

NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER

2008



Message from the Past Chairman

Dear Members,

The success of the 2008 Monaco AGM hinged upon great participation from the 27 attending members as well as three honored guests. Everyone enjoyed an open and frank panel discussion on the current and future state of our increasingly important yacht support industry. Thank you to all who made the effort to be a part of this lively gathering.

All in all over 30 AYSS members were present at the show, including Simon Alexander and Allan Jouning; two founding members, who celebrated with us at the Association dinner.

The most notable Monaco success was working with Jenny Shawcroft and realizing just how much her abilities and broad industry experience will help drive the AYSS forward. Focusing on the primary goals of higher visibility, more strategic marketing and an increase of Associate and Full memberships, Jenny was a whirlwind of activity in Monaco. With the help of members present at Monaco, nearly a hundred AYSS Global Handbooks were personally distributed to Captains, crew, industry colleagues and potential members.

My past three years on Council has been marked by strong improvements in the infrastructure of the AYSS, by creating a membership criterion to help assure the high quality of new members and refining the priorities we need to focus on in the near term. With Jenny leading the charge, Rosemary Pavlatou in the Chairman's post and the backing of four enthusiastic new Council members I am confident the future of AYSS as a Trade Association is indeed in good hands.

As I will continue to be involved, in a limited way with Jenny and the Exec. Council, please feel free to pass along any concerns or ideas for our future together at duncan@ayss.org

With best wishes for all your respective endeavors,

Duncan Sweet

Mid Atlantic Yacht Services - Horta, Azores

Navy Charters Kite-Powered Cargo Ship

For the first time, the U.S. Navy's Military Sealift Command has chartered a kite-assisted, fuel-saving cargo ship to carry military equipment. MV Beluga SkySails departed Newport, Wales, Oct. 5 after the first of three European port calls to load U.S. Army and U.S. Air Force cargo before the ship's month-long voyage to the United States.

The 400-ft. Beluga SkySails is the world's first cargo ship to use a sky sail - a giant, computer-controlled kite that can rise 100 yards into the air and uses wind power to help propel the ship during long ocean transits. Though MSC frequently charters commercial ships to meet mission requirements, this is the first time the command has chartered such a ship.

The ship operating company estimates that the sky sail can reduce fuel costs by 20 to 30 percent, or roughly \$1,600 per day.

Though Beluga SkySails' wind power was not a factor in awarding the contract, the ship operating company was likely "able to capitalize on fuel savings to make its offer more competitive," said MSC contracting officer Kenneth Allen.



Sponsorship of Charity Golf Tournament

AYSS proudly sponsored two holes at the Pinmar Yachtsman's Golf Tournament event in Mallorca on the 17th October. Link: http://www.pinmar.com/en/golf08_sponsors.htm

The event was a great success with 84 teams (4 rounds of 21 teams), a total of 336 players and 757 guests at the gala dinner. The total raised for the charities will be announced later.

Jenny S

AMAZING SIGHT IN THE SOUTH PACIFIC

The Yacht 'Maiken' was travelling in the south Pacific when the crew came across a weird sight .. It looked like sand in the water, and the sand was floating ON TOP of the waves...



The trail left by the yacht... through the sand. This is not a beach; it was volcanic stones floating on the water. Then ash and steam began to rise from the ocean...And, while they were watching...



A brand new island formed...Awesome! Can you imagine the thrill of being the first & only people to see a new island being created ... where there was nothing before?

Thanks to.....

Peter & Jan O'Brien, Queensland.

New Member

AYSS Welcomes:-

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