

## Boat Naming/Renaming Ceremony

“For thousands of years, we have gone to sea. We have crafted vessels to carry us and we have called them by name. These ships nurture and care for us through perilous seas, and so we affectionately call them “she.” To them we toast, and ask to celebrate <boatname>.”

Everyone raises their champagne glasses and shouts

**“To the sailors of old. To <boatname>.”**

Everyone takes a sip.

“The moods of the sea are many, from tranquil to violent. We ask that this ship be given the strength to carry on. The keel is strong and she keeps out the pressures of the sea.”

Everyone raises their champagne glasses and shouts

**“To the sailors of old. To the sea.”**

Everyone takes a sip.

“Today we come to name this lady <boatname>, and send her to sea to be cared for, and to care for the <family name> family. We ask the sailors of old and the mood of God that is the sea to accept <boatname> as her name, to help her through her passages, and allow her to return with her crew safely.”

Everyone raises their champagne glasses and shouts

**“To the sea. To the sailors before Us. To <boatname>.”**

Everyone takes a sip

Now pour champagne over the bow to appease King Neptune, and lay a branch of green leaves on the deck to ensure safe returns. (Breaking the bottle across her prow is optional for a recreational vessel, and should be done only if all safety precautions have been taken, and after the bottle has been properly scored for a clean break.)