on Saturday, December 3rd. This long-running tradition has been just about my favorite event since I joined. It's a blast! However, it, too, has seen a decline in participation since the pandemic, so I'd love to see everyone in the harbor get their best bling out and dress us up for the show. Afterward, let's all meet up, certificates in hand, for some holiday cheer! If you need a ride that night, hit me up, and I'll try to reserve space for a couple of folks on SEAKER. Let's not allow this ancient tradition to die off!

And last, the BIG event! The Great Vallejo Race for 2023 will be held over the weekend of May 5-7. I'm not going to pummel you just now for calls for help; you know they're out there already. However, I will set up bi-weekly Zoom meetings for the Planning Committee and those interested in participating in next year's big event. For now, I'm targeting Tuesday evenings from 19:00-20:00. So get in touch.

Until then, fair winds and happy sailing!

Humbly, Your Vice Commodore, Scott





REAR COMMODORE REPORT Hugo Knef

Greetings Shipmates,

inter season is upon us. This a friendly reminder to members with boats in the harbor: please be sure to check that your dock lines, covers, deck drains, and furling jibs are all in good order and secure. Also, the

liveaboard members really appreciate that your halyards are secured away from the mast to prevent that annoying slapping sound. It has been great to see so many new members joining the club lately, and many of you have new boats in the harbor. One of the great features of our harbor is the South Dock area. Here we have many tools and workspace for all sorts of boat projects. Many members have used the crane for unstepping a mast for repair or painting, or rerigging. We also have a random assortment of bolts, screws, boat

parts, lines, anchors, sails, spinnaker poles, hoses, clamps, etc. If you need something for your boat, check with Jeff or me, and maybe we can save you a trip to the marine or hardware store. We also have a shelf with free items that members have left in hopes that they can be reused. Come down to the South Dock and hang out or do a boat project!

I am actively looking for any donations for the annual crab feed in February. Proceeds are to benefit our learn to sail program. It looks like crab season is off to a good start for recreational fishing and with commercial fishing starting on January 1st. I think we should have good fresh local crab this year!

> Thank you, Hugo Knef, Rear Commodore



THE SHIP'S STORE

Hello Shipmates,

Thank you to everyone who attended our Fall Fashion show! We hope that you find something to suit you well in the Ship's Store.

Barbara Brown, Ship's Store Chairperson



Galley Report December



Join us for delicious Friday night dinners!

Cruise Program 2023 Proposed Calendar

(dates not yet confirmed and subject to change...check back every month for updates.)

Please mark your calendars for the following 2023 cruise-out events.

		H. D. HI		
		x pappy 13 wand	ay *****	
	Irene O'Brien	Frank Gonzalez-Mena12/12	John Marshall12/17	
	Christian Graze 12/5	Judy Lamb	Jeffrey Berger12/19	-
	Mary Kraybill	Michael Fraze	Monique Wells12/20	
	Carol Lyons	James Sobolewski 12/14	Amy Hernandez	
7	Nataliya Kis	Jeremy Harvey	Mike Weaver12/21	
	Woodrow Shiflett 12/8	Kris Greer	Gary S. Domingo	•
	Anita Catlin	Norm Manty	Keith Tipton	
	David Nadolne12/11	Adam Settimo	Dan Gordon	ē.



MOB: Could You Save a Life?

an overboard! These words can strike fear in the hearts of boaters. But what comes next? Who does what? Does anyone see the person in the water (PIW)? Was he/she wearing a PFD? How do we approach and get them aboard again safely? Where's the throwable PFD? Do we have dry clothing or blankets to warm them up? Do they need first aid, CPR, or more urgent medical care? Will they survive the trip back to the club? Whom do we call for help, and how?

A man overboard (MOB) is always an emergency. It might prove easier to make a recovery in the Mare Island channel, but what if it's a Wednesday race out to marker 15, a big ebb against 20 knots, and the sun is going down soon?

This scenario could end in disaster. But as boaters, there are things we can do that can help prevent such an ending. First and foremost, everyone should wear a PFD. (When was the last time your inflatable PFD was inspected and recharged?) A courtesy Vessel Safety Check would point out the lack of a Type IV throwable or adequate first aid kit, for example. As a racer, consider reviewing man overboard recovery protocols before next year's season begins. Additional reviews of basic first aid and emergency radio communications would also be prudent. Finally, skippers of racing boats should organize a pre-race safety check for their crew so that everyone aboard knows where emergency gear is, including throwable PFDs, emergency bilge pumps, and fire extinguishers.

