



Broadsides December 2009

Dear Members, Sailors and Friends,

Happy Holidays!

It has been a great year here at NMHF and I wanted to thank each and every one of you for your help, support and friendship.

This month's Broadside has some great highlights from NMHF's first year-round education program. In 2009 NMHF was named a vetted Out-of-School Time provider by DC Public Schools, this in itself is a major accomplishment, as it was a nine month process. Please take a moment to read over the article by Blair Overman below.

The chilly Frostbiting weather has never been one of my favorite things, but we have a hardy group of sailors out on the water this winter. Thanks go out to Hans Noordanus our volunteer Race Director who is heading up this series - thank you Hans!

As everyone knows we have challenged ourselves to raise \$100K before the end of the year. I can report today that we are 1/3 of the way to that goal. Many of you have given and we thank you all. Special mention go to NMHF Board Members Ed Cronin, Art Birney and Hal Young. Max Williamson deserves special recognition along with everyone who attended our holiday fundraiser aboard the yacht, Celebrity.

If you have a moment please consider making your end of the year donation to NMHF at this time. It is a simple on-line process, just go to <https://payment.eccountable.com/nmhf/>.

In advance I thank you!

From all of us here at NMHF please have a joyful, peaceful and happy Holiday Season!

In This Issue

[Frostbiting](#)

[Jefferson Middle School](#)

[Holiday Shopping at NMHF](#)

Key NMHF Links

[Home Page](#)

[American Spirit Cruises](#)

[Youth Sailing](#)

[Adult Sailing](#)

[Boating and Baseball](#)

[NMHF Ship Store](#)

[Purchase an NMHF Burgee](#)

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See what sailing activities are going on day by day.

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Read details on past events and weather cancellations!

Sign Up Today for Adult Sailing Lessons!

Our Adult Sailing Lessons are still taking place this season! Spaces are filling fast so sign up today.

Details are on our website at <http://www.nmhf.org/sailing/adult/dc-sail-programs-learn-to-sail.aspx>

Fair Winds.

Kevin Traver
Executive Director



Frostbiting!

And you thought the sailing season was over...



A group of our most dedicated sailors have been braving the cold (and snow!) the last few weekends to participate in our Frostbite Race Series! Come by the Gangplank Marina Saturdays at noon to sail or just watch! You can participate on a daily basis or sign up for the series!

Email or call Blair Overman with questions.

(202) 547-1250

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[Notice of Race](#)

Young Sailors Jump into Swimming

Blair Overman



With a turn toward winter weather, Jefferson middle school students in our after school program transitioned from sailing to swimming. This is the first time that NMHF has integrated swimming into the youth curriculum. The theory behind the addition of swimming is to provide our students with all of the tools necessary to make them successful sailors. Additionally, the after school program of "Learn to Sail & Swim" is focused on improving the physical health of our students and their academic performance, specifically where math and science is involved.

As many of you might have heard this week, The Washington Post announced that DC Public Schools have drastically improved student math scores across the board. This issue of low math and science scores had been on the forefront of DCPS concerns, and NMHF is taking this problem very seriously. Last year, NMHF produced a new sailing curriculum heavily influenced by STEM concepts (science, technology, engineering, and mathematics).

We are very excited about the potential for these new after school programs to have such a widespread influence on multiple aspects of our students lives. I personally feel that the swimming portion of our program is reaching our students on a new level, as we are directly addressing some of their most prevalent sailing-related fears. I look forward to watching these programs grow over the next few years, and I welcome all of you to stop by and view our programs!

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*gifts from the
National Maritime Heritage
Foundation*



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