

NAPA VALLEY YACHT CLUB



NEWSLETTER

July 2026

COMMODORE'S REPORT

Steve Orman, Commodore

Ahoy Yachties, your Commodore again. Well, Summer is slowly sliding into our beloved Valley, and the River beckons. And we at the Napa Valley Yacht Club can count ourselves lucky to answer that call. We are doubly lucky to have Dinia and Eric Paananen providing important training, this time the Suddenly in Command class. As we set out to enjoy the boating season, safety is paramount, and understanding the procedures and protocols for when a passenger enjoying time on the water finds themselves Suddenly in Command is critical.

As we set out on our river, it is also important to remember those who came before us, and left a legacy of leadership, and fun on the water. Since my last report to you, we have lost two well loved and respected members, Bob Keating and Bill Newton. Both of these fine men served as Commodore, and during their time fostered fun and fellowship on the water. It was my honor and sad duty to conduct the 8 Bells Ceremony for both men.



We have a full calendar of activities coming up. Jason and Eric, my invaluable fellow flags will provide more details in their reports, but our next Wednesday Happy Hour and Italian Night, completed with gondola rides, cruise ins from the Sausalito, Marin and Coyote Point Yacht Clubs, the club's own Independence Day Boat Parade and lunch, are just a few of the delights awaiting us. Happy boating my friends. The Valley and the River offer us a feast, so eat up!

Steve Orman

VICE COMMODORE'S REPORT

Jason Harmon, Vice Commodore



Yachties! Summer is upon us and we have a full list of events coming up!

Upcoming Major Events

PICYA Annual Awards Dinner. Our club will be hosting the PICYA Annual Awards Scholarship Dinner on August 3rd. This is a Monday, but it is an honor to be hosting this event at our club!

Expect some additional events to pop up on the calendar shortly!

Galley and Bar

Our bar and galley numbers continue to be stable. We have had dinner attendance drop a bit in

the past few months likely due to a lot of cool vacations and graduations you have been sharing with us.

In the table below, notice that our dinner revenue is often in the negative as food prices continue to go through the roof. May was good for us as we had two strong cruise ins bringing hungry guests.

Club Rentals

Lil and Richard Pernice are doing an INCREDIBLE job on managing the club rentals. It's been a busy year with 8 club rentals so far this year and several more on the calendar coming up shortly. Our club is a GREAT place to throw an event for very little out of pocket, and we have some of the best views in Napa.

Dock Report

Our dock has been BUSY, with a steady stream of boats at our dock. It is rare that our dock does not have company on the weekend. For Bottlerock, we pulled in \$9,000 for our club that weekend alone! When you see Mary Ann and Greg Parker, be sure to thank them for their tireless work and being the front face for our club for all guests and cruise ins. It's not a small job and they set the first impression for many sailing to our dock.

A reminder that our dock is for club use, so don't forget to use it for your use. Ping Greg to make sure there is no conflict, but you can tie off to watch a sunset or simply come in and then do downtown for lunch and adventure.

In conclusion

We will continue as a Flag team to do our utmost to make our club fun, the events memorable, and keep the laughter coming!

Jason

		2026					YTD TOTALS
		Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	
GALLEY & BAR	Bar Expenses	\$ 2,217.49	\$ 3,843.28	\$ 1,425.57	\$ 1,909.10	\$ 520.76	7,856.30
	Bar Revenue	\$ 4,234.00	\$ 2,800.00	\$ 3,405.00	\$ 3,343.50	\$ 3,990.00	
	Total	\$ 2,016.51	\$ (1,043.28)	\$ 1,979.43	\$ 1,434.40	\$ 3,469.24	
	Dinner Expenses	\$ 4,034.00	\$ 2,144.04	\$ 3,075.60	\$ 2,103.18	\$ 2,306.70	1,201.98
	Dinner Revenue	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 1,870.50	\$ 3,040.00	\$ 2,060.00	\$ 3,895.00	
	Total	\$ (34.00)	\$ (273.54)	\$ (35.60)	\$ (43.18)	\$ 1,588.30	
CLUB RENTAL		\$ -	\$ 3,568.00	\$ 365.00	\$ -	\$ 1,270.00	5,203.00
DOCK		\$ 3,912.00	\$ 983.00	\$ 1,104.00	\$ 1,198.00	\$ 6,755.00	13,952.00
GRAND TOTAL							\$ 28,213.28

