



[HOME](#)

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

October 07, 2026

**Salty Sisters Annual Meeting
Celebrating 75 Years**

CAPTAIN: MIK SEVERINI

Call to Order

Mik called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone to the Salty Sisters 2026 Annual Meeting. She said we are celebrating the new leaders to be installed today. We are also honoring the traditions that have made the Salty Sisters who they are today.

Angela Treinen led us in the Pledge of Allegiance and a beautiful Invocation expressing gratitude for the many blessings we enjoy as Salty Sisters.

Mik invited **PC Shirley Rigo**, **Helle Getz**, and **Beth Pennington** to come forward to name and toll the bell for the Salty Sisters who we lost this year. **Shirley** read Alfred, Lord Tennyson's *Crossing the Bar*, followed by **Helle Getz** reading the names **Connie Dubois**, **Isabel Howard**, and **PC Carol Hansen**, as **Beth Pennington** tolled the bell for each name.

Guest Presentations

Captain Mik introduced SPYC Vice Commodore, Kevin Cross. He gave some of his personal background and said he is looking forward to representing SPYC as Commodore after the election on October 13. During his term, he will be focusing on Communication, Member Experience, Membership Growth, and Fiscal Responsibilities. He updated us on the plans for the rebuild of the SPYC Clubhouse. It is expected to cost \$50 million for design, construction, furnishings, and insurance, and should take 24 months to complete. The building will have 3 floors with enhanced outdoor dining, a pool, tiki bar, and an increase of 81 parking spaces. The overall design will preserve the heritage and traditions of the club while meeting the needs of the future. Vice Commodore Cross said an interim committee has been created to address where members can meet during construction.

Captain Mik introduced SPYC General Manager, Colleen Finney, who gave brief remarks about keeping open lines of communication and having respect and focus on what unites us as SPYC members.

Captain Mik introduced Corey Hall, SPYC's Director of Membership, Marketing & Media. Corey said the club had welcomed 141 new members this year. We have added a special trial membership opportunity for those who want to "test drive" club membership and that program has resulted in some of the new members. We have also updated our Legacy program to offer discounts to family of current members. Corey gave an overview of The Ocean Race – an around the world ocean race that will be coming to St. Petersburg in May 2027 (the only stopover for this race in North America). She said many of the activities will take place in the park on the north side of the club and SPYC will serve as the host venue. The boats will be docked at USF and Port, on the south side. We will be needing many volunteers in many different areas and Corey appealed to the Salty Sisters to sign up to be a part of the Ocean Race which takes place May 4-16, 2027. Volunteer forms will be available in the next week.

Emma Shakespeare, Sailing Center Manager, gave us an update on activities at the Sailing Center. She reported we had 491 young people attend sailing camp over the summer. Much maintenance work has been done on the Ideal 18s and Sonars, so they are ready for the new season. Emma described the welcome changes that are coming to the dock areas. Salty Sisters applauded the changes – we can't wait to go sailing!

Captain Mik thanked all our speakers for sharing their insights with us today.

Past Captains

Mik recognized all the Past Captains who were present at the meeting today. They stood and received our applause for their service.

Official Business of the Annual Meeting:

Secretary **Jennifer Anderson** confirmed there was a quorum present. **Mik** confirmed the Parliamentarian, **PC Connie Beckman** was present.

Mik noted the minutes of the 2025 Salty Sisters Annual Meeting were approved by an appointed committee consisting of **Jennifer Anderson, PC Gina Bowden-Pierce, and Barbara Mehaffey**. The secretary reported the minutes had been approved and recorded.

Mik said the minutes from today's meeting would be recorded by Secretary **Jennifer Anderson**, and would be subject to approval by a committee to be appointed by our incoming Captain **Audrey Orgo**.

Bylaws

Mik asked **Tish Bowden**, Bylaws Committee Chair, to explain proposed changes to our Bylaws. After discussion, the changes were passed by membership vote.

Presentation of Charms

Mik thanked all the Officers, Board Members, and Committee Chairs for their counsel, advice, and constructive criticism-all important to continuing our Salty Sisters values, traditions, and goals. She asked Awards Officer, **Barbara Mehaffey**, to come forward to help with presenting charms. Charms were presented to Retiring and Continuing Officers and Directors, Retiring Committee Chairs, FWSA, and SPYC Board Members. **Barbara** said charms were being awarded posthumously to **PC Carol Hansen**.

Membership

PC Trisha Birkenstock, PC Els Wiemken, and Jennifer O'Neill gave the membership report. We have 113 active Salty Sisters and 4 joining the Salty Sisters Class of 2026. The new class will start their training on October 14.

The Salty Sisters Class of 2025 were welcomed as full members and received their new class charms. The class includes **Juliette Clark, Patricia Kincer, Eunice Livingston, Elizabeth McCaffree, and Julie Simpson**. Welcome Salties!

Skippers Hat

PC Janet Walker, Chair of the Skippers Hats Committee, said she looks forward to having some new Skippers Hats in the coming season.

Trophy Presentations

FWSA 1st Delegate **Pat Burrows** presented the FWSA Enthusiast Award to **Marti Cochran**.

Captain Mik presented the Spirit Trophy to **Anna Olecka**.

Co-Captain Audrey Orgo presented the Elizabeth Priestley Memorial Optimist Trophy to **PC Beverly Smoak**.

Co-Captain Audrey Orgo Presented the Amy Joyce Uhler Race Management Trophy to **PC Jennifer Parramore and Helle Getz**.

Congratulations!

