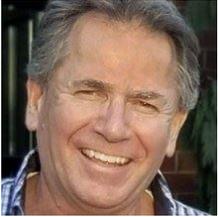


Meet Your 2022-2023 Board

Commodore – Bob Naylor



I've been sailing for 11 years and joined AYC five years ago. I race our Catalina 22 at Lake Pleasant and an old Sunfish at Tempe Town Lake. I am currently the Vice after serving as AYC's Rear Commodore. In 2020, I was AYC's Birthday Regatta Chair, and in 2020 and 2021, I managed the Leukemia Cup fundraising campaign, helping AYC raise \$50K for the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society. About three years ago, I started AYC's Sunfish Fleet - a fun bunch of sailors who enjoy racing our spirited "Funfish" at TTL. I was recently humbled to receive U.S. Sailing's One Design Leadership Award for our success in fleet building.

My wife Robin and I live in Glendale. Robin occasionally sails her own Minifish, and over the years, our C-22 provided our family and friends with many memorable outings on Lake Pleasant. When not sailing, I enjoy golf and hiking Arizona's beautiful desert and mountain trails.

Vice Commodore – Marshall Williamson



I grew up in a suburb of Syracuse, New York, playing most sports, and got into sailing when I joined a new sailing club in Philadelphia that acquired eight J27's. Thus, I learned to race one-design in Wednesday night beer can races. Then I got married, moved to Tucson in the early 90s, and raised two daughters who are now out on their own and prospering. I also enjoy hiking, skiing, golf, classic car restoration, and recently started cycling. I frequent San Carlos Mexico a few times a year.

I've competed in most AYC Regattas and Race Series since 2013 and joined the Club in 2016. I also served on the Board as Secretary in 2016-17. I secured a \$5000 corporate sponsor for the 2017 Leukemia Cup and stepped in as the AYC Spin Fleet Captain in 2019 through the Spring of 2022. I was the Spring 2021 Blunder bucket recipient but that story is only told with a beer in hand. This past year I served AYC as the Rear Commodore.

I am also a member of the Tucson Sailing Club (TSC) and served as:

- Past Commodore (same as staff Commodore, a voting position) 2019 and 2020
- Commodore 2017 and 2018
- Vice Commodore 2016 and Race Chair
- Rear Commodore 2014 and Regatta Race Co-Chair

Some of my other sailing experiences are Hawaii to LA Transpac return trip as crew on an Andrews 70 in 2019, the Flathead Lake Montana Cup 2018, and the J24 Regional Championship 2018 Lake Ontario.

In the working world, I do part-time business development for a start-up software company.

Rear Commodore – Lori Reger



My first sail was in 2008 on a Catalina 22 over in San Diego. After that fun experience, I wanted to learn to sail, which led me to find AYC and join the Club in 2010. I took my first class in 2010 and then the next class on Lasers & Sunfish in 2011. From there, I adopted a Sunfish every season and came out on my own to sail with the Club. I'd practice and teach myself to sail as the rest of the fleets raced at TTL.

In 2013, I bought a Sunfish club boat and also joined the AYC Board as Secretary, a position I held for 3 years. I took the role on again for the 2021-22 BOD. I enjoy lending a hand with many of our regattas and social events throughout the year. For many years, I coordinated the Adopt-a-Boat program at TTL and soon after joining the Club, I began volunteering by helping the Membership Directors with administrative details and greeting people at our monthly meetings. I've enjoyed welcoming people at our meetings for the past 11 years – a task I'm glad to get back to since meetings have resumed.

I continue to sail my boat at TTL, and I've participated in racing in the last few seasons. Occasionally I crew at Lake Pleasant. Other sailings I've done include a 28' Telstar Trimaran, a 16' Compac near Galveston Bay, and a Hobie Mirage Tandem Island, a blast up and down a bayou under a full moon!

Racing Captain – Mike Ferring



Three times Commodore of the Arizona Yacht Club and a host of other positions. Distinguished Life member, ASF instructor for nearly 20 years, racer at both Lake Pleasant (J/70) and Tempe Town Lake (C14). Troublemaker. Curmudgeon. Husband of the famous Maryellen.