REAR COMMODORE'S REPORT

Eric Henn, Rear Commodore

It's hard to believe we're already halfway through 2026—what an incredible year it has been so far! The club has been full of energy, with so many great events already behind us and an exciting lineup still ahead. Let's dive into the highlights of a fantastic spring season.

Membership

Membership continues to thrive in 2026 under the leadership of Claire Harmon. After an exceptional first quarter—bringing in more members than all of 2025—the momentum has continued. We're welcoming new members every month, a strong sign of the club's vitality and growing community.

Work Party

Our May 16th Work Party was a huge success! The turnout was outstanding—we occasionally had more volunteers than tasks, which is a great problem to have.

A special shoutout to Mark Crisler for bringing his tractor and transforming the parking lot in record time. What usually takes a dozen people all morning was handled efficiently by one person, and the lot looks better than it has in years.

Across the property, members were hard at work pressure washing, refreshing the bocce court, organizing storage areas, and cleaning the tent. The teamwork, energy, and pride in our club really shined—excellent work all around!

Building & Grounds

We tackled a few key projects this spring and kept everything running smoothly. In April, we discovered our water heater was leaking. Thanks to the board's strong financial stewardship, the new unit was installed within days—with no disruption to club activities.

We also upgraded the dining room lighting by replacing fluorescent bulbs with efficient LED lighting, improving both ambiance and energy use.

Outside, Carol Varnau helped lead efforts to replace the hedge removed earlier this year during the water leak repair. We also installed a new post



to restore the rope line near the boat ramp. The results look fantastic and continue to enhance the clubhouse grounds.

Cruise Outs

Spring cruising was a tremendous success with two memorable trips. In March, our fleet headed to Loch Lomond Yacht Club for a lively St. Patrick's Day celebration, complete with traditional Irish dance performances—an unforgettable experience!

In June, we cruised to St. Francis Yacht Club, where members enjoyed an incredible weekend highlighted by a tasting of twenty-year-old Napa Cabernets generously shared by Gove and Elizabeth Celio.

Looking ahead, our summer schedule is packed with exciting destinations:

- July brings a trip to South Beach Yacht Club and a Giants game
- August features Benicia's Peddler's Fair
- September includes our always popular Delta raft-up

A huge thank-you to all our Cruise Captains and to Avi Strugo for coordinating the fleet. Your efforts make these experiences possible, and we appreciate everything you do.

As always, cruise outs are open to everyone—boaters and land cruisers alike. Join by boat, car, or by hopping aboard with a fellow member!

Small Boat Cruising

Our small boat program is off to a fantastic start! We've completed two great events:

- April's dinner raft-up at Horseshoe Bend
- June's gathering in the turning basin in front of the clubhouse

The feedback has been overwhelmingly positive—these events are a fun, relaxed way to enjoy our incredible river setting and get members out on the water.

- Next up: August 16th at 5 PM at Horseshoe Bend, timed perfectly with favorable tides. Bring your pontoon, Duffy, or any small watercraft and join the fun!

A big thank-you to Kurt Stahr for leading these outings—stay tuned for more to come.

Newsletter

Many thanks to Bill Huie for keeping everything on track and ensuring the newsletter comes together smoothly and on time. If you're interested in

advertising, please reach out—your support helps strengthen both the publication and the club.

Webmaster

Excitement is building as the new nvyc.org gets closer to launch! Alan Montague, with support from David Ryan, is putting the finishing touches on a complete redesign. As we approach the final stages, we are starting to gather information from many of the volunteers at the club. Don't be surprised if Alan or I reach out to you with requests for help getting information for the new website.