Be Semper Paratus: always ready.

Deb Rocchild, Safety Chair



COME ON...DISH!

Are you famous for a special recipe or dish? If you are and are willing to share, please send them to BinnacleEditor@vyc.org. We would like to share some of YOUR famous special recipes with the group. Eventually, I'd like to get a VYC Cookbook in the works. Let me know if this is something that you would be interested in seeing for sale at the club!

Sharing is caring.

If you snap pictures of events or day-to-day events at the club, please send them over to BinnacleEditor@vyc.org. Julique Lewis Haydock is our social media chair and would like to share out some of the great gatherings that happen in our club. Please send the picture, the names of the folks in the picture (be sure it's OK with them to publish!), and some context as to what was going on in the picture. We can use these both in social media and *The Binnacle*.

Thank you!

Amy Hendricksen and Julie Lewis Haydock

PICYA Report

by Maggie Sabovich, VYC PICYA Delegate

PICYA's last Delegate meeting of 2022 was our Awards Luncheon, held at the Oakland Yacht Club on Sunday, November 6th, which began with networking at 11 AM, and lunch at 12:30. Our Annual Awards were presented at 1 PM. Most importantly, the Awards for COTY or Club of the Year 2022 went to The Ebony Boat Club, San Jose Sailing Club, South Beach Yacht Club, Village West Yacht Club, and Elkhorn Yacht Club.

PICYA historically does not have a Delegate meeting in December, so the next PICYA event will be the Commodore's Ball and Installation of Officers for 2023, which is scheduled for Saturday, January 14, 2023, at the Sequoia Yacht Club in Redwood City.

The newly designated Officers will be Commodore Larry Mayne, from the new yacht club in Redwood City, The Club at Westpoint, Vice Commodore Jan Lucas, the Sea Ray Club of Northern California, Rear Commodore Glen Bigelow, Point San Pablo Yacht Club, and Junior Staff Commodore Joan Marsh, Pittsburg Yacht Club.

Directors for 2023 are Ann Dukes, Ebony Boat club, Jim Haussener, Spinnaker Yacht Club, Rich Holden, Dos Rios Yacht Club, Jillian Humphreys, Stockton Sailing club, David Jackson, Sequoia Yacht Club, and Melissa Sopata, Oakland Yacht Club.

The Key issue noted in PICYA's Annual Report to its delegates is the decline in PICYA's financial reserves over the years from 2017 to 2022. Recommendations were made to budget future administrative expenses to be paid entirely by dues and by events budgeted to be self-supporting. 2023's proposed budget aligns administrative costs with the anticipated dues receipts from our member clubs. We also recognize that a few of our smaller clubs have disbanded or gone on hiatus due to the impact of the 2020 pandemic, which continues to the present. The intent of our 2023 budget is that our special events, like PICYA's historic "Opening Day on the Bay", will be self-supporting, with the assistance of donations from generous delegates and from advertising,

as well as robust participation by our delegates. Expenses have been curtailed primarily by the elimination of our paid secretarial consultant position while at the same time requiring slight increases in expenses for producing meeting materials and replacing secretarial services with online communications. This proposed budget was distributed to our member clubs, and the delegates at our November Awards luncheon adopted it as the official PICYA Budget for 2023.

Recreational Boaters of California (RBOC) News RBOC is advocating before budget meetings in Sacramento for the best use of Boater taxes and fees. RBOC supports the dedication of boater fees and taxes for programs and services that directly benefit boaters.

RBOC appreciates the decision made by the Governor and Legislature with the state budget for the fiscal year 2022-2023 to refrain from significantly raising boater registration fees and convening a stakeholder process. This process has been underway for the past few months, with three subcommittees led by Boating and Waterways Commissioners and supported by the staff of the Division of Boating and Waterways. A wide variety of boating community stakeholders are actively participating.

This process is providing the opportunity for all interested parties and the State to review the expenditure of more than \$100 million each year in fuel tax dollars attributable to boats, the most effective and efficient use of these funds, to identify approaches for increasing the small percentage of these monies currently directed to boating programs, and to enhance the financial participation of non-boaters who benefit from the current and future programs.

