



# The Shellback

Since 1867

April, 2003

Frances Dugdale, Editor

## SPONSORS LUNCHEON: Friday, May

The Master Mariners Regatta **Sponsor Luncheon** and Skipper's Meeting will be held on Friday 17 May 2002 at the St Francis Yacht Club (<http://www.stfyc.com/>). The bar will be open from 11 am and lunch will be served at 12. Cost is \$35 per person. Reservation requests were included in the race-packets. If you wish to reserve seats please contact Ken Inouye at (650) 494 7271.

At the luncheon the Sponsors get to meet the skippers that they are sponsoring, and present their "house flags" which will be flown from the racing yachts at the Regatta. Joining us at the luncheon is a way to show thanks to our sponsors. Also at the luncheon, the Regatta trophies will be on show, the Regatta race instructions will be handed out and the "new" 2002 tee-shirts, sweatshirts, polo shirts and hats will be on sale.



MMBA Regatta  
Trophies

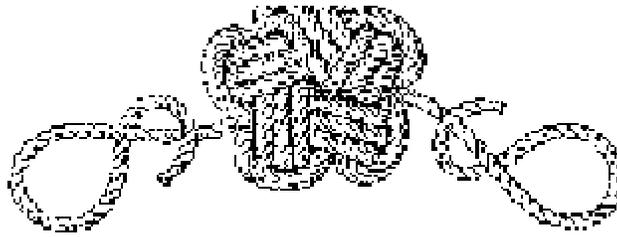
We are still looking for Sponsors for the 2002 Regatta. Sponsors support the MMBA, both the Regatta and also scholarship programs that advance the preservation of traditional wooden sailing vessels, seamanship and marine crafts. If you know any business or individual that may wish to sponsor, please contact Bob cart at (510) 594 2200.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank the 2002 Sponsorship Committee which is comprised of Peter English, Frank Hoberg, Terry Klaus and me (Bob Cart) as Chair.

Bar open : 11am  
Lunch: 12  
Presentations: 1.00 pm

For location and directions to St Francis Yacht Club, see their web site (<http://www.stfyc.com/>)  
*Bob Cart*





## From the Quarterdeck

The quarterdeck is alive with action as I write this. We have barely cleared the decks from the potluck, beautifully hosted by Anne and John Tucker, *Duchess*, at the Pt. San Pablo Yacht Club. And as I am ashamed to admit, who I forgot to acknowledge during the program.. Their venue was focused on sailing adventures. They led off with an enthusiastic presentation by Allison Healy, of *Sail San Francisco*, alerting us about this summers "Tall Ships" events. Unfortunately, I did not take notes so you need to visit our ([www.mastermainers.org](http://www.mastermainers.org)) or their web site ([www.sailsanfrancisco.org](http://www.sailsanfrancisco.org)) for event times and details. However, as I recall the event will be staged in several parts, starting in late July and ending in late September. So there will be plenty of opportunity for everyone who wants to be involved.

Continuing on the adventure were, Mike and Sue Proudfoot, *Farida*, with a little assistance by yours truly, who gave a fantastic slide show of their trip "North to Alaska - the land of the Midnight Sun." I think the only place I have ever been that tops the sheer cliffs and waters with no bottom is Lake Powell and the flooded Grand Canyon. Cliffs 100's of feet high and water depths 100's of feet deep while still being able to step ashore. But contrasting the beauty of the rain forests of the Northwest with the deserts of the Southwest is not fair. Don't we all wish we could travel the world in a beautiful yacht and witness first hand some of our rich maritime history.

Meanwhile up on the quarterdeck the Quartermaster is drumming the crew to quarters in preparation for the Sponsors Luncheon and

The Regatta. Vice commodore, Ken Inouye (*Makani Kai*) has mailed out your Regatta applications. Meanwhile, Director Bob Cart (*Mossie Estelle*) has been actively communicating with our sponsors and making preparations for the luncheon. Please note the change in venue, Terry Klaus and Bob have really worked hard to bring this event into the St. Francis Yacht Club this year. I hope you have sent in your regatta application and will be part of the sponsors program. Our sponsors are a part of MMBA's rich history, they were there at the first regatta in 1867 and 135 year later they are still an important part of the pageantry.