Merchandise

We have a very exciting opportunity in July to evaluate a new supplier for NVYC merchandise. On July 17th, I would encourage all members to join us for the Cocktails at the Club. Melissa Sopata, a member of the Oakland Yacht Club, has started a company called Yacht Club Merch. She will manage a webstore for our club on NVYC.org. The event in July is to enjoy reviewing samples of the options for the store.

Eric Henn

2026 CRUISE-OUTS!

Location	Date	Cruise Captains
Benicia	Aug 7-9	Avi Strugo
Delta	Sept 17-20	Nick & Debra Courcoumelis
Fleet Week	Oct 9-11	Jason Harmon & Mark Rodman
Angel Island / Half Moon Bay	Nov 5-8	Eric & Jennifer Henn



NVYC Abroad



Debbie Dean and Lil and Ted Whitten visited Omaha Beach in Normandy, France, earlier this year

NOTICE NOTICE NOTICE

Our clubhouse is available for rent by anyone: members, member's associations, other individuals or associations or businesses. It's a good source of income for our club.

If someone is looking for a rental place for birthday parties, graduation parties, weddings, music events, dancing parties, holiday parties, dinners, etc., have them give me a call to check for date availability, fees and requirements. We are one of the most affordable rental places in town.

They can bring in caterers, use our silverware, dinnerware, wine glasses, our kitchen and oven.

Lily & Richard Pernice 707-479-9195

BAR REPORT

Happy mid-year! Your Bar Captains, Brian and Mark are excited for all of you who have come to the club on our Friday night dinners or Cocktails at the Club, as well as our new once monthly Wednesday night Cocktails at the Club, thank you Melyna and Anthony for your creative themes and delicious cocktails. It has been great to see so many of you enjoying the club to its fullest.

The Bar team has been steadily growing as well. We are excited to have a few new bartenders for you all to engage with. Thank you to Gove Celio, Saul Schaefer, Nancy Sheppard, and Mike Popovich for recently joining the team. A few more members are working through the state required online course and will hopefully be joining us behind the bar soon.

We also have added a few delightful items to our wine and back bar selections. Some from members suggestions and others that we have procured to enhance what you have to enjoy. For the wine, we have added two local favorites. Trefethen Dry Riesling (by-the-glass) for those warm nights and Frank Family Chardonnay (by-the-bottle) for a rich, full-bodied experience. We have added some new bourbons and ryes to our selections. Michter's Sour Mash, Elijah Craig Straight Bourbon, Redemption Rye, Temptation Rye, Partida Reposado Tequila, and Lalo Blanco Tequila. As always, if there is any beverage you are really wanting to enjoy at the club, please let us know and we will do our best to source it and have it available for you.

Cheers to a fun, festive, and flowing summer at the club.

Brian & Mark



Eight Bells

Billy Dean Newton

Billy Dean Newton was born December 30, 1946, in Roseburg, Oregon. Called babe and honey by his wife of 59 years, Merrilee; called Dad by Clay, Dana, Travis, Lindsay and Jaret; Bill by Allison Day, Karla Newton, Chelsy Newton and Mark Fogarty; Pops by ZZ, Rowan, Hunter, EmmeJean, Dean, Elliot, Melody, Ritter and Dominic Dandidni; and Mr. Newton or Coach by many Ridgeview and Napa High School students (1971-1999) as well as just plain "Bill" by many in the communities of the trades, car enthusiasts, Jeepers, boaters, fisherman, Bocce Ball Players, and at the Napa Valley Yacht Club.

Bill filled his time on this Earth with a whole lot of living. Meeting the love of his life, Merilee, when they were both only 15, going off to serve his country at 21 in the jungles of Vietnam, coming home to raise a family of five children with Merilee, Bill finished his education, and devoted the next 28 years to teaching and mentoring young people as a shop teacher, first at Ridgeview Junior High and then at Napa High.

PFC Newton served as a radio operator in combat in Vietnam. He was awarded the Purple Heart for shrapnel wounds received in combat. Bill also had an uncle in the Merchant Marine, who just happened to be on a cargo ship in Vietnam. While Bill was recovering, his uncle took him out to his ship for Thanksgiving dinner. The crew of the ship kept dropping hand grenades over the side to discourage saboteurs. The constant explosions were a bit too much like being in combat, so Bill headed back to the Army hospital for dinner.