RBOC is encouraged with the progress being made and the consideration being given to suggestions made by the boating community in our recent letter and in the input being provided by boating organizations and individuals during the subcommittee discussions.

The full commission will consider the finalization of our recommendation at their November meeting.

FALL FASHION SHOW

The Fall Fashion Show was held on Friday, November 18th A HUGE Thank You to Barbara Brown for putting together this fantastic event. There is a lot of thought and hard work that goes into selecting new items for the Ship's Store, and Barbara does an amazing job of finding clothing and swag to fill the store. There just might be something there that you want to put on your holiday list, and certainly, things that everyone would like to find tucked in their stocking!



Thank you to all the models and Barbara Brown for a WONDERFUL show!



Flag officers striking a pose...

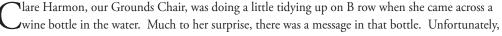


Director Ashworth using her modeling skills.



Rear Commodore Knef looking very dapper!

Message in a Bottle-





according to the author, it wasn't a map of buried treasure but a little experiment on mapping the Bay area tides! On May 8th, a young man (11 years old), his older brother, and his father were out fishing and let loose a few messages in bottles, providing their coordinates at the time of launch. He did say that they also did a trash pickup at the docks, where they launched their fishing boat to "offset putting bottles in the water.". The young tide mapper also wrote that his dad would give him a day off of school if someone found his bottle, and he could map back the location where the bottle was found and add it to the Bay area tide map. Clare did contact the family, and they had a wonderful chat. Now, I'm not sure if he did get a free day off of school, but it sounded like it made his day that someone found one of his messages. How cool is that?

MEMBER FEATURE

Meet new members Mike and Savanna Eli



New Members Mike and Savanna

Mike and Savanna are very excited to be new members of the VYC. They moved to Vallejo last year they have looked forward to getting out on the water, re-learning to sail, and meeting new friends.

Mike Eli was born and raised in Whittier, California. He is the middle brother of five. In his youth, he was an avid water, fishing, and board sport enthusiast (waterskiing, surfing, skateboarding, kayaking, canoeing, sailing). He has spent hours enjoying the Pacific Ocean and the lakes of the Colorado River.

Mike worked his way through college as a carpenter, building supermarkets for a commercial contractor, and has years of experience as a designer, cabinet maker, and woodworker. He earned Art degrees from Long Beach State and Art Center College in Pasadena. Before moving from Port

Costa to Vallejo, Mike volunteered at Station 77 as a firefighter.

Mike and Savanna met while attending Art Center College in Pasadena, CA. Mike received his degree in illustration, and he paints and draws to relax in his spare time.

Savanna Eli grew up on the ocean in Santa Monica, California. Besides riding across the country on a motorcycle, the beach is her favorite place to be. Her Grandfather built sailboats in Southern California, which inspired her father to send her to a sailing school. Her Uncle raced twin-hull boats, and her parents briefly ran a sail-making business. It's been a long time since she's been sailing, and she is excited about getting back on the water.

Previously, she was an exhibit designer for the East Bay Reginal Park District, her skills include graphic design, visual communication, marketing, and fixing machines. Savanna attended the Motorcycle Mechanics Institute, earning a degree from Yamaha in motorcycle repair, later earning her BFA and MFA from Art Center and the San Francisco Art Institute. She currently works in the art department at a guitar effects and music company in Benicia.

Savanna is an avid Gardner, Painter, Designer, and tinkerer. Both Mike and Savanna will gladly donate their skills to any projects that benefit the VYC community.

Welcome, Mike and Savanna!

Getting to Know You...

To help us all stay connected and get to know some of our new (or new to us!) members, we are soliciting articles to feature monthly in The Binnacle. If you want to share a little bit about yourself, your skills and what you can offer to the club, and things you want to learn, please send a snippet and a picture to binnacleeditor@vyc.org.

THE HISTORY OF THE KID'S CHRISTMAS PARTY

by Club Historian Tom Ochs

The Kid's Christmas party is scheduled, but do any of you remember how it started? My first Christmas party at the yacht club that I can remember was when I was about five, at the old Yacht Clubhouse.