Election Results

Mik announced the following had been elected: for 2026-27

Audrey Orgo Captain

Pat Burrows Co-Captain

Lori Hodges Treasurer

Jennifer Anderson Secretary

Barbara Mehaffey Awards

Mik Severini Past Captain

Kim Kuruzovich Director

Joan Stephenson Director

PC Barbara Watson Director

A motion to destroy the ballots was made and passed.

Historian

Carol Crawford, Historian, presented **Mik** with the 75th Anniversary History Book recounting the activities from her term as Captain.

Pin Swap

Captain Mik presented the Captain's Pin, designed by **PC Barbara Watson**, to our new **Captain Audrey Orgo**. She then presented the gavel to **Audrey**.

Captain Audrey presented the Co-Captain's Pin, also designed by **PC Barbara Watson**, to our new **Co-Captain Pat Burrows**.

Captain Audrey invited **PC Els Wiemken** to share some words to honor our recently passed **PC Carol Hansen**. It was a beautiful tribute to all that **Carol** contributed to Salty Sisters and to all of us. She will be deeply missed.

Committee Chairs 2026-27

Captain Audrey announced the names of her Committee Chairs and asked them to proceed to the Waterfront Room for photos.

Adjourn

Captain Audrey adjourned the 2026 Salty Sisters Annual Meeting with a hearty whack of the gavel.

Salty Sisters Meeting October 07, 2026

Part 2

Captain Audrey opened Part 2 with, "Ahoy! Salty Sisters."

A drawing was held for a copy of the Salty Sisters 75th Anniversary History Book. It was won by **PC Barbara Watson**.

Guests:

Judy McFadden welcomed Susan Cross, spouse of Vice Commodore Kevin Cross.

Christmas Boutique: Lindsay Carter, Joy Rudnicki

Joy thanked everyone who has volunteered for the annual Christmas Boutique to be held on Tuesday, December 1. **Lindsay Carter** is doing a great job of acquiring vendors, **Sarah Richards** is organizing volunteers, and **Joy** is trying to do all the things that **PC Carol Hansen** did to make the Boutique a

success. **Joy** said sponsor sheets are available on the back table. We look forward to a successful event that will support youth sailing and will honor **Carol's** legacy.

Salty Sisters 75th Anniversary Celebration: PC Beverly Smoak

Beverly presented a recap of this year's celebration of 75 years of Salty Sisters. She showed the amazing video created by **PC Jennifer Parramore**, and **Cathy Lasky**. It was a beautiful tribute to Salty Sisters' history and traditions. **Beverly** thanked the 75th Anniversary Celebration Committee for their countless hours dedicated to the events and activities marking this milestone.

Co-Captain: Pat Burrows

Pat said next week we will sail the Jobin, Misfit, and Chile races.

Pat announced the new FWSA representatives: 1st Delegate **Lori Hodges**, 2nd Delegate **Juliette Clark**, and Alternate **Elizabeth McCaffree**.

Cruise: Marcia Smith

The next land cruise will be to see *Mighty Mary*, a film about an all-female crew that sailed around the world. It will be at the Green Light Cinema on Sunday, October 11 6:00 p.m. Get tickets online ahead as it will sell out quickly.

Hospitality: Helle Getz

Helle announced 3 birthdays.

FWSA: Lori Hodges

Lori said the next general meeting will be October 20 at the Field Club in Sarasota. The deadline to register is October 8 and the cost for lunch is \$35. Register on the FWSA website.

The next FWSA Interclub will be the Commodore Lucas Cup hosted by the Broad Reachers at Pass-a-Grille on Friday, October 23. **PC Gloria Davis** is planning the regatta which will feature a tribute to **PC Carol Hansen**. An invitation came out this week, and you can sign up to sail (but we only have 12 boats available) or be a spectator. Let's have a good turn-out to support this event. The cost for lunch is \$20.

On December 10 the Salty Sisters will host the *Naughty or Nice* race at the Sailing Center.

Social: Sigrid Lovfald

Sigrid announced our annual Salty Sisters Halloween Party will take place on October 28, and the theme will be *Under the Sea*. So, channel your inner mermaid and let's see some creatures from the depths!

LUNCH RESERVATIONS: Use the SPYC website or the app. You may call a dedicated number: **(727) 892-6882**, to reserve your seat. Lunch reservations may not be made by calling the SPYC front desk.

HUMOR QUEEN: Jill Bridges

Jill told us a joke about a man who had to choose between his wedding and the Super Bowl.

Our Guest Speakers



Vice Commodore Kevin Cross



General Manager Colleen Finney



Membership, Marketing,
Media Director Corey Hall

The Pin Exchange



PC Mik Severini pins Captain Audrey Orgo.



Captain Audrey Orgo pins Co-Captain Pat Burrows

Trophy Winners



FWSA Enthusiast
Marti Cochran



Spirit Trophy
Anna Olecka



Elizabeth Priestly Optimist
Beverly Smoak



Amy Joyce Uhler
Race Management
Jennifer Parramore and
Helle Getz



Past Captains



Salty Sisters Officers and Directors 2026-27



Salty Sisters Website: Webmasters **Anna Olecka, Gloria Davis**

Click on the crossed flags logo and check out our new website



Salty Sister Facebook Page: Managed by **Jill Bridges**

Click on the Facebook icon and check out our updated Facebook page



Newsletter Scribe: Various **Coordinator:** **Gwen Mann**
Editor: **Barbara Mehaffey** **Committee:** **Pat Burrows, Beverly Smoak**
Photographs: Carol Crawford, Patti Kincer