Bill was at heart a builder. When he came home, Bill and Merilee's first house in Napa was 700 square feet. Over the course of five years and several children, Bill added 3,000 square feet to the house. When The Newton Clan moved to their home on Riverside Drive, they had five cars, so Bill added a car elevator in the garage. They fully remodeled the Riverside house, much of the work done by Bill's former students, giving back to Mr. Newton. As two-time Commodore of the Napa Valley Yacht Club, Bill brought his passion for building to benefit the club. When an earthquake damaged the old fireplace in the club, Bill led the work to turn it into the liquor closet behind us today. Bill helped organize RC sailboat races in the turning basin by our dock.

When he wasn't dedicating himself to his students, Bill would be at home, wrench in hand, working on a project car, a passion he got from his father, Vern. As soon as he could hold a wrench, he was working on cars and boats, anything with a motor. Some projects were more successful than others. Bill bought a Lobster Boat, did a lot of work on it to get it ship shape, and on the shakedown run, the motor died and could not be revived. A Coast Guard escort ensued.

On a personal note, my late wife Yvette and I met Bill and Merilee before joining the Yacht Club as guests of her dad Dean. They were both warm and welcoming, and having the opportunity to meet and socialize with folks like the Newtons had a lot to do with our decision to join the club. I remember walking on Riverside Drive when yet another project car was arriving at their house. It was a white 1964 Ford Falcon Futura convertible, one of the coolest American cars ever built, in my humble opinion. Bill must have spent 30-40 minutes showing me the car, telling me his plans to restore it with his granddaughter. In those moments, it was like talking with Billy Newton, 20-year-old gearhead.

Billy Dean Newton passed at 79 after a stroke. His passing has left a gap in our community, but his legacy of mentorship, the fine family that he and Merilee raised and nurtured, live on as testament to a life well lived.

Steve Orman



Eight Bells

Robert Keating

Robert Michael Keating — Bob to those who knew him longest — was born on July 18, 1948. He was a husband, a father, a brother, a grandfather. He served his country in the United States Army, and was a past Commodore of the Napa Valley Yacht Club.

Though born in Miami, Florida, Bob was a Californian by choice. He came west with some college, a dream, a wife, and child, and built a life through talent and genuine determination. He started at AT&T climbing telephone poles, and rose through the ranks, working on fiber optic switching systems when it was still an emerging technology. He later managed the AT&T telecommunications for the North Bay. His career also included years at Pacific Bell, DSC, the Napa Valley Film Festival, Domaine Carneros, and Coldwell Banker Brokers of the Valley.

In the 1970s, he was a licensed amateur radio operator. He brought home copper cable chewed through by squirrels and wooden spools from the phone company, torched them, glazed them, and turned them into coffee tables.

He coached his daughters' youth softball and soccer teams — a chapter he carried with tremendous pride. He was passionate about genealogy and devoted to his dogs — his beloved Mitch, who preceded him in death, and Buddy, who was with him to the end.

He loved the water — boating and fishing were lifelong passions. He took his daughters camping, to Mammoth Lakes and Lake Almanor, where he showed them how to set up a tent, build a fire, clean a fish, and cook it right there in a cast iron pan over an open

flame. Once, in LA Harbor, a whale breached right in front of his seventeen-foot fishing boat. He had to turn hard to avoid it and nearly capsized. He told that story for years. He was a storyteller — it was, among other things, what he passed on.

When the Keating clan moved to Napa, their love of boating led them to join the Napa Valley Yacht Club in 2000. In 2003, Bob was tagged to join the club's flag ranks, starting as Rear Commodore. He rose up through the ranks, becoming Commodore in 2005. He is remembered fondly by many of the long time members of the club. As Commodore, I regret that Bob came along before my time with the club.

Robert Keating died peacefully at home in Napa on April 4, 2026, after a brave fight with esophageal cancer. He was 77.

