



## A Message from the Commodore: *Frank Bear*

It's that time of year when we look to secure our club's finances for another season. We are actively soliciting advertising for the Navy Cup Brochure. Besides membership dues, this is the only income-generating activity in which the club participates.

The fruit of our joint efforts directly supports junior scholarship funds, the Wounded American Veterans Event, "A Day on the Bay," after-race parties, trophies and club operating expenses—such as keeping our committee boat, Striper, running for another season. It also provides funds to offset the cost of the Commodore's Ball in December. The true cost of the Ball is not reflected in the ticket price; the actual expense is greater than what is charged and is supplemented by these fundraising efforts.

We are still short of our \$12,000 goal. The good news is that the front and back outer and inner covers have all been secured, and many of our past supporters are responding favorably. However, since this is our only fundraiser, we cannot stop short of reaching our goal.

It's a simple ask: encourage a business you frequent to support NYCP by purchasing a half-page color ad. We are not offering anything smaller than a half-page color ad. However, for those who prefer to make a contribution without placing a company advertisement, we plan to include a limited section in the Navy Cup Brochure recognizing individuals or businesses who contribute to our organization. If we receive enough interest, this will allow those who previously purchased business card-sized ads to continue supporting us while still receiving recognition. Ken Pyle and I received several such gifts during our recent efforts to fill the Navy Cup Brochure, and we believe this provides another meaningful way to participate.

As Vice Commodore Ricki McWilliams says, "We need full membership participation to make this year a success! Show your support by cheering on the Navy Yacht Club as we work to win back the Cup, promoting your business through an advertisement, or encouraging a local business you regularly support to purchase an ad. There's a way for everyone to get involved and make a difference. Ask your doctor, lawyer, barber, and veterinarian."

*For more information, email: [navycuppensacola@gmail.com](mailto:navycuppensacola@gmail.com).*

*For each ad you purchase and/or sell, you will be entered into a drawing to win a \$100 gift card for your efforts. Deadline for submission and payment: April 15, 2026.*



### In this newsletter you can expect:

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Junior Sailors

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New Members

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Flotsam & Jetsam

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Membership Renewal & Navy Cup Ad Incentive

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Other News

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Where in the World

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Calendar of Upcoming Events

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Contact Information

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Vice Commodore:

*Ricki McWilliams*

As with the other Bridge members, I'd like to highlight our continued push for membership while we are still in our 2026 Membership Drive. If you know someone who would enjoy being part of Navy Yacht Club Pensacola, now is the perfect time to invite them! If you are on social media, please visit our Facebook page — like, share, and leave a review. [NYCP FACEBOOK PAGE](#) Your engagement helps us grow and reach new members.



If you have any family activities, on or off the water, that you would like us to highlight, please send the information to [navycuppensacola@gmail.com](mailto:navycuppensacola@gmail.com) so we can share.

I would also be remiss if I did not remind everyone that Navy Cup Brochure ads are available:

- Half page: \$150
- Full page: \$300

Your support directly benefits our events and sailing initiatives. Last but certainly not least, we've had some fantastic speakers so far this year and have several more lined up. However, the months of May and June are still available. If you know someone who would be a great speaker for our general membership, I would love to hear from you.

Looking forward to a strong and exciting season ahead!

Fleet Captain:

*Mark Smith*

We've officially kicked off our regatta season, and the first event is already in the books. The Maxine #1 Regatta was completed on February 28, with nine boats participating.

The results are posted on RegattaMan, and we're looking forward to strong participation as the season continues.

Thanks to our talented Commodore, Frank Bean, the trophies for this regatta were handcrafted, and the recipients loved them.

The after-party and awards presentation were held at the Pensacola Yacht Club Watson Center following the regatta.

Maxine #2 will take place on March 7, hosted by the Pensacola Beach Yacht Club. Maxine #3 will follow the weekend after that, hosted by Pensacola Yacht Club.

There's a lot happening on the bay over the next two months, and it's going to get a little crowded out there. Please stay safe, and we'll see you on the water.





Secretary:

*Ms. Patti*

March - it comes in like a lion... Have you felt the wind on your face lately?