Supporting the fleet are Rear Commodore Jeff Stokes, who is actively looking for a few good new members and Director DeeDee Lozier with logistics, e.g. clothing. DeeDee's group is directly supported by Whitbeck Productions and Caleb and Barbie Whitbeck. Come see the fruits of their efforts at the Sponsors Luncheon. I think you will be pleased and remember your purchases support the overall financial health of the organization.

Despite all the activity on the quarterdeck there are still other jobs to do this Spring. Looking forward toward the focs'le, we see the Master-at-Arms busily working with Staff Commodore Craig Swayne, *Black Witch*, and Director Terry Klaus, *Brigadoon*, preparing for the Annual meeting & Boat Show and Bob Griffiths on the River Rat Cruise. Are you ready? It looks like an exciting sailing season. See you on the water.

*Bob Rogers,  
Commodore*

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# IS YOUR BOAT READY FOR THE MASTER MARINERS REGATTA

*Saturday May 25, 2002*

If you're reading this and you haven't received your race invitation and race application, please call me. They were handed out to members attending the spring potluck March 23<sup>rd</sup> and mailed the following week to those that did not attend. As we all know, the US Postal Service tries their best but sometimes fails to deliver. I had one application from last year's regatta returned to me in October of last year. God knows if and where the others ended up that were reported missing.

Race packets including the sailing instructions, classes and race courses will be available at the sponsor's luncheon on Friday May 17 and the balance will be mailed out the following week. Again, if you do not receive yours by Thursday, call me to make arrangements to get yours.

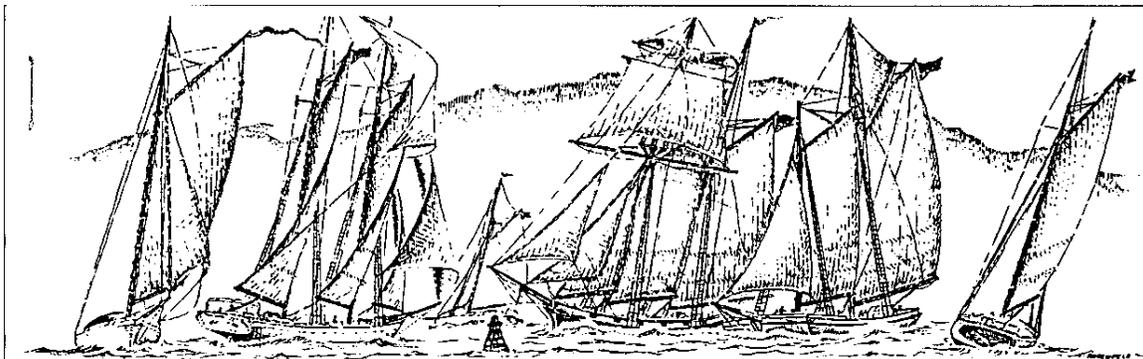
As always, the handicap committee assigns handicaps based on the boat, rig, sails and data from previous regattas. The more data collected from past regattas means the handicap committee can assign a more realistic handicap that reflects the true potential of the boat.

There are a couple of important requirements noted on the invitation.

1. You have to be a current paid MMBA member to participate.
2. You have to get your application and entry fee to me by April 30.
3. You need to have 18 inch high numbers for identification. These have to be on a contrasting background.

Remember, this is a fun race. Take safety seriously and be courteous to other boats. See you at the sponsor's lunch and regatta.

*Ken Inouye  
Vice Commodore  
Regatta Chairman*



## MMBA Spring Potluck

This year was the seventh Annual Spring Potluck. Good fortune smiled on Saturday March 23 and 24 with sunny weather for an enjoyable Potluck and sail in. A rainy Friday did not stop Jeff Stokes, with DeeDee Lozier as crew on *Nautigal* and Ken and Kristine Inouye on *Makani Kai* from arriving at the Point San Pablo Yacht Club on Friday. On Saturday, *Farida*, *Nightwatcher*, *Delphinus* and *Alma* arrived.

It was a lesson in helmsmanship to watch Al Lutz back Alma into the guest dock. Ed Witt and Point San Pablo Yacht Club member Al Howe assisted in docking. Thanks to Port Captain Larry Schrader for putting the guest floats in place.