Robert is survived by his daughters, Maureen Keating and Krista Keating; his granddaughter, Kendall; his brother, Steve Keating; and his sister and brother-in-law, Kathy and Jim Dillon. He was preceded in death by his parents, Jacqueline Bowen and Robert Michael Keating Sr.

Steve Orman

WORK DAY 2026

Our May 16th Work Party was a huge success! The turnout was outstanding—we occasionally had more volunteers than tasks, which is a great problem to have.

A special shoutout to Mark Crisler for bringing his tractor and transforming the parking lot in record time. What usually takes a dozen people all morning was handled efficiently by one person, and the lot looks better than it has in years.

Across the property, members were hard at work pressure washing, refreshing the bocce court, organizing storage areas, and cleaning the tent. The teamwork, energy, and pride in our club really shined—excellent work all around!



Independence Day



Some views of our 2026
Boat Parade as we celebrate
Independence Day at the
Club!





OPEN VOLUNTEER POSITIONS

BUILDING & GROUNDS

After many years of dedicated service maintaining the club's facilities, Mark Nicol has stepped down from this role. We need a volunteer to assist with building and grounds upkeep working alongside Nick Courcoumelis.

Responsibilities

Perform minor repairs and facility upgrades based on your experience and skillset

Coordinate with hired professionals for projects outside your expertise

Conduct routine inspections of the building and surrounding grounds

Help ensure the property remains safe, functional, and well-maintained

PUBLICITY

This is a new role focused on promoting the club and its activities. We are looking for someone with strong experience in social media to manage NVYC's online presence and serve as a liaison for local media.

Responsibilities

Manage and regularly update NVYC social media accounts

Share posts highlighting club events, activities, and announcements

Coordinate with event organizers to collect photos and content

Serve as the primary contact for media outlets (e.g., newspapers, radio, websites)

Increase awareness and engagement within the community

SUPPLIES

This is an existing position that has been unfilled for some time. We are looking for a reliable volunteer to ensure the club remains stocked with essential items.

Responsibilities

Regularly check inventory of club supplies

Maintain adequate stock of essential items

Make occasional purchasing trips (e.g., Costco or similar retailers)

Keep storage areas organized and accessible

MERCH CLOSET

We had a very exciting opportunity July 17th to evaluate a new supplier for NVYC merchandise. Thanks to the members who joined us for the Cocktails at the Club that Friday to preview samples. Melissa Sopata, a member of the Oakland Yacht Club, has started a company called Yacht Club Merch. She will manage a webstore for our club on NVYC.org.





Napa's Premier Full Service Marina, Privately Owned Since 1957

Yacht Brokerage

Visit Us!

Come visit us at Napa Valley Marina and you will quickly find out why our peaceful scenic marina is the place to be.

1200 Milton Road
Napa, CA 94559

Latitude: 38.219928
Longitude: -122.313667

707-252-8011

Located in the famous Carneros wine region of Napa, our facility is well suited to meet all your boating needs. Napa Valley Marina is privately owned by the same family since 1957. We offer deep water slips for power and sail and have the largest dry storage facility for big boats in California. Our boatyard provides work space for vessels up to 65 feet and we can handle the large wide body multi-hulls as well. Our staff is skilled to fix and repair most of your boating needs. Huge inventory of marine supplies and hardware in our store. Our marina is secure with locked security gates and we offer 24 hour access. We have a fuel dock providing competitive pricing on gas and diesel and have a pump out station as well.



Expert Commercial Property Management

Serving Napa, Sonoma & Solano Counties

Over 35 Years Experience

Office • Retail • Industrial • Medical • Association



- ✓ Full-Service Management & Maintenance
- ✓ Financial Reporting & Lease Administration
- ✓ Tenant Relations & Retention Strategies
- ✓ Local Market Expertise



Professional. Proven. Local.