Instead of telling you about the notes I have taken, allow me to introduce you to my dad, Vince Cooke. Dad was the Commodore of Navy Yacht Club Pensacola in early 2005. Commodore Cooke had not lived in the Pensacola area for long before he got involved with invigorating the yacht club which needed a fresh vision. His arrival here in town came on the heels of embracing the sailing culture in San Diego and around the world. While in San Diego he was the racing committee chair at Southwestern Yacht Club as well as a one-design race management where he was well received. Following Dennis Connor's win-back of the America's Cup, the San Diego Yacht Club was privileged to host the 1992 and 1995 America's Cup, best of seven races. In order to identify the competitor to the next cup race, the Louis Vuitton Challenger Series round robin races were held. These races required several months of execution and coordination, often requiring a daily cadre of 135 volunteers, everyday, on the water. As a Navy Captain and commander of multiple ships, Vince had the skills to recruit and coordinate this massive number of volunteers. He was tapped to chair the Louis Vuitton Challenger Series in both the 1991 and Cup Series in San Diego. Following that, he was selected to do the same in New Zealand for the Challenger Cup where in 2000, he and Pat, his first mate, chief navigator, and time keeper spent a year successfully managing and identifying who would challenge the New Zealand yacht.



As Commodore of NYCP, Vince Cooke introduced Windward/Leeward racing to the Pensacola Bay Clubs. In doing so, the Commodore prepared the yacht club to be an able competitor as most races in the nation were conducted in this manner. He also established Opening Day celebrations including the Blessing of the Fleet and was instrumental in the initial stages of WAVE on the Bay, an afternoon of cruising provided to Wounded Warriors.

I suppose when the sea gets into your veins it stays forever and, like a contagion, it branches out to touch little dinghies, 36' sailing yachts, big grey naval ships, and people around the world. He wasn't always easy to get along with, but the sailor in him stood tall and proud. Vince and his first mate both sailed into the sunset in early 2018. Fair winds Dad.



Treasurer:

*Stephanie Hoffman*



Wow! It is already March. As we prepare for a regatta-filled Spring, I would once again like to extend my thanks to everyone who has renewed their membership this year. We would not succeed without the support and dedication of so many.

Please continue recruiting new members and feel free to pass along any connections you may have to support the Navy Cup through the Navy Cup Brochure. Ads are greatly welcomed and appreciated.

If you would like to join or provide support but are out of town, or if you prefer to use a credit card for these items, please do not hesitate to reach out to me at 850-855-7446 (text preferred). A small convenience fee will be added to cover the cost of this service.

Enjoy the month, and I'll see everyone on the racecourse!

Ships Store:

The Treasurer is set up to complete card transactions for any in stock merchandise. In addition, you can order online from our store front at Coral Reef Apparel. This site offers a variety of NYCP apparel and accessories. Order with a friend to split the shipping cost. [SHOP HERE](#)

## NYCP Juniors in Action



NYCP junior sailor, C. Wesley Hoffman, learned about shifts and starts at the Fort Lauderdale Yacht Club this weekend. He was participating in the USODA Optimist Development Team clinic. He also got to see his sister!!!  
Way to go Wesley!



NYCP Junior Sailors had a fun photo shoot at the docks in February.

Sharing smiles and improving teamwork both on and off the water.

Thank you, Athlete's Water, for showcasing our junior talent.

Jake McWilliams, Emmett Perez, Jack McWilliams, C. Wesley Hoffman



Claire Perez recently visited the University of Dallas in Irving, Texas, where she is striving to attend for college. She also viewed a regatta at Corinthian Sailing Club in Dallas and hopes to continue sailing there.



## New Members: Tony & Deanna Mills

Tony and Deanna Mills reside in Mobile, Alabama. After experiencing a twenty-year hiatus from owning a sailboat, they recently purchased a Hunter 38, aptly named Here and Now, which is currently docked at the Bayou Grande Marina. Their previous sailing adventures were aboard a 28-foot Pearson, marking a return to sailing that they have long anticipated. The Mills are eagerly preparing for a sailing trip to the Florida Keys, with plans to set sail in mid to late March. This upcoming journey reflects their shared enthusiasm for adventure and the open sea. Tony retired in January 2023 after a 42-year career as an Army aviator. Following his military service, he continued flying with PHI, where he was responsible for transporting people and supplies to offshore oil rigs. Deanna, a registered nurse for thirty-three years, has an extensive background that includes experience in the emergency room, as a flight nurse, in cardiology, information technology, and, most recently, in outpatient recovery. Looking ahead, Tony and Deanna are excited about traveling and creating memories with their three children and their new grandson.



