



CGA LEADERSHIP 44 CAMPAIGN

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Shearwater Christening & Launch marks milestone in Campaign

by CAPT John Maxham (Ret), '66, L-44 Campaign Director



“**T**hereby christen you Shearwater.” With those words, Mrs. Betsy Burhoe, wife of CGA Superintendent RADM J. Scott Burhoe, broke a bottle of champagne over the bow plate of Hull L44-01 to christen the Academy’s first new Leadership 44 coastal sail training vessel.

The June 2nd christening and launching ceremony marked a historic milestone in the project to replace the Academy’s aging Luders fleet. Shearwater is the first of eight new sail training vessels designed by Pedrick Yacht Designs and built by Morris Yachts in Trenton, ME. The eight new vessels will allow the Academy to train 100% of the cadets in the summer coastal sail training program and will expand sailing opportunities for cadets throughout the school year.

Bob Hallock '72, chairman of both the L-44 Procurement and Campaign committees, acted as the master of ceremonies for the christening. Noting that replacement of the Luders fleet, built in the 1960s, was long overdue, he said that the success of the project was due in large measure to the work of the Procurement Committee. This group, representing the major project stakeholders, overcame some early obstacles, developed specifications for a new design, oversaw the design, contracting, and construction of the vessels, to deliver Shearwater to the Academy in just under 30 months. Bob dedicated Shearwater to Rear Admiral Burhoe in recognition of his vision for the coastal sail training program and his constant support of the project.





John Maxham '66, L-44 campaign director, noted that this \$7.5 million project for eight coastal sail training vessels was made possible by the exceptional partnership between the Academy, the Alumni Association, the Coast Guard Foundation, and the CGA Parents Association. While the project was too large for any one organization individually, working together it is being accomplished. In addition to key support from the CGA Parents Association, a major reason for the Alumni Association's success in raising over \$3.5 million for the project was the substantial support provided by gifts from over 50 Academy classes.



First among those Academy classes to support the L-44 campaign was the Class of '53, which earned the right to name the first vessel with their early and substantial gift. A stainless steel sponsor's plaque was presented to Rear Admiral Richard Cueroni '53 and Captain Wee Smith '53, representing the eight members of the Class of '53 in attendance. The sponsor's plaque will be placed on each vessel to recognize the generosity of classes, organizations, or individuals who are major donors to the campaign. Admiral Cueroni, accepted the plaque, noting that the class hoped the Leadership 44s would become floating classrooms for the cadets.





Jim Sylvester '71, president of the Alumni Association, introduced the major partners to the campaign and signed a Deed of Gift with the Superintendent, formally gifting Shearwater to the Academy. The next vessel, Stormy Petrel, sponsored by the Class of '58, is under construction and should be delivered to the Academy some time in August. Following that, new L-44s should be delivered every six to eight weeks, so that the entire fleet should be available for the 2012 summer training program. The quality of construction and the performance of Shearwater, both under power and under sail, are exceptional and are exceeding everyone's expectations. We will ultimately have a fleet of coastal sail training vessels of which we can all be very proud.

Photo Captions

On page 18: recently christened Shearwater at the waterfront with Jacob's Rock in the background

On page 19 clockwise from top left: Mrs. Burhoe christens L44-01, Shearwater; the day's program; CGA Alumni Association President CDR Jim Sylvester (second from the right) along with Anne Brengle (far right), president of the Coast Guard Foundation, Kelly Morgan (second from the left), representative for the CGA Parents Association, and RADM Richard Cueroni (far left), representative for the Class of 1953, gift Shearwater to CGA Superintendent RADM Burhoe (center); members of the Class of 1953 at the ceremony (from l-r: Bob Benson, Hal Olson, Bill Reilly, Rick Cueroni, Hank Fisher, Wee Smith, and Bob West); hard hats and champagne for the christening

On page 20 from top to bottom: RADM Burhoe; Bob Hallock, chairman of both L44 Procurement and Campaign Committees; members of the procurement committee (from l-r: David Pedrick [Pedrick Yacht Designs], Kelly Morgan [CGA Parents Association], Bob Hallock [CGA Alumni Association], Larry Glenn [CG Foundation], Allen Kruger [CGA], and RADM Robert Olsen [CGA Alumni Association])

This page: Shearwater before, during, and after launch

(All photos by Amanda Tedeschi)