The Potluck was well attended. John and Anne Tucker hosted over eighty members and friends to a hearty potluck dinner. Thanks to PSPYC Vice Commodore Steve Hutchinson and LaVonne Weber for friendly and efficient bar tending. We also thank PSPYC Rear Commodore Ted Hawkins for quickly whipping up platters of cheese and crackers and chips and dip when the hosts forgot bar snacks.

Our Commodore Bob Rogers emceed (MC'd) the entertainment. MMBA member directories and teeshirts were for sale and regatta envelopes were passed out. Alison Healy, Director of Sail San Francisco described the Tall Ship visit August 28 to September 2. Bob Griffiths announced the 2002 River Rat Cruise starting July 20. Mike and Sue Proudfoot gave a great slide show of their adventures up to Alaska and home.

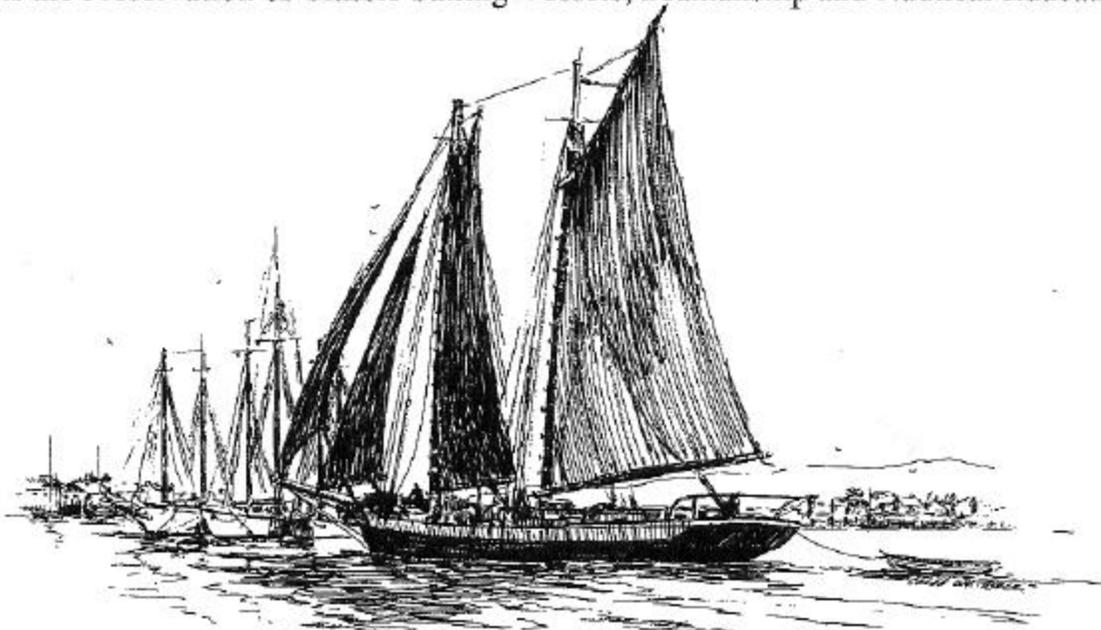
*John Tucker*  
*Board Member and Secretary MMBA*

Pictures of *Nautigal* (by Mariah's Eyes and *Makani Kai* (by Merry 88). These are taken from the MMBA Directory which is still available for purchase (call Dick Wrenn)

# MASTER MARINERS **WOODEN BOAT SHOW**

Sunday, June 23, 2002

Supports the Preservation of Classic Sailing Vessels, Seamanship and Nautical Education



Corinthian Yacht Club  
Main Street, Tiburon  
10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

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Admission \$10. • Children under 12 Free & must be supervised.  
*A rare opportunity to view and board San Francisco Bay's  
classic sailing yachts. Meet their skippers and learn their history.*

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Corinthian Yacht Club Outdoor Bar & Grill Open for Lunch.