## Maxine #1 Awards

17 Boats registered in Maxine #1! What an incredible turn out for the first of the series. Between Cruising, Racing, and One Design - all classes were well represented. A HUGE "Thank You" to our race committee for making it all happen! Mark Smith and Libby Day assisted by Richard Smith and Wayne Fisher.

Complete Results [HERE](#)



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## Flotsam & Jetsam ~ Molly's Column

June 20, 1979, a day that will live in infamy (at least in my mind.) The Tartan 30 named SQUAW crossed Pensacola Bay from the Intercoastal Waterway and approached the entrance to the Pensacola NAS Marina on Bayou Grande. This was the end of a journey which had begun in Norfolk, Virginia, in late May.

Lloyd Stagg had orders to the Navy Exam Center at Saufley Field and we were bound for our "forever home" after his retirement in 1985. We had already visited the area and decided this was the best place for avid sailors to settle. Our arrival was certainly without fanfare as we ran Squaw aground a couple of

times trying to approach the Marina. Finally spotting a kid in a runabout, we had him lead us in safely to the Marina. Since this was a Monday, the Marina was closed. The only live body visible was a man working on his Trimaran, which he assured us was soon to be "shipshape and Bristol bright." His name was Bob Greene, and he introduced himself as the unofficial dock master. He also informed us that we would be allowed to live on Squaw for only two weeks while we house hunted. Incidentally, Bob continued to work diligently on his boat for several years; and to the best of my knowledge, only motored his boat around the inlet one time before his health prevented him from more adventures.

The next two people we met were Whit and Carol Johnson, who promptly invited us to join Navy Yacht Club. We did so at the very next meeting and NYCP has been stuck with us ever since. Among our favorite memories are:

- a. The first Halloween Party. In those days there was a theme party every month.
- b. The Hobo party where tables were decorated with newspaper tablecloths, fresh azaleas in bloom, and a pile of TRASH in the corner consisting of newspapers, old tires, bottles and cans, and more azaleas piled 4 feet high. The Marina Staff nearly had a fit over that one.
- c. The Coke machine converted to a beer dispenser when it was discovered the "honor system" for buying beer out of the fridge was someone's private ATM.
- d. Navy Cup when all cruisers raced for two days and tied up overnight at NAS. NYCP always provided dinner, and one year I volunteered to organize a steak dinner for \$5. We served nearly 200 and in spite of dire predictions that we would lose our shirts, we made \$600 for the club!
- e. The first Bikini Regatta, when macho skippers reluctantly turned over the helm of their beloved crafts.
- f. Manually typing the newsletter and mailing labels with carbon paper.
- g. Bob Hope on board the USS Lexington to celebrate the anniversary of the Cradle of Naval Aviation. The cameras focused out onto the bay where NYCP sailboats proudly displayed the spinnakers specially designed for the occasion.
- h. NYCP campaigned for ladders to be installed on the docks after my 82 year old mother fell between the boat and the dock, with no method to pull her out of the water.
- i. Hurricanes, hurricanes, hurricanes. We went through Frederick in 1979 with no insurance due to a slip-up on the part of the insurance underwriter. Ivan finally sunk Squaw and her successor Stagg Partee.

Just a few of the really old Navy Yacht Club memories.  
Beverly Stagg

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## Membership Information

2026 membership renewal is now open  
Renewal pricing as follows:

Retired Military and DoD  
Family - \$150.00  
Single - \$95.00

Active Duty  
Family - \$110.00  
Single - \$75.00  
Military Student-  
\$15.00

150 miles away  
Family - \$75.00  
Single - \$50.00



Hello all,

If you are planning to sail in the 2026 Navy Cup, you must be a NYCP member before April 6, 2026.

If you have friends or family who may be interested in joining NYCP, please share my contact information with them.

If you are interested in helping with the After Race Parties, contact me and I will answer all your questions.

