



President's Message

The Leadership in Women's Sailing Award was established



and co-sponsored by NWSA and BoatU.S.[®], the nation's largest organization of recreational boaters to honor an individual who has a record of achievement in inspiring, educating and enriching the lives of women through sailing. This award has been given to some stellar sailors as well as leaders who have dedicated a good deal of their lives to the sport of sailing and to increasing the opportunities women have.

In speaking of the candidates for the 2020 award, Gail Hine, a WSF/NWSA board member and the 2002 Leadership in Women's Sailing honoree, commented about the extremely high level of accomplishments of the slate of nominees. She said something akin to, "The nominees have all done so much, I probably couldn't be in the running for the award this year."

Gail's comment was a bit shocking to me. I've been to several Gail Hine events. I've seen the hundreds of women who can't wait to come back again and again. I've heard attendees refer-

Continued on page 6

Take the Helm[®]

Official Newsletter of the National Women's Sailing Association

FEBRUARY 2020

NWSA Women's Sailing Conference

A day of workshops and on-the-water instruction

Corinthian Yacht Club — Marblehead, MA

Saturday, June 6, 2020

Dr. Shirley Cassara has taken on the big job of chairing the 19th annual Women's Sailing Conference in Marblehead, MA. She has been planning for and working towards an event with a few adjustments to make the day fun and the learning opportunities fresh.

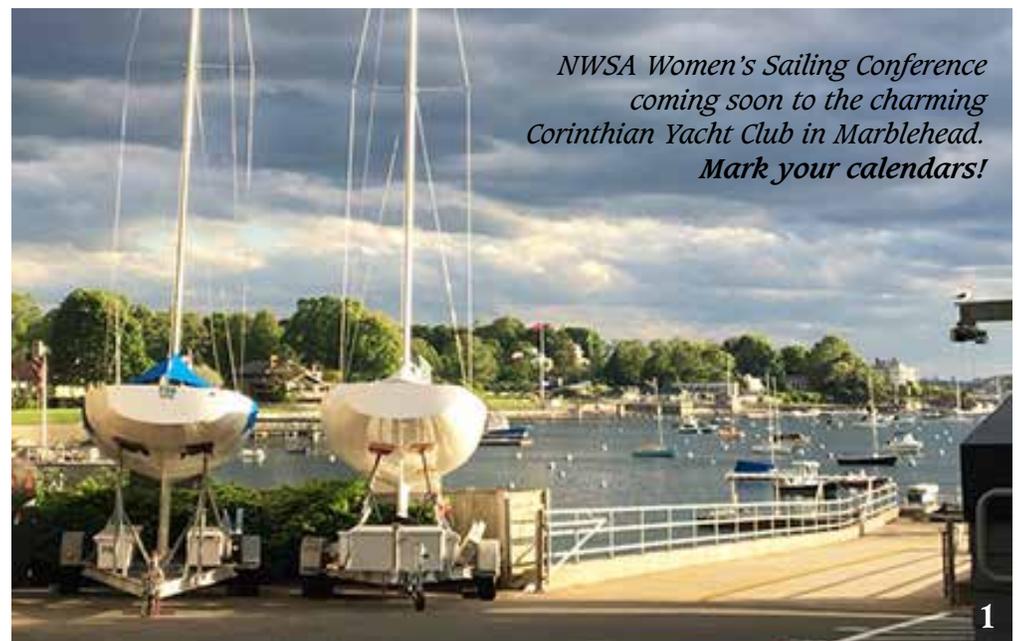


This year's Conference will again be a great way to kick off the boating season with learning, socialising and fun the first Saturday in June. As usual there will be workshops for all abilities on land and sea. We are looking forward to new workshops and a format allowing for an earlier finish of programming for the women who travel to the Conference and more time for social interaction (cocktail hour).

We are focusing on a theme of green sailing. Rachael Z. Miller founder of the Rozalia Project for a Clean Ocean will be the keynote speaker at the luncheon.

Early Bird Registration will open April 24.

We are grateful to all our sponsors and in particular to our platinum sponsor 



*NWSA Women's Sailing Conference
coming soon to the charming
Corinthian Yacht Club in Marblehead.
Mark your calendars!*



NWSA

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Marblehead, MA 01945
wsf@womensailing.org

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President's Member of the Month(s)

November

Capt. Nancy Erley

of Port Townsend, WA, was the well deserving president's member of the month for November. Nancy is an ever popular presenter at the NWSA Women's Sailing Conference in Marblehead, Gail Hine's Sailing Convention for Women, as well as other women's sailing workshops.