Mom and Dad told me that I really had to be good because Santa was coming to the club, and being good was the ticket to the show. Going to the yacht club was something that I always looked forward to. I also looked forward to the orange soda that Mac, the steward, would give me. Well, despite my, let's say active behavior, they brought me along with them. Now I was a precocious child and always in some kind of trouble. (Consequently, the name of my boat is 'Troubles 2')

So, to get my attention, Mom told me a chunk of coal was in for me if I didn't straighten out. In other words, no presents and that was bad. She was tough! Dad, on the other hand, told me if I could straighten out for the two days before Christmas, he had an in with Santa and might put in a good word for me. Dad, you know, had pet rabbits, and one of them knew the Easter Bunny. And the Easter Bunny knew Santa, and maybe he could, through the Easter Bunny, convince Santa to cut me some slack and come up with something better than a rock of coal.

Well, after some outstanding behavior on my part, mainly because I went and stayed with my grandma, Mom said I could go to the party. I don't know what I said to grandma, but kids have a way with grandparents. I probably would not have made it this far without her divine intervention.

I was always, as I said before, excited to go to the Yacht Club, and this night was no different. The party was upstairs in the dance hall. The place was decorated with the biggest Christmas tree I had ever seen. The bandstand was decorated, and the sawdust was still on the floor from a dance the night before. There were lights, ornaments, and garlands all over the place. The Christmas tree was lit up, and I had never seen so many presents beneath the tree.

Then, when Santa showed up, all the kids ran to him, and he listened to each and every one of us. When I finally got to him, he knew who I was. He said something about Grandma and gave me a gift. Kids have a way with Grandma and Grandpa.

As I look back on this, it is a line right out of Raphie in the Christmas Story. (wink wink)...You know you'll shoot your eye out! When Santa left, the real party started; you know, a bunch of little kids jacked up on sugar is a recipe for disaster. Someone found a couple of gunny sacks, put them on the floor, and all of us kids began sliding on the floor until one of them hit the wall, and then the party was over. We had a good time anyway, and the adults just turned their heads and laughed.

Now, if you are still with me, the kid's Christmas party started a long time ago.

An old member, Angelo Rigo, just loved the kids at the club. He had a powered skiff and used to fish a lot. I also think he was Santa, as he lived down the alley from us, gave all the kids in the neighborhood oranges over the fence in the alley, and let us play with his dog, Duchess.

Now the tradition of the oranges and apples... One thing that Angelo always did was place an orange from his tree in each kid's stocking. Fast forward years later, when he passed, part of his estate went to Vallejo Yacht club to finance a Christmas party for the kids until it ran out.

In the mid-'70s, the money ran out and Doc San Filippo, because he had a whole litter of kids, kept the party going. He was a member that would take any kid fishing and could play the piano and dance. He would also occasionally bring in a string of fish for the galley to prepare as they saw fit.

Now Doc, being the gregarious character he was, took the Christmas party one step further and always brought apples to the party for the kids. Remember, these were the days before candy, or so we thought. After that, the tradition of an orange and an apple in the stockings became the tradition that has been carried on by Margot MacKerrow and Toni Borges.

So get your kids and grandkids (or great-grandkids!) to the Christmas party. They just might like it.

I am still doing the same thing that I did when I was five, and that is creating mischief, which has been inspired by my dad Ralphie, which is why my boat is referred to as TROUBLES.

So from my family to yours, have a blessed Christmas, and go out and do something charitable and positive for someone else. Stay safe, and enjoy your families and friends.

See you on the water in the spring.

Here is to a great 2023! Tom Ochs and family



for a wonderful year from your friends at the

Vallejo Yacht Club

2022 - 2023 Elected & Appointed Officers	House ChairMatt Mack
CommodoreJeremy Haydock	Club Historian
Vice CommodoreScott Green	Community Liason Chair and VYC Social Media ChairJulique Lewis Haydock
Rear Commodore	Binnacle Editor
and EngineeringJeff Ruszler	Board of Directors
Fleet Captain, CruiseNoble Brown	Chairman of the BoardElvin Valverde
Fleet Captain, SailMark Littlefield and Denny Mosher	Director
Fleet Captain, PowerTBD	Director
Fleet Chaplain	Director
Fleet Surgeon	Director
Safety Chair	Director and Parliamentarian
Learn to Sail Chair	Delegates
Membership Chair	PICYAMaggie Sabovich
Ship's Store Chair	YRA
Galley Chair & Social Chair	
Long Range Planning Chair	
Grounds Chair	

VALLEJO YACHT CLUB 485 Mare Island Way Vallejo, CA 94590



First Class