Mail to: NYCP PO Box 4422 Pensacola, FL 32507

## Navy Cup Ads— we are 41% to our \$12,000 goal

Advertising in the Navy Cup brochure directly supports junior scholarship funds, WAVE, after race parties, trophies, club operating expenses, and offsets the costs of the annual Commodore’s Ball.

We need full membership participation to make this year a success! There’s a way for everyone to get involved and make a difference. Half page \$150; Full page \$300. Donations also accepted.

Email: [naycuppensacola@gmail.com](mailto:naycuppensacola@gmail.com) for more information.

**\*For each AD you purchase and/or sell you will be entered to WIN a \$100 gift card. Deadline for ad submission and payment: April 15, 2026.\***





## Women’s Sailing Collective - Pensacola

The newly formed Women’s Sailing Collective met for the second time, February 24. 72 women showed up with varying levels of sailing experience from none to advanced. Lauren Chapman welcomed everyone and reminded everyone this is for women to support women in sailing and boating and to get women together.

Lorrie Berry talked about the essentials in her sailing bag and the minimum you want to have when you are starting out. Linda Dunbar Thompson shared her experience on charting a boat in the Caribbean islands. Boat owners had the option to recruit crew for upcoming races and a raffle was held with multiple prizes.

Information submitted by: Mia Ottesen

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# Where in the World...

## Is the NYCP Burgee?



Members Nick and Leslie Perez celebrating their 18th wedding anniversary in New Mexico. They enjoyed several days exploring Santa Fe, Taos, and Albuquerque, New Mexico ending the trip at 10,300 ft on Sandia Peak!

Vice Commodore, Ricki McWilliams, showing her NYCP pride in Sedona, Arizona.



Please share your travel journeys with us. Email your burgee pictures to: [navycuppensacola@gmail.com](mailto:navycuppensacola@gmail.com) and let us know where you are.

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# March 2026

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7 Maxine #2 @ PBYC
8	9	10	11 NYCP Bridge Meeting	12	13	14 Maxine #3 @ PYC
15	16	17 NYCP Meeting	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28

## A Few Notes To Remember

- Bridge Meeting will start at 11:30am. Location will be available March 4th. Please contact a Bridge Member if you are interested in attending.
  - Christian Wagley, Healthy Gulf will be our guest speaker at the General Membership Meeting. The presentation topic: Rice Whales in our Gulf. Program will start at 6pm.
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# April 2026

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8 NYCP Bridge Meeting	9	10	11 Bikini Regatta Awards 4-12
12 Race for the Roses Regatta; Awards @ PBYC	13	14	15	16	17	18 Fast Women Regatta @ PYC
19	20	21 NYCP Meeting	22	23	24	25 CC #2 at PYC Watson
26	27	28	29	30		

## A Few Notes To Remember

- Bridge Meeting will start at 11:30am. Location will be available April 1<sup>st</sup>. Please contact a Bridge Member if you are interested in attending.
  - Cesar Travado, Sailing Director PYC will be our guest speaker at the General Membership Meeting. The presentation topic: Rules of Racing. Program will start at 6pm
  - Other bay area races, raft-ups, and events can be found by visiting: [Pensacola Bay Cruising Fleet](#)
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## 2026 Bridge: Officers & Directors

### Officers

Commodore: Frank Bean 251-591-4650

Vice Commodore: Ricki McWilliams 850-723-4060

Rear Commodore: Lauren Harrold 757-754-1464

Fleet Captain: Mark Smith 850-291-2545

Secretary: Patti Osborne 719-659-6942

Treasurer: Stefanie Hoffman 850-855-7446

### Directors

Website/Newsletter: Richard Smith 850-712-7722

Membership Director: Libby Day 850-292-9856

Historical Archives: Penny Bean 251-591-6279

GYA Coordinator: Chip MacMillan 850-255-8697

Past Commodore: Mia Ottesen 719-237-7797

Advisor: Molly Werner 850-292-9756

<p>NAVY YACHT CLUB PENSACOLA</p>	<p><a href="mailto:MEMBERSHIP@NAVYPNSYC.ORG">MEMBERSHIP@NAVYPNSYC.ORG</a></p>
<p><a href="http://www.navypnsc.org">www.navypnsc.org</a></p>	<p>Navy Yacht Club Pensacola PO Box 4422 Pensacola, FL 32507</p>