Perhaps less known: Longtime radio and television journalist. Car nut. Classic car fan/collector and former sports car racer. Recent radio-control sailor and Commodore of the West Valley RC Mariners (SailRC.club). Owner of TabBand Identification small business (TabBand.com).

Cruising Captain – Joe Motil



Ahoy! I'm no son of a sailor but I have been called many names that sound like that! I was late to sailing as an Arizona native born in Mesa; let's just say a while back. I grew up doing anything aquatic from competitive swim team (Mesa Aquatics), swimming in canals and lakes, water skiing, kayaking, canoeing, SCUBA diving, and pretty much anything to do with water. I even like to do plumbing projects!

My first introduction to sailing occurred when I was 26 at the Wisconson house of two-time Olympic medalist Peter Barrett, who happened to be an in-law. I learned a lot from him, his sons and his

daughter. One of the most exciting things about sailing is that I still learn something new every time I splash a hull.

Since I spent a lot of time working with people, I now enjoy teaching and consider it a valuable trait. I also consider myself very fortunate to have had the experiences I have had over the years and am now shifting gears a bit from racing over to the more relaxed side of sailing, cruising. I like to think of cruising as an extended recreational day sail. One of the numerous aspects of cruising is that you learn different things than racing (the dark side of sailing), which takes you to so many other places, literally and metaphorically. So I like to take any opportunity to curse, I mean cruise and make it fun.

I'm retired from the Phoenix Children's Hospital and loving it. I'm married to the lovely, talented, and tolerant Bonnie, and from a previous marriage, I have one son (James), his wife Olivia, and a granddaughter, Madison.

Junior Staff Commodore – Debra Heisler



Like many, I began sailing as a kid - on a Sunfish. We spent summers on one of the many lakes in SW Michigan. Insert long pause for life and career. Since 2014, I've crewed on our Buccaneer 18 in most of the AYC Racing Series, two Club Championships, and most AYC regattas. I hold ASA certifications for 101, 103, 104, and 114. Since 2014, I've logged more than 5000 nm on boat deliveries and sailing vacations with my husband, Emory. Our other passions are travel, hiking, and backpacking to remote places – when our aging knees allow.

This next term will be my fourth year on the Board after previously fulfilling the positions of Rear Commodore, Vice, and then Commodore. I enjoy volunteering my time to great organizations like AYC. I also provide lodging, taxi, and cafeteria services to my grandchildren on an as-needed basis.

Being on the Board and learning more about our history and day-to-day operations has been informative and rewarding. The best part is getting to know more people on another level than simply sailing with or competing against them. Staying on as a Staff Commodore for the next two years will allow me to continue serving the Club and supporting those new to the Board.

Senior Staff Commodore – Cindy Pillote



I started sailing in Arizona by taking the Start Sailing Right and single-handed classes from the Arizona Sailing Foundation. Shortly thereafter, I joined the Club and bought a Buccaneer 18. I've been sailing my Buccaneer at Tempe Town Lake, Lake Pleasant, and other venues ever since. I also spent time as a regular crew on Bob Worrall's *Spirit*.

I previously served on the AYC board as Membership Director, Secretary, Commodore, Junior Staff Commodore, and Senior Staff Commodore. Then, I went on to serve on the ASF board for a few years. I'm looking forward to continuing and serving, once again, as the AYC Senior Staff Commodore.

Membership Director – Dave Henning



I grew up in the Detroit area on a small man-made lake where I learned to sail on a Sailfish, Sunfish, and even a Bic Windsurfer. Sailing was just one of many things we did in the water (notice I didn't say ON the water) and our primary goal was capsizing the boat as spectacularly as possible. I later learned that sailing could be about more than this on our annual vacations to Killarney, Ontario on the north end of Georgian Bay, some of the most beautiful waters anywhere. Despite its otherwise rustic accommodations, the lodge where we stayed treated the guests to regular cruises aboard the owner's Cal 2-46, *Stormy Night*. Those experiences stuck with me and I always longed to become involved with sailing on a grander scale.

