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President's Report
US Sailing
March 17, 2026

There is plenty of good news to report. First, the days are getting longer which means the summer sailing season is not too far away. For those of us in the northern regions, not able to get south to sail, we are giddy with anticipation. Secondly, the Association continues to thrive under Charlie's leadership. He leads an impressive team of professionals that continue to support our mission and new strategic plan.

On February 26, Charlie and I hosted the first President & CEO Town Hall for members of the President's Club. This is one of the benefits enjoyed by members of the President's Club. We had over 30 members join the call. The Town Hall lasted about 60 minutes. It started with updates from Charlie and me. We then had a Q&A session responding to a series of questions that had been sent in from members as well as some that were offered during the call. From all reports the Town Hall was received well. We know that there are ways in which we can enhance the experience for everyone and hope to offer a more dynamic program for our next Town Hall scheduled in the Fall.

I announced the transition from the President's Club to the President's Circle. In its current form the President's Club is a membership society. We felt that this platform is dated and is not inclusive. After much research and internal discussion we decided to adopt current best practices of many eleemosynary organizations by moving to a Giving Society that acknowledges the many members that have been and continue to be supportive and generous. In this new format anyone that donates \$1,500 or more becomes a member of the President's Circle. Within the giving society there are various levels with an expanding array of benefits.

The current members of the President's Club will be transferred to the new society: all Past Presidents of US Sailing will become members of the President's Circle, all Life Members of the President's Club will become members of the President's Circle, all Current Members of the President's Club will become members of the President's Circle, and all individuals that have donated \$1,500 or more in 2025 will become members of the President's Circle through the end of 2026. Acknowledgement letters are in the mail.

We are also making a concerted effort to expand the membership by contacting Flag Officers at our member clubs and other leaders in the sport to offer them the opportunity to join the President's Circle. We hope that current regular members will consider supporting US Sailing at

a higher level and enjoy the expanded benefits. For more information about the President's Circle please visit the US Sailing web site.

As mentioned in my January report, this year we made the decision to host six Regional Symposiums and a National Coaches Symposium. The Regional Symposiums are a key component of our 2025–2028 strategic plan, which emphasizes deepening partnerships with clubs, classes, and community organizations nationwide. Strengthening these relationships is central to one of our three strategic pillars: inspiring and supporting the sailing community.

In February two Regional Symposiums were held: one in Hilton Head in collaboration with the South Atlantic Yacht Racing Association and the other in Seattle with The Sailing Foundation at the Corinthian Yacht Club of Seattle. We had approximately 140 participants across the two events. Concurrently, Betsy Alison was in New Orleans at Community Sailing New Orleans, delivering an Adaptive Sailing Instructor Workshop designed to help expand access and better serve sailors with disabilities.

In addition to the Regional Symposiums, we recently hosted the National Coaching Symposium at the Melges Performance Sailing Center in Merritt Island, Florida. US Sailing's efforts were led by John Pearce, Phil Muller, Rosie Chapman, Whitney Kent, and Lexi Pline. More details on these events can be found on the web site.

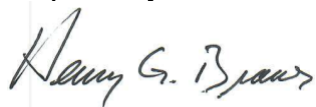
We look forward to two additional Regional Symposiums in the coming weeks: in [New England at the Bristol Yacht Club on March 18](#), and in the [Midwest at the Lake Geneva Yacht Club on March 21](#). The team is also working to schedule at least two more events this spring. Agenda topics will include equipment and safety best practices, hiring and visa guidance, expanded learning opportunities related to insurance, and facilitated networking sessions. Speakers will include representatives from US Sailing and regional sailing programs.

For those involved in offshore and big boat sailing, please keep an eye out for upcoming dates for this year's Offshore Roadshows, building on the success of our 2024 series.

On a personal note, I can't wait to get back on the water. I am heading to Charleston Race Week next month to race my J/7 in the first ever regatta for this new class. We expect to have 4-5 boats on the line. Steve and I have finalized the 2026 racing calendar for Tio Loco, our Club Swan 42. We will start off in Buzzards Bay and Newport before we head to Northeast Harbor to compete in our local PHRF races and two yacht club cruises.

I hope to see you on the water in the coming months.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Henry G. Brauer". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "H" and "B".

Henry G. Brauer
President