Sponsored by historic (1867) Master Mariners Benevolent Association  
Illustration by MMBA member Caleb Whitbeck

## MMBA Annual Meeting (Saturday 22 June ) and the MMBA Boat Show

Mark your diaries for the MMBA Annual Meeting (Saturday 22 June ) and the MMBA Boat Show. MMBA members can bring their boats into the Corinthian YC earlier in the week (Thursday/Friday) and help move boats out to make space for the MMBA boats on Sunday-it's a lot of fun. Otherwise arrive Saturday, enjoy a night with a Caribbean Barbeque and Dancing to the Steelband. The Annual Meeting, held on Saturday night on the hoist deck at the Corinthian YC just before the festivities will include election of officers.

At the Boatshow you can share the history of your boat with other MMBA skippers and with members of the public. Events during the Boat Show include the awarding of the Stone Cup and demonstrations and exhibits by the Arques School of traditional boatbuilding.

To find out what went on last year you can check out the MMBA web site ([www.mastermariners.org](http://www.mastermariners.org)) or read the article printed in the San Francisco Chronicle at <http://www.geocities.com/soho/8626/boatshow.html>.

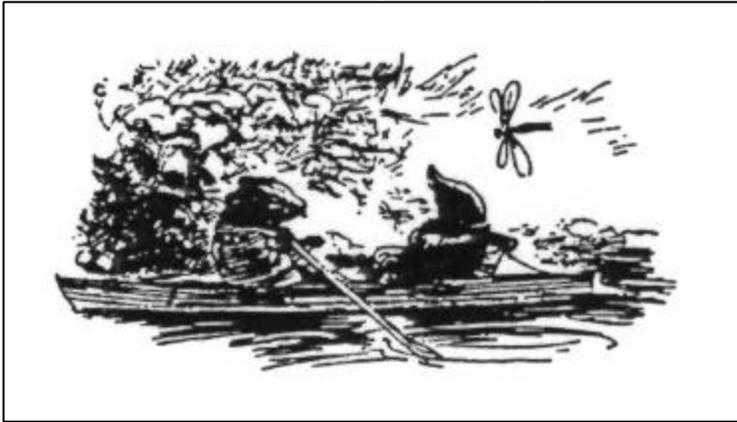
For more information or to contribute your time or help, contact Terry Klaus or Craig Swayne

## **RIVER RAT CRUISE -JULY 20, 2002**

### **FIRST NOTICE**

The 2002 River Rat Cruise will start at 0900 Saturday, July 20 from the Southampton Shoal area and proceed upriver to the Driftwood Yacht Club docks in Antioch. We will have a medium flood current, but if the breeze fails to fill in early, using power is suggested to maintain a favorable position in the flooding current surge (bubble), until sailing over the bottom at 5 to 6 knots can be maintained. This earlier than usual start will allow the smaller boats a reasonable arrival and still take advantage of the current. The Yacht Club is located just east of the Antioch Bridge. The Club will provide, for a nominal fee, a yacht club dinner and a buffet breakfast. They have ample parking, a fine bar in their river-view Club building and they are a truly delightful group. In the past land cruisers have visited for hanging out, dinner and crew exchanges. BART only goes as far as Pittsburg.

Low tide at the harbor Sunday morning is at 0800, so as soon after 0900, after breakfast and shoreside showers and everyone's ready, entrance depth permitting, we'll re enter the San



Joaquin River, stemming a two knot current, which is O.K. as there is usually a good breeze here, and we have all day to transit Threemile Slough, the Sacramento River past Rio Vista and our destination, upper Steam boat Slough. The rare grounding will be on a rising water level. Normal mooring is with bow and stern anchors, with bow and stern lines ashore to the trees, parallel and close to the bank. There is

mostly a river current here, so the water is clean and quite pleasant for swimming and all the other water sports, and this is also a controlled speed zone. Returning is as always up to each vessels choice, or possibly visiting other Delta hideouts?

There will be no special mailing for this event, just a 2nd notice in the Regatta Results Shellback, so if you may be interested please put this on your calendar **NOW**. The next notice will have more about things like staying in deep water, dining at Al the Wop's, crawdad fishing and the Courtland Pear Fair. I will try and contact previous River Rats about their intentions etc. and maybe get names for those interested in finding a ride. For questions, reservations, serious intentions please check in with me by telephone. If you get a machine I will return the calls.