I came to Arizona in 1997 after college to work for Motorola Semiconductor and I still work as an engineer in an NXP division with Motorola heritage. However, for my first fifteen years in the Valley, my non-work time was primarily spent coaching lacrosse and performing as a jazz pianist around town, which I still do regularly. In 2007, on a lark, I rented a little Capri 16.5 in San Diego with my wife and that was the start of my second love affair with sailing. After taking the basic ASA classes and sailing mainly in San Diego for a few years, my wife Amy and I joined AYC in 2014. We continue to race together at TTL on our 14.2 unless I'm out with the Sunfish fleet. Up at Lake Pleasant, we cruise around on our Catalina 270. I have also been a regular crew for at least a season on a J/105, a Thistle, and a Catalina 22,

I served as the Membership Director for two of the last three years when we were able to really grow the numbers of the Club. This year, Will Nowak and I are looking forward to changing the focus of our Membership efforts from quantity to quality to make sure all of the members feel like they have avenues to participate. This includes getting all of our newest members out on the water, especially those who might not have as much sailing experience or no access to a boat. It also includes our most senior members, whose peak racing days might be behind them but still want to be involved with the Club for the social activities or the cruising events. So, if your needs are not getting met or you have ideas to get more people involved, please reach out to one of us or someone else on the Board.

Membership Director – Will Nowak



As an Arizona native, I was fortunate to have my Dad (past AYC Commodore Dave Nowak) introduce me to sailing as a kid. My parents started sailing Prindle catamarans during the beach-cat heyday in the early 80s; as he recalls, "I wasn't necessarily drawn to sailing, but I really wanted to be on the water, and couldn't afford to put gas in a powerboat...". Dad's inability to afford gas (appx \$1/gallon at the time) proved to be a great thing for our family, as sailing has been a big part of our lives ever since. When our family bought a Catalina 22 and joined the AYC in the late 80s, I raced with my Dad and brother in the C-22 fleet for a couple of years, then jumped into dinghies. At that time, George Tingom was getting the first incarnation of the AYC junior's program off the ground, sailing on Chaparral Lake in Scottsdale. As a result, I sailed through my late childhood and teenage years, both locally and on the west coast and in Mexico. Back then, Laser sailing was always the primary focus, but would also sail in other active small-boat and catamaran one-design fleets in AZ, southern CA and Mexico: Coronado 15, Snipe, Thistle, Etchells, Hobie 18, Prindle 19, etc.

After graduating from ASU with a Civil Engineering degree, starting a career and a family in my mid 20's, sailing took a back seat for many years other than crewing for the late, great Ricky Gilchrist on his Merit 25, *Shark Bait* and the occasional point-to-point race on the coast. With the kids now teens, and a bit more free time, I've enjoyed getting back into sailing and the AYC. Last year my girlfriend Fay and I purchased a Santana 20 and have been racing again at Lake Pleasant. We also have a Prindle 16 that we take to Rocky Point a couple of times a year for a change of pace.

As Membership Director, I'm looking forward to "giving back" to a Club that has given me so much. I'm also looking forward to engaging with AYC members who are not at the lake regularly and assisting new members in their introduction to the Club and all we have to offer.

Treasurer – Tony Chapman



I'm a Certified Public Accountant and have volunteered my time as AYC's Treasurer for the past 17 years. As a Viper 640 and a Buccaneer 18 owner, I am also the Class Treasurer for those fleets. You'll see me primarily racing at Lake Pleasant with the Sport Boat Fleet.

Since joining AYC I've sailed two TransPac races to Hawaii and many Buccaneer and Viper North Americans. I'm one of only three Viper owners to have competed in all three Viper 640 World Championships held in Bermuda, Perth, Australia, and Long Beach, CA – using my own boat each time. The boat I shipped and raced in Bermuda and Perth is now part of the South Africa Viper 640 fleet.

Secretary – Vacant