She is natural teacher and enthusiastically shares her knowledge of many sailing related skills and subjects. Last year, Nancy assisted Sheila McCurdy and Linda Newland with the Coastal Safety@Sea for women in Port Townsend, WA. Thanks to Nancy for all she has done to continually support women sailors.



Nancy Erley in red vest teaches "How to heave a line" at the Sailing Convention for Women in California.

December

Meagan Thorp

of Houston, TX, was the NWSA president's member of the month for December 2019. Thorp is the President for the Women's Sailing Association at the Houston Yacht Club. The Club has an active women's program. Well established events at HYC include: a big boat clinic in the spring, both in-shore and off-shore Mermaid Regatta in May, 35+ year old Windward Bound Sailing Camp for Women and a women's sailing weekend in the summer. The Association also gets together for social reasons.

If you're in the Houston/Galveston area, or just want to see what you could visit for, check them out at <http://www.facebook.com/hycwsa>

Meagan reached out to NWSA about reaching out to other women's sailing associations and clubs across the Gulf Coast. Watch our calendar and FB posts to find out more about what the HYC has in store.

Attagirl Meagan, thanks for calling and thank you for your work.





Events for Women Sailors

March 28, 2020

Riverport Women's Sailing Conference
Hudson River Maritime Museum
50 Rondout Landing
Kingston, NY 12401
For program information, email jsterling@hrmm.org

April 30, 2020

Renewal Date for Membership
Look for your membership renewal emails soon. If you are not a current member sign up! We need your support.

**May 2, 2020
Houston Yacht Club
Mermaid Regatta**

Houston Yacht Club, Shoreacres, TX. *For info: Houston Yacht Club Women's Sailing Association*

**June 6, 2020
19th Women's Sailing Conference**

at CorinthianYacht Club
Marblehead, MA
Early Bird Registration opens April 24. Details at women-sailing.org

Visit us on Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/Womens-Sailing-FoundationNational-Womens-Sailing-Association-tion-175044185840300/>

Check out our website and blog

<https://www.womensailing.org/blog/>

January

Meet the January 2020 NWSA president's member of the month, **Naomi Emmerson**, Henderson, NV. Naomi is a plucky sailor committed to sharing the joy of sailing, even in the desert. Her home sailing venue, Lake Mead, located near Las Vegas is a reservoir spanning the boarder of two states, Arizona and Nevada.

As a member, Emmerson jumped in to participate with both feet. She organized a group from the Vegas area to attend the NWSA Women on the Water Zonie Regatta (WOWZR!) this fall. She helped make WOWZR! more fun with her bubbly enthusiasm for the joy of sailing. She donated sailing jewellery from her BoatLuv collection to support NWSA fundraising and offered another piece for the silent auction at the NWSA Women's Sailing Conference in Marblehead next June. Naomi also expressed an interest in hosting an AdventureSail. Attagirl Naomi.



February



Danielle Stacy, New Orleans, LA, was the NWSA President's Member of the Month for February. After helping at an AdventureSail®, Danielle volunteered and wrote the step-by-step process for hosting an event for NWSA, she has organized educational events for women sailors on both shores of Lake Pontchartrain, and has helped the World Sailing Trust understand barriers to female participation in sailing.

Danielle is currently on the planning committee for a women's training regatta in New Orleans inspired by the Phoenix Tumbleweed WOWZR! (How fun would that be)! Attagirl Danielle!

BoatU.S. and NWSA

NWSA participates in the BoatU.S. Cooperating Group Program. That means that NWSA members are eligible for BoatU.S. membership at \$15, rather than the regular annual \$24 dues rate. We receive announcements with information that we pass on to you the member through our own website or our e-Breeze emails.

Other benefits include:

- 24/7 Towing Dispatch to over 600 towboats 300+ ports
- Roadside Assistance while trailering your boat
- Discounts on fuel, transient slips, repairs and more at 1,000+ boating businesses
- 6 issues the award-winning BoatUS Magazine
- Access to Boat Insurance from dedicated experts
- The Boater's Advocate - from local issues to Capitol Hill
- Highest level of shopping rewards West Marine
- Travel discounts from Star Clippers, The Moorings and more
- Discount on custom boat lettering and registration number

You can sign up for a BoatU.S. membership on line at www.boatus.com/member. Give NWSA's Group ID number **GA 84104B** when prompted to receive the special discounted rate.

