



THE NORTH AMERICAN STATION
OF THE ROYAL SCANDINAVIAN YACHT CLUBS
AND NYLÄNSKA JAKTKLUBBEN



20 April 2017

Dear Members of The NAS,

More great things have happened since my last letter:

- ✓ Concert at the Cathedral of St. John the Divine: Rautavaara's Vigilia, Nov 15
- ✓ Weather seminar, led by Michael Geagan, Nov 19, Larchmont YC:



- ✓ Annual Meeting – Draft minutes have been posted on the website (Downloads tab). Governors Bowden and Geagan were reelected to three-year terms. KNS Commodore Heffermehl, NJK Commodore Welin and Governor Representatives Kjellgren (written), Säve and Vranum presented reports of Home Clubs' activities.
- ✓ Christmas Gala – We were joined by KNS Commodore Heffermehl and Mrs. Heffermehl and NJK Commodore Welin, Mrs. Welin and their two sons. Due in part to the larger turnout, dinner was upstairs in the Model Room, which worked out extremely well. We presented a special certificate to retiring Governor Representative Lars Colliander "For his 45 years of dedicated service as the NAS representative of NJK;"



- ✓ The Post Captain's Award to *Gold Digger*, owned by Jim Bishop; the Pehr Sparre Award to Angelica Barrows; the Paul W. Adams Award to Jennifer Bowden; and awards to members with 25-49 years of membership. As usual, we enjoyed the Santa Lucia singers, all the more spectacular in The Model Room.



- ✓ See the photos on the Home Page of the website.

And more great things are upcoming:

- ✓ Spring Meeting and Clambake, June 3 at David Tunick's house – we will consider several very interesting new member proposals
- ✓ The Swedish Cruise, June 18-July 2, 2017



Mothership *LOYAL*

The 2017 Swedish Cruise is “full,” but if you are interested, let us know as there is always the possibility of cancellations – there may be a berth available on *Loyal*. We have 16 boats and 80 people signed up for the Cruise, which will begin with dinner at the Royal Gothenburg Yacht Club on Sunday June 18, 2017. On Monday the 19th we will begin our sail up the west coast, visiting some picturesque small towns and islands along the way. Our northernmost point will be the Koster Islands, just south of the border with Norway, whence we will head back south visiting different places on our return, ending in Marstrand. The Lonely Planet Guide describes Sweden’s Bohuslän coast as “dramatic, stark and irrepressibly beautiful...caught between sky and sea.”

- ✓ Five Club Regatta – July 2 at KSSS. Angelica Barrows is organizing The NAS Team.
- ✓ The Atlantic Round - August 17-20 at KSSS – Allan Heyward is organizing The NAS Team.
- ✓ Christmas Gala, Friday, December 1, 2017 at NYYC. Laretta Bruno will again run this wonderful event.
- ✓ 2018 Atlantic Round and Five Club Regatta, KDY, dates TBD
- ✓ The Stockholm Archipelago Cruise, 2019, June 27-July 13 – Crossed burgees with CCA and KSSS. Approaching being “sold out.” Contact David Tunick or me if you are interested. David and I will be researching harbors, restaurants and boats this summer with our colleagues at KSSS.

Our Junior Exchange Program is functioning – but I need your help! The Exchange Program is a highly visible and appreciated tie between the Home Clubs and The NAS - for example, NJK Commodore Welin has asked us to help arrange an exchange for his son. But I am presently running it myself and I need your help in administering it. If you are able to help, or simply know of Junior or Host Family candidates, please contact me. Presently, we have only two Scandinavian Junior candidates and one US Junior candidate and no Host Families yet. Ideally, we should have exchanges with each of the Home Clubs.