*Bob Griffiths (925) 254-9467 EVENTIDE 7*



## *.MMBF, Our Foundation, what is it ?*

Our Master Mariners Benevolent *Foundation* is the IRS-registered charitable foundation designed to raise funds for our grants to worthy causes somehow related to our maritime traditions.

Live history; as raucous (by genteel modern standards) as was MBA's genesis and early years, it was also true that sailors often lost as they worked at sea, there was no social security or other safety nets for their families; thus, the shipping companies that spawned the great races of the early Master Mariners Regattas decided to use the proceeds from entries and wagers on the races to form a pool of funds to support the families of sailors lost on these same ships when at work outside the Gate.

Leap forward to the last 45 years: during the first decade or two all re-founding efforts to build the MMBA were focused on the Regatta and related events. until the late 1970s when the organization had full momentum. About this time, there appeared a project to re-build the Bird class sloop, *Polly*, and a new charitable non-profit was founded to raise the necessary funds for the restoration.



Even though this effort had some near disastrous consequences, the Foundation survived, and during the 1980s and '90s was funded with small amount of money to place a kid or two

every year on the Tallship *Californian* for a week or two at sea.

Along the way we (and other yacht club foundations) learned a valuable lesson: that using contributed funds for most restoration projects leads to massive disappointments. It is also true that in varying degrees every member of MMBA is in the midst of a lifelong vessel restoration, and could use some help, thus, if that was the purpose of our foundation, it would quickly run out of funds.

With all of that in mind, over the last few years, with the understanding and encouragement of your MMBA board the MMB Foundation has evolved as follows:

- ?? A separately licensed and managed entity, with a 501 c 3 license (so that donor funds are tax-exempt)
- ?? An independent board of directors. So that MMBF's activities remain consistent with the MMBA, as a practice, directors of MMBF have consisted primarily of MMBA staff commodores; and in all cases of individuals who have been involved in MMBA for many years. The present board consists of Mike Douglas (Treasurer), Peter English (Chair), Terry Klaus, Tom List, and Craig Swayne.

?? In terms of monetary grants our first priority is towards scholarships for maritime related programs that provide proven educational benefits.

For the last few years, MMBF has annually provided funds for two excellent programs:

(a) for a half-dozen apprentices at Arques Shipbuilding School. we provide funds for purchasing tools (approx. \$300 per person) that are expected to last each candidates entire career, and

(b) for the Tallship Semester at Sea for Girls, an accredited program for 17 high school girls to spend a semester at sea learning behavioral, academic and leadership skills not found in traditional classrooms. We provide \$100 per girl in support of their expenses. both programs involve young people judged capable (and often bright) by counselors but who appear unlikely to find success in preparing for life without intervention, and these programs do that.



In addition to the above, in 1999 MMBF provided critical administrative assistance to the Gold Rush Sail Organization in the visit of Tallships (remember that?), for which we were paid a fee to support our annual scholarships, and we have given a \$1,500 grant this year to Sail San Francisco to be used for programs that will place school children aboard the Tallships that visit the Bay this coming Labor Day weekend.

It is also true that, as in every type of family, MMBA and MMBF can and should backstop each other. While the purpose of

MMBF is philanthropy, it does provide a financial backstop to MMBA should that be absolutely necessary to solve temporary problems. Both boards are committed to keeping the objective's and activities of each organization mutually supportive of the other, but also that each is independently successful.

And finally: yes, once in a blue moon we will find a way to support a renovation project without either "betting the ranch", or favoring one MMBA member over another. One award was made several year's ago to the *Balclutha*: one of her new deck planks was paid for by MMBF; and more recently we took title to the 1890 sloop *Flirt*, which then legally enabled another foundation (Arques), and other private monies. to undertake her restoration.

Bottom Line: in the last four years, the term **Benevolent** has come to be taken seriously and to mean something to our organization, for which we are proud. Take a bow, all members, you made it happen. The net proceeds from every Wooden Boat Show go to fund MMBF scholarships, and our next opportunity to replenish MMBF's coffers will come this June. Be there, tell others to come and spend freely.

*Peter English  
Jr. Staff Commodore*

*Pictures from [www.tallships.org](http://www.tallships.org)*



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## SOME OF YOU STILL NEED TO



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## RENEW FOR 2002...