Or call BoatU.S. membership services toll free number 800-395-2628.



Meet new board member Charlotte Kaufman

Charlotte Kaufman is the founder of Women Who Sail (WWS), the largest online group of women sailors in the world. WWS was founded in 2011 after Charlotte saw a need for a supportive, welcoming, informative online space for women on the water. She learned how to sail in her twenties, taking lessons on JBoats in San Diego Harbor and by sailing her boat, Rebel Heart, a 36 Hans Christian. Kaufman and her husband lived aboard for seven years, sailing out of San Diego, Catalina Island, the Sea of Cortez, and the Pacific Coast of Mexico.



In 2014, en route to the South Pacific, a medical emergency necessitated her family's rescue at sea. The rescue brought intense media scrutiny to the idea of parenting and living aboard. Her story was featured on "This American Life," and she has written in "HuffPost" about the experience. Charlotte is passionate about normalizing the idea of sailing with kids and raising children aboard.



COMMENTS: *This year's Sailing Convention for Women was outstanding! Great topics, great instructors with excellent in depth materials to share, great venue, great food, and great networking opportunities to begin new friendships and build on earlier ones. Thanks again for all you and your very special team do to make this event happen! We all benefit! Karen*



The quality of the classes, the location and the organization that it takes to put this on are impressive. There are so many fabulous classes it is hard to choose. It was well worth the effort to come down from Northern California to attend, I learned a great deal. It was also great to meet so many women of all ages that share the same interest. Roxanne

Put the Sailing Convention for Women on your calendar for next year - **February 6, 2021**



Making Changes Come About®

For the Girls

NWSA continues to identify new opportunities beyond the AdventureSail® program. Scholarship funds are available to assist girls who, after participating in an **AdventureSail®** event, have expressed a desire to take lessons in a sailing program. Information on the scholarship program can be found at www.women-sailing.org/scholarships.htm.

You may send tax deductible contributions to:

Women's Sailing Foundation

c/o Barbara Robinson
Treasurer NWSA
300 S Broadway - Apt 4A
Tarrytown NY 10591

Donations can also be made on our website at the bottom of the main page or most other top level pages.



Amali Knobloch and AdventureSail®

Amali Knobloch has offered her special talents and enthusiasm to work on our AdventureSail® program.

Knobloch is the former program and education director for Tallship Clearwater and currently is serving as sail logistics coordinator for Clearwater. Amali grew up in Baltimore, Maryland and quickly developed a strong love for the environment, especially on the water. She discovered her love for boats early on through student investigations facilitated by the Living Classrooms Foundation in Baltimore. Amali's father, who is an experienced and storied ship's captain, ensured that her love for being on the water was solidified when he enrolled her in a three-week sailing program on the CMS Tole Mour during the summer of 2012.

During college, Amali spent her summers interning at organizations throughout New York that developed her in the ecology and community of the Hudson River Valley.

After college, looking to get back into work on the water, Amali took a position on the Clearwater as an Educator Deckhand in the fall of 2017. Amali has also been an outdoor educator at Hudson River Park in Manhattan and at the New York Botanical Gardens in the Bronx and is com-



mitted to engaging with young people from all walks of life.

Thank you Amali for stepping up to help with the AdventureSail® committee. AdventureSail® is introductory day of sailing for at-risk girls ages 9 to 14 at an approved sailing, commercial or community sailing facility with boats, volunteer qualified instructors as mentors, and other sailing related activities arranged by the local organization. The activities are fun and the instructors and volunteers provide positive female role models.

AdventureSail® is a rewarding experience for the volunteers as well as girls. For most of the girls, this will be their first sailing experience. We welcome women with all levels of sailing skills



President's Message Con't from page 1

ring to the first Saturday in February as, "My favourite day of the year."

It made me wonder, could Gail be right? I decided, maybe, but in a way that brings a higher honor to her and the other 16 recipients. The slate brought forward this year of sailors who have such impressive sailing and service resumes are the product of the inspiration, education and enrichment from the leaders 15-20 years ago. Today's women sailors have benefited from mentors who have been nominated, but probably more so from the innumerable ordinary mortals "not in the running."