Incorporation and tax-exempt status. After a careful review and recommendation, led by Legal Committee Chair, Allan Heyward, and assisted by Lars Forsberg, Esq. and Secretary/Treasurer, Nick Orem, I proposed, and the Governing Board approved, incorporation and filing with the IRS for tax-exempt status under Section 501(c)(7). The NAS appears to have been formed as an unincorporated association organized in New York in about 1945; any original organization documents have been lost. (Most of our historical

records were discarded when a former NAS historian died.) The laws relating to unincorporated associations in business and legal matters are somewhat ill defined, and the custom for social organizations since the first half of the 20th century has been almost universally to adopt the corporate form. The rights and obligations of corporations and their officers, directors and (in our case) members in dealings with the outside world are more clearly defined and understood in contemporary law, and this form follows what is now expected of organizations such as ours, so it makes sense to us to follow suit. Our Constitution and Bylaws will remain in effect. The maintenance of corporate status is fairly nominal in annual cost. Application for recognition as a social organization exempt from tax on any income we may earn from our regular activities carrying out our mission is not onerous and will be commenced as soon as we are incorporated. Since no change in the internal structure or governance of the NAS is involved by taking this step, Allan and Lars see it as ministerial process only, not requiring membership vote. We expect completion of legal and tax aspects to be completed over the summer.



Finland is celebrating its 100th anniversary of independence in 2017.

"Finland became an independent state on 6 December 1917. The newly born state was willed into being by the Finns after a long struggle. In spite of hard times, the Finnish people have for almost a hundred years engaged in the building of their country and making decisions together. Now the Finns are leading their country into a new century with courage and determination.

"The centenary of Finland's independence in 2017 will be the most significant commemorative year for this generation of Finns. The centenary emphasizes Finland's strengths, such as equality and democracy by offering Finns and friends of Finland diverse and international centenary programme in Finland and abroad. The centenary year provides opportunities to better understand the past, experience the jubilee together and set the course for Finland's future success."¹

Past Post Captain Lars Colliander comments, "The fact that Finland has been able to retain its freedom through 100 years is amazing considering the size of the perennial Enemy! Every generation has had to fight them to keep them out. I have a vivid memory of the last wars starting November 30 1939, when hostilities started without a declaration of war! Nobody needs to teach Finland about the price of freedom, or what freedom is, let alone the sacrifice. You will not find a single church yard in Finland which does not have a section dedicated to fallen soldiers from 3 wars, defending the homeland...it is down to the essentials, to which could be added that in spite of it all Finland is today a developed modern western nation!"

¹ From Finland's official centenary website: <http://suomifinland100.fi/info/?lang=en>

The NAS will join the celebrations at our Gala on December 1.

You will recall my email in December asking for tax-deductible donations to The Atlantic Round, Inc., a valuable and significant supporter of our Atlantic Round and Five Club Regatta efforts. We need about \$10,000 per year to fund our triennial expenses of hosting TAR and Five Club Regatta and occasionally for Junior Exchange, so we encourage you to be generous in your support of The Atlantic Round, Inc. Response from NAS members has been strong, with an average of about \$150 per donation, ranging from \$25 to \$1000 with most in the range of \$100-250. **I hope that you will consider a 2017 donation soon.**

Treasurer Nick Orem reports that some members have not yet paid their 2017 membership dues. **If you are one of them, please send in your dues right away.** If you're not sure, ask Nick by sending an email to nastreasurer@gmail.com.

Thank all of you who are contributing to progress at The North American Station!

I look forward to seeing many of you at our Spring Meeting and Clambake on June 3 at David Tunick's house.

And remember:

"The Gods do not deduct from man's allotted span those hours spent in sailing."

Sincerely,



Ernie Godshalk, Post Captain

PS – A few reminders:

1. **Mark your 2017 calendar:**
 - ✓ Clambake and Spring Meeting, David Tunick's, June 3, Shippan Point, Stamford, CT
 - ✓ NAS-GKSS Cruise, June 18 – July, 2 West coast of Sweden
 - ✓ Five Club Regatta July 2 and Atlantic Round August 17-20 at KSSS
 - ✓ Christmas Gala, December 1 at NYYC.
2. **Junior Programs:** Please let me know of candidates for 2017 Junior Exchange age 15-17, or Host Families, and contact Angelica Barrows regarding candidates to represent The NAS at 2017 Five Club Regatta in Stockholm – wonderful opportunities.
3. **Last Voyages** – please be sure that Nick Orem and I are aware of the passing of any members.
4. **The NAS store** – great regalia is available on the website: <http://www.northamericanstation.com/>
5. **New member candidates** – Please contact Ove Haxthausen ovehax@hotmail.com to discuss candidates.