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### 2002 Membership Renewal

Don't forget-if you want to still receive the Shellback and want to be involved in MMBA activities-you need to be a member. Please mail your membership renewal of **\$60.00 (regulars and cruising) or \$30 (MMBA friend)** payable to "MMBA" (write the **name of your boat** on the Notes section of check) to:

Jeff Stokes, MMBA Membership  
Chairman  
319 Strand Avenue  
Pleasant Hill, CA 94523

Also, if your address has changed, please indicate your new address on a note to Jeff so that the database will be updated. THANK YOU! Another year of great fun and great people lies ahead.

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### Master Mariners Registry Update

Dick Wrenn is about to start an **update** to the Master Mariners Registry. If your boat is not in the registry please send him a color photograph and a short description of the boat. If you are a new member and the information that you submitted to the Master Mariners with your application included a color photo it will be used. If your boat has an interesting history that

has not been submitted, please send him the history.

Those who wish to make corrections should also contact him about editing their entry.

For those who have not purchased a Master Mariners Registry, they will be available at the Regatta Luncheon at the St. Francis YC and at the Encinal YC after the big race.

The deadline:

To get your boat included in the update, Dick needs the information by May 25th, after the Race.

Dick Wrenn  
139 Hagar Ave.  
Piedmont, CA. 94611 (510) 654-7704  
dickw8@pacbell.net

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### MMBA 135<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Program

To celebrate 135 years of the MMBA Mike Douglas is putting together a pamphlet describing the history of the MMBA , in particular the MMBA Regatta. He is using old Shellback's as his source. We all need to give our thanks to him for volunteering to put this together to celebrate this milestone in years. Any help or contributions welcome.



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## Notices, Ads & General "What have you's"

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MMBA WEBSITE: <http://www.mastermariners.org>  
OUR GROUP WEBSITE: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/mastermariners-sf>  
GROUP EMAIL ADDRESS: [mastermariners-sf@yahogroups.com](mailto:mastermariners-sf@yahogroups.com)  
OUR CLUB WEBSITE: <http://clubs.yahoo.com/clubs/mastermarinerssf>

If you aren't receiving any MMBA group emails, I need your address! Please send to: **mastermariners@hotmail.com**

Thanks, *Ariane*

Material to be published in Shellback, send to Frances Dugdale ([fwilkers@sfsu.edu](mailto:fwilkers@sfsu.edu))

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### Recent Messages mailed to the Web-site

Subject: Crew looking for boat possibilities

I am interested in a crew position on a vessel in your fleet. I have extensive sailing experience and have been a shipwright for 20 years. Please contact me at [dbmarine@e...](mailto:dbmarine@e...)

Thank you, Dave Butz, tel: (510) 773-9559

Loooong time MMBA crew (Schooner Barbara) sponsor and supporter. (Barbara is "in-op" (engine, etc. probs). Miss not being out there when I look at the bay from my house. I don't like foredeck, and, of course, I don't do bottoms. Please email [ekafitz@a...](mailto:ekafitz@a...)

Subject: SF Bay Boat Photos.

As we get ready for the start of the 2002 sailing season and the PacSail Expo we wanted to say "Hello". We look forward to wild and windy days on SF Bay, fog on the Golden Gate Bridge towers, honking breezes and tons of boats at the mark. If we have shot your boat in past years and you've been meaning to order that photo please give us a call. Let us know if there is a particular shot you want. Also remember we are available for Custom Photo Shoots.

Thanks, Mariah's Eyes Photography, tel: (510) 864-1144; web site: <http://www.mariahseyesphotography.com>

Subject:Recent SF Chronicle Article on Tallship Semester for Girls

There was an article on this program that Caitlin Schwarzman started which is now under the wings of Dawn Riley's America True Youth Programs, story at URL: <http://www.sfgate.com/cgi-bin/article.cgi?file=/chronicle/archive/2002/03/17/LV137316.DTL> below, or search at [www.sfgate.com](http://www.sfgate.com) : Getting their sea legs: Sailing program introduces teen girls to maritime life: by Dan Giesin, Chronicle Staff, Sunday, March 17, 2002, ©2002