We should recognise and thank all leaders who have left their wake for us to follow by inspiring, educating and enriching our lives through sailing. *Pass it along!*

Membership Dues

Please go to our website at womensailing.org and click on the "Get Involved" tab on the navigation bar, then click on the dropdown menu for "**Membership**"! You can rejoin easily and quickly here!

There is an option for an annual dues of \$45 or you can rejoin for 3 years at \$100! What a deal!

Your dues renewal period is
APRIL 2020

**MARK YOUR CALENDAR
NOW...so you don't forget.**

Diesel workshop for Women

As usual the feedback from the February 8-9 Marine Diesel engine workshop was glowing. Thank you to Narragansett Sailing School for hosting and instructing the course. Congratulations to the women who learned how the engines work and how to keep it purring along.



DISCOUNTS FOR NWSA MEMBERS



Members only offer!
Get 10% off

<https://www.womensailing.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/02/2020-NWSA-Offer-from-Offshore-Sailing-School-Save-10.pdf>



Members only offer!
Get 10% off

TETHYS OFFSHORE

Each trip is 8 nights aboard Tethys and begins and ends in Port Townsend. Three berths for women learning crew are available for each voyage. For more information, to book a passage or to contact Nancy for speaking engagements, contact: phone +1 (206) 789-5118 or nerley@hotmail.com



Scholarship Available

Applications for Sue Corl Scholarship are being accepted

Applications for a 2020 program/experience will be accepted from February 2, 2020, until April 30, 2020. When there are multiple requests, sailing-related programs take precedence. Application is for \$500 in scholarship funds applicable to the program fee. An person can receive the scholarship only once. Please direct questions to SueCorlScholarship@womensailing.org

The Women's Sailing Foundation offers the Sue Corl Youth Sailing Scholarship for an enhanced sailing experience or program for a teen-aged girl.

Elizabeth (Sue) Corl, of Marblehead, MA, a member of the Board of Directors of the Women's Sailing Foundation (WSF), was a tireless advocate for WSF programs. Having raised two daughters and having been involved with many volunteer organizations supporting girls, Sue was thrilled to be an organizer of the first Boston AdventureSail® program which took place in Boston Harbor at Courageous Sailing Center in 1997. AdventureSail® is a nationwide program for underserved girls ages 9 to 14. Sue was also the co-chair of the inaugural Women's Sailing Conference in Marblehead in 2001. Sue died in 2007, but she will always be remembered for her desire to introduce the sport of sailing to young girls. With her early involvement in AdventureSail® Sue sought opportunities for girls to continue to enhance their sailing and education related to sailing. In 2015, the Board established a scholarship in Sue's memory, the Sue Corl Youth Sailing Scholarship (SCYSS).

This special scholarship in memory of a special woman is offered annually to underserved girls between the ages of 14 and 19. The opportunities to which the scholarship may be applied include, but are not limited to, enrolment in:

- An advanced sailing program
- A racing program
- A tall ship or live-aboard experience
- A marine or maritime-related program

When there are multiple requests, sailing-related programs take precedence. Application is for \$500 in scholarship funds to be applied to tuition.

Apply online at <https://www.womensailing.org/sue-corl-youth-sailing-scholarship/>



1



2



3



4



5

How to Navigate at Night

Pick a likely looking star
 Wonder for a moment if you've chosen a planet
 Hold the wind on one side of your face
 Check your compass carefully
 Settle your vessel into a steady rhythm
 Wave and swell, gust and lull
 Look calmly into the darkness for what there is to see

To touch the face of God
 Be still
 Be
 more still
 Let go of what is keeping you
 from being fully present
 Breathe
 Look calmly into the darkness
 For what there is to see

Find a point of reference amidst all that is moving:
 the silver shrouds glinting in the moonlight
 the dark spot at the top of the oscillating mast
 Remember you are a brilliant point of radiance
 Everything that is
 is made of light
 Angle your vision until the celestial body
 approaches your reference point
 Don't lose sight of what you're doing here

Steer gently, fearlessly
 The whole ship turns on a tiny lever
 Return to your breath; return to being
 Let the ancient light of the faraway star
 Come near enough to lead you home
 Burn with the ageless flame of the eternal sun
 Become the light that leads you home

- Bethany Lee © 2019
The Breath Between: an Invitation to Mystery and Joy

Submitted by Charlotte Kaufman

