



Dear Members of The North American Station,

The NAS Annual Meeting took place two weeks ago and I was honored to be elected to be your new Post Captain. For the past six years, Ernie Godshalk has done a great job of keeping the club a vibrant place that engages its members both on and off the water. Ernie leaves a strong and steady membership, a legacy of two very successful cruises, exceptionally strong relations with the Home Clubs, and a 2019 Christmas Dinner Dance that was the best ever.

While we're all anxious to get back to face to face meeting, Zoom has some advantages. Our Annual Meeting was attended by about 83 people, probably the best turnout since I've been involved with the NAS. Some of the key events that took place during the meeting:

- We recognized members of the NAS who have died since the 2019 Annual Meeting, they were:
 - Henry Hill Anderson Jr.
 - Cynthia Crump Crimmins
 - Nicholas Bayard Dill Jr.
 - Oivind Lorentzen Jr.
 - Nigel Savage MacEwan
 - William Scott Piper III

The bell on the Blunt White Trophy was rung once for each member, with eight bells at the conclusion.

- Secretary Richard West reported that the club now has 267 members.
- Treasurer Jennifer Bowden reported that the pandemic has had the perverse effect of limiting our expenses (no regattas and no Christmas Dinner Dance) so our cash position is stronger than it has been in some time, but keep those dues and donations coming, we'll need every bit to support the Five Club Regatta and the Christmas Dinner Dance over the next few years.
- We were fortunate to have the participation of the following home club commodores:

Robert Casselbrant	GKSS
Carl Erik Kjærsgaard	KDY
Patric Salén	KSSS
Mats Welin	NJK

All reported that, though regattas had to be curtailed or canceled, their members had a very active summer on the water – boats turn out to be an ideal place for social distancing.

KC Agerup, Commodore of KNS could not join us because he was in Singapore. Angelica Barrows, put on the spot with little notice, did an admirable job of delivering a positive report for KNS.

- We welcomed the following new members who joined the club during 2020:

Amanda	Balasubramanian	Toronto	Canada
Pernilla	Frisk	Greenwich	CT

Peter	Hansen	Stamford	CT
Johanna	Moffitt	Norwalk	CT
Maria	Møller	Kobenhavn	Denmark
Magnus & Maria	René	Boston	MA
Per & Anne Charlotte	Säve	Stockholm	Sweden
Richard	Waterman	Barrington	RI

- David Tunick, Awards Committee Chairman, delivered an enthusiastic encomium for Ernie and his years of service as Post Captain. Ernie received the Blunt White Trophy (for the 2nd time!) and his much loved boat *Golden Eye* received the Post Captain's Award. Dave Brown and Hiro Nakajima also received heartfelt praise and awards for their years of service as NAS Governors.
- We elected Gale Sherman as a new member of the Governing Board.
- The final piece of official business was the election of a new Post Captain. Ernie handed me the Post Captain's vingle (the silver cup in his hand) and with some reluctance gave up his horned helmet. I'm not very fond of hats, particularly hats with horns, so look closely, this may be the last time you see me with that helmet.



The last year has been a tough one for all of us. Being shut up inside, isolated from family and friends is no fun. But, as I gaze at 2021 and beyond, the future looks bright. First up will be a new NAS Directory, which Secretary Richard West has been beavering away on for many weeks. We hope to have it in the mail before the new year. Included in the same envelope will be [A Little History of The North American Station of the Royal Scandinavian Yacht Clubs and Nyländska Jaktklubben on the Occasion of the Station's 75th Anniversary](#), written by Tom Chadwick, Lars Colliander, Nancy Eills and Dick Peldleton. I think you will find it charming and entertaining. Sadly, Dick Pendleton died shortly after the annual meeting. By all reports he was a wonderful guy who especially liked to introduce young people to sailing. We will miss him.

In January, our own Juan Corradi, will be the first in what I hope will become an **NAS Speaker Series**. Juan will present **Norwegian Steam**, the story of the Norwegian sailors who comprised the crews of many of the America's Cup defenders in the first half of the 20th century. The presentation will take place via Zoom at **10am on Saturday 23 January 2021**. We're having it in the morning on a Saturday so that our Norwegian friends from KNS can participate. We'll send a reminder and a Zoom link in early January.

The second Speaker Series event will be a seminar arranged by David Tunick. Entitled "**Don't Give Up the Ship!**," this will be a zoom presentation at **9:00 AM on Saturday 20 February 2021** led by famed

ocean sailor Rich duMoulin with a panel of five skippers, all of whom have experienced sudden disasters at sea - fire, flood, sinking, dismasting, and abandoning ship. The focus will be damage control. A crossed burgee event with the CCA and the Storm Trysail Club.

We hope to have a third Speaker Series event on March 20th. NAS member Doug Adkins has kindly offered to twist the arms of some sailors from San Francisco to talk about the Knarr Series. Knarrs are 30' keel boats built originally in Norway shortly after WWII. Active racing fleets operate today in Copenhagen, Bergen, Oslo and San Francisco and the International Knarr Championship has rotated between these venues annually for more than fifty years. The IKC is unique among sporting events in that the competitors swap boats before each race and cannot race their own yacht, so a sailor could easily suffer the indignity of being beaten by his or her own boat. I'm told they also have lots of fun and snaps may be involved.

I'm afraid this letter has gone on a bit too long, before I wrap up, just a few points:

- 2021 dues notices will be sent in early January. Please respect the time and effort our Treasurer has to spend on dues follow-up and pay yours promptly. Jennifer still has a short list of unpaid dues for 2020. If you are on that list, please pay.
- Our longtime Webmaster, Michael Geagan, has resigned due to the increased demands of his day job. He leaves with good feelings on both sides and we owe him a debt of gratitude for the many hours he has put in behind the scenes.
- We have formed a new Website Committee with Gale Sherman as Chair. We would really like help from a member who has some experience in web design. If you can help, please contact Gale at gale44@gmail.com.
- Michael Geagan's departure leaves an opening on the Governing Board. I'm delighted to say that Chace Anderson has accepted my appointment to fill the opening.
- The Atlantic Round and the Five Club Regatta will be held in Norway at KNS in 2021. We will take our turn hosting in Newport in 2022.
- Our first domestic cruise in many years will take place in the summer of 2023. Cruise Chairman Chace Anderson has planned a cruise itinerary that will start in Newport and sail to Nantucket with stops at some of the east coast's most interesting and historic harbors. We expect a good showing from our Scandinavian friends, so it should be lots of fun.
- NAS burgees are now available from The Sailbag Lady, Madison, CT. You can contact her at 203 245-8238 or info@sailbaglady.com. Other NAS paraphernalia (belts, ties, etc.) can be purchased from Team One Newport at the NAS Club Store <https://www.team1newport.com/NAS-Accessories/products/1094/>.

Enjoy the "Great Conjunction" of Jupiter and Saturn tonight. Phyllis and I wish you all a joyful holiday and a happy new year.

Sincerely,



Nicholas R. Orem, Post Captain