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| |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | https://mlsvc01-prod.s3.amazonaws.com/7e38ae18001/420751ad-9b1a-425c-b485-6f46558297b3.jpg | | | |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | PRESS RELEASE February 21st, 2017 | | |  | | --- | | Contact:  Katie Kelly  Sail America 401-289-2540 | | | | |  | | --- | |  |  |  | | --- | | **SAIL AMERICA PRESENTS 2017 BOARD OF DIRECTORS**  *Board adds three new Directors to 2017 roster* |  |  | | --- | | **Warren, RI**- Sail America, the trade association for the U.S. sailing industry, elected three new members to its 2017 board of directors: Kevin Carlan, Mastry Engine Center; Josie Tucci, The Moorings; and Peter Trogdon, Weems & Plath    The new Sail America Directors will join the newly elected president of the board, Jim Abel, from West Marine. They will join existing board members Jeff Johnstone of JBoats as board treasurer/secretary; Erin Schanen (vice chair) from SAILING Magazine; Mark Pillsbury (vice chair) from Cruising World; Bob Ross (vice chair) from Sail Northwest; Scot West (past resident) from Ronstan; Kevin Murphy of NMMA; Jack Gierhart of US Sailing; Chris Doscher of Beneteau USA; Reagan Haynes of Soundings Trade Only; Lou Sandoval of Karma Yacht Sales; and Kimo Worthington of North Sails.    The Sail America Board also says farewell and extends its thanks for their service to Stanton Murray of Murray Yacht Sales, Jay Stockmann of Vetus/Maxwell, and Greg Emerson of Marlow-Hunter.  **Newly Elected President bio follows:**  **Jim Abel, West Marine**    Jim has been an Associate with West Marine since 1983 and currently supports the team of West Marine stores in the Northern Region. In his current professional role as Regional Vice President, Jim is responsible for all aspects of the customer experience, Associate relations, and sales and store operations for stores in Coastal Carolinas, Mid Atlantic, New England, Great Lakes, Pacific Northwest, Alaska and Canada.    Jim has been involved in many levels of West Marine store operations, real estate, marketing, merchandising and sustainability for his entire 34-year tenure. His experience includes supporting every region in the West Marine store fleet, including working in the West Marine Watsonville, California, Support Center. He's held several positions as Store Manager, District Manager, and was promoted to the West Coast Regional Vice President in June 2007, Northeast Regional Vice President 2011, and Northern Regional Vice President in 2015.    Jim was honored in 2004 as a recipient of the prestigious West Marine Walter Scott Excellence in Management Award. The Walter Scott Award is presented annually to the West Marine Associates who demonstrate outstanding leadership and teamwork within the organization. It is the company's highest recognizable achievement.    At West Marine, our knowledge, enthusiasm and products prepare waterlife adventurers to foster their connection to the water and explore their passions. With more than 250 stores located in 38 states and Puerto Rico and an eCommerce website reaching domestic, international and professional customers, West Marine is recognized as a leading Waterlife Outfitter for cruisers, sailors, anglers and paddlesports enthusiasts. Since first opening our doors in 1968, West Marine Associates continue to share the same love for the water as our customers and provide helpful advice on the gear and gadgets they need to be safe and have fun-    Jim grew up Wednesday night racing, sailing, waterskiing and fishing on the Chesapeake Bay. He spent many years in St. Petersburg, Florida, cruising Tampa Bay and the Gulf of Mexico. He enjoys spending time with his family and continues to be involved with every aspect of boating. Jim enjoys boat restoration, sailing his Cal 29-2, kayaking, standup paddling, and kicking around on his 10-foot inflatable boat.    Jim is supported by his wife, Beth, and two adult children, Ryan and Shanti. He currently enjoys his Waterlife on the Magothy River, just minutes from Annapolis, Maryland.    Jim's focus for the 2017 Sail America presidency is to bolster Sail America event participation, increase association membership and provide active service to an industry that has rewarded both his personal and professional life.    **New Board of Directors bios follow:**  **Josie Tucci, Moorings**  Originally from Brighton England, Josie's career in the marine industry started in France, working initially for a national sailing school and then for builder Dufour Yachts, where she worked with the sales and product teams on boat orders for the worldwide charter market. Emigrating to the US in 2001, Josie took on the role of Product Manager for The Moorings Yacht Sales and was part of the team that launched Moorings Power and Leopard Catamarans.  After The Moorings was acquired by TUI Travel in 2005, Josie became Brand Manager for Sunsail, working closely with the ecommerce, sales and marketing teams in the US, Europe and Asia Pacific, then became Head of Distribution and Head of Marketing for all Marine brands including Le Boat Canal Boat vacation.  In 2012 Josie moved to MarineMax, the world's largest powerboat retailer, where she was VP Marketing for their US network of 50+ stores, managing direct marketing strategy, branding, ecommerce and CRM.  An avid sailer, Josie rejoined The Moorings as General Manager in 2015, based in Clearwater and overseeing global charter sales, marketing and product development.  **Kevin Carlan, Mastry Engine- Company Bio**  Mastry Engine Center LLC manufactures diesel motors and engines for the marine and industrial industries. Its marine products include inboard, outboard, sterndrives, sterndrive engines, surface drives, pod drives, sail drives and transmissions and the firms industrial products include air cooled engines, liquid cooled engines, generators, portable pumps, tractors, construction equipment and engine accessories. The company was founded by D. Eugene Mastry in 1962 and is headquartered in St.  Petersburg, FL  **Peter Trogdon, Weems & Plath**    Peter W. Trogdon, President and Owner of Weems & Plath, hails from the Pacific Northwest where he earned an MBA from Seattle Pacific University.  In 1995, he learned of the opportunity to purchase Weems & Plath, and moved his family to Annapolis, excited for a unique chance to combine his passion for business with his love for the sea. 21 years later, he still finds himself enamored with his  business  and thrilled by the opportunity to interact on a daily basis with customers who use and love Weems & Plath products for the service and experience they receive.  Peter takes pride in the ability to uphold the original mission of Weems & Plath - quality, innovation and safety at sea. During his time as President and Owner, he has guided the company through many exciting new phases, from increased community involvement, to product development, to the acquisition of new companies.  In his spare time, Peter cycles and enjoys year-round sailing of his Harbor 20 or cruising with wife, Cathie, aboard Bee Weems, their Zimmerman 36 lobster boat. Adventurers at heart, the Trogdons have enjoyed many exciting journeys aboard the Bee Weems, including a month long trip from Annapolis, MD to Montreal, Canada by way of the Hudson River and a journey through Alaska's Inside Passage.  Peter is on the board of the Annapolis Yacht Club. He is a member of the Annapolis Maritime Advisory Board, a part owner of the Annapolis Boat Shows and a member of the Annapolis Sailing Industry Association. |  |  | | --- | | **Sail America**--Sail America is the trade association for the U.S. sailing industry and plays a vital role for all companies that are involved in providing sailing-related products and services. Established in 1990 by members of the U.S. sailing industry, Sail America now has over 200 members representing all segments of the sailing market. With a professional staff, a dedicated Board of Directors, and a team of volunteers and supporters, Sail America works hard to promote the health and growth of sailing. [SailAmerica.com](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?t=kwpbbrzab.0.0.h4av5acab.0&id=preview&r=3&p=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.sailamerica.com)    # # # | | | |  | | --- | |  |  |  | | --- | | 50 Water Street  Warren, RI 02885  Phone: 401-289-2540 ● Fax: 401-247-0074 ●  [info@sailamerica.com](mailto:info@sailamerica.com) ● [www.sailamerica.com](http://www.sailamerica.com) | | | |  | |