Flag Officers

Commodore Steve Orman
Vice Commodore Jason Harmon
Rear Commodore Eric Henn
Secretary Mary Donnelly
Treasurer Jes Pedersen

Board

Directors – One Year

Shari Fedler
Mike Cromwell
Sarah Montague

Directors – Two Years

Mark Schmitz
Greg Parker
Stan Blough

Staff Commodore

Kim Nicol

Captains & Committee Chairs

Port Captains

Greg Parker
Robert Fowles
Mark Nicol
Tim Parsons
Tom Hildreth

Galley Captains

Ned Trippe
Mike Cromwell

Bar Captains

Brian Wilson
Mark Crisler

Social Committee Chair

Judy Leichtnam

OD Coordinator

Kathy Archer

Merchandise

Debbie Dean

Supplies

**** Volunteer Needed ****

Newsletter Editor

Bill Huie

Advertising

Sarah Montague

Fleet Captain

Avi Strugo

Buildings & Grounds

Mark Nicol
Nick Courcoumelis

Membership

Claire Harmon

Webmaster

Alan Montague

PICYA Delegate & Public Relations

Darwin Davis

Lil Witten

Club Rentals

Tom Atkinson

Sunshine

Sharon Phillips



Get out on the water this year in your new pedal drive Kayak from Hobie. Wind Toys, Inc in Rohnert Park has been selling water toys in the bay area for almost 40 years. Under new ownership! We have serviced many Napa Valley Yacht Club members in the past. We offer free delivery to Napa Valley Yacht Club residents. Try before you buy with our awesome demo program. Huge Savings right now on prior model year Hobie Kayaks. Give us a call or come by our store to learn more.

Cheers,
Billy Boyd
Wind Toys, Inc
(707)-542-7245
billy@windtoys.net
www.windtoys.net



Your Waterfront Move — Done Right, the First Time!



2026 Year To Date Activity Napa Yacht Club & River Park Estates

Property For Sale	Bd/Ba	SqFt	Asking Price	COE	Water Fr
91 S Newport Dr	3 / 2	1855	\$1,270,000		
28 S Newport Dr	5 / 3	2573	\$1,669,000		
90 S Newport Dr	4 / 2 1/2	2339	\$1,600,000		WF
45 Cove Ct	3 / 2 1/2	1946	\$1,125,000		
51 regatta Way	3 / 2	1855	\$1,150,000		
94 S Newport Dr	3 / 2 1/2	2077	\$1,475,000		WF
In Escrow					
100 S Newport Dr	4 / 2 1/2	2477	\$2,779,000		WF
Sold					
33 Cove Ct	4 / 2 1/2	2159	Sold Price \$995,000		
790 La Salle Way	3 / 2	1560	\$1,309,000	01.23.26	WF
25 N Newport Dr	4 / 2 1/2	3164	\$2,700,000	01.05.26	WF
58 Sea Breeze Ct	4 / 2 1/2	2339	\$1,590,000	2.26.26	WF

Call **Avi** with any questions about these or other properties, at (707)

337-5614. ("Based on information from Bay Area Real Estate Information Services, Inc. (BAREIS) for the period 1.1.2026 through today. Information has not been verified, is not guaranteed, and is subject to change. Listings represented may not have been listed or sold by Avi or Coldwell Banker Brokers Of The Valley". Data is from the MLS and from public records
The Valley". Data is from the MLS and from public records

Avi Strugo

Global Luxury Properties Specialist
CRS, CNE, SFR, SRES,
REALTOR®, BRE License 01408961

(707) 337-5614

Avi@cbnapavalley.com



Call **Avi** !

Your Trusted **Waterfront
Specialist!**

With 22 years of proven success, **I get the job done right — the first time.** My clients consistently achieve *amazing results*, and I've proudly represented more happy buyers and sellers in our waterfront communities than any other agent.

- THE MARKET IS STILL HOT!
- HISTORICALLY HIGH PRICES
- ALMOST NO INVENTRORY

**International President Elite
TOP 2% Global Luxury Specialist**

Find out the value of your
property instantly



AviNapaValley.com/Home-Valuation



COLDWELL BANKER
BROKERS OF THE VALLEY

Www.AviNapaValley.com