## July 31, 2023

## **President's Report**

August 23, I will attend the opening ceremonies of the Detroit Cup held by Bayview Yacht Club, Bruce Burton's home club, and offer some words of encouragement to the competitors, as it coincides with a visit to close friends in the Detroit Metro Area.



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I am working with staff on the reimagining of the Herreshoff Award process, including updated wording for the Deed of Gift and a new candidate screening and selection process that will make it easier for the Board to perform its mission of selection. I've emphasized that the keystone of this effort will be in the constitution of the screening committee. In my proposal, you will see our best thinking on the population of that committee to ensure it is considered above reproach by our members, nominators, and nominees. Time is of the essence here as we should already be open for nominations. I'll ask staff to promote them and open them up as soon as possible.

As of this writing, we are worriedly holding out hope that one of our colleagues and a good friend of mine, Captain Donald Lawson, will be found safe, as the trimaran he was singlehandedly delivering was found capsized 200 miles SW of Acapulco. USCG is sending a cutter and the Mexican Navy is awaiting calmer seas before approaching it.

The screening committee for our High-Performance Director has been hard at work and has several very good candidates it plans to deliver to the search committee.

Regarding our Annual Meeting November 7 & 8, LAYC, I will, again, attempt to set up a 'listening' day or stakeholders' summit at the yacht club; more to follow. I'll work with Katie Ouellette and the leadership of LAYC in the coming weeks to nail things down.

Respectfully submitted on July 27, 2023,

Richard Jepsen Board President

