

Leadership Panel: presented by Rich du Moulin

With our 50th Reunion in the rear-view mirror, all '68s are old enough to have a lifetime of leadership experiences in fields as diverse as medicine, education, religion, business, military, politics, athletics, and yes- Dartmouth related activities from fund raising to reunions. With the turmoil in our national politics, the question of Leadership has rarely been more important to our country.

Rich du Moulin will tap into the subject of "Leadership" with a panel of exceptional classmates:

Peter Fahey – Wall Street banker, Dartmouth trustee, and prodigious fund-raiser.

Burt Quist – retired Marine Corps Colonel, service in Vietnam

Jamie Newton – college professor & community activist

Arnie Resnicoff – US Navy chaplain, combat experience in Lebanon, Vietnam and Congress

Rich's leadership experiences include CEO of public shipping companies, Chairman of Seamens Church Institute, offshore sailboat racing, and Naval Academy advisor.

Everyone attending this Zoom should feel free to participate actively in the discussion. As a warmup for the session, Rich offers the link to an [Offshore Sailing Leadership Symposium](#) he chaired in November. The edited video is about an hour. Panelists include America's premier Mt. Everest guide, a nuclear sub captain, a Navy fighter pilot, a Marine Corps ranger, a senior public health official (Ebola & Covid response), and some of the world's leading sailors, including Sir Robin Knox-Johnston who in 1968-69 became the first human being to circumnavigate the globe non-stop.....alone for 313 days.

The sinking of the *Titanic* in 1912 was the most traumatic and famous event in maritime history. Even today, if you walk down the street and ask someone to name a ship, odds are they will respond "Titanic." The loss of the *Titanic* was such a shock that in 1914 the largest international conference in



history convened: The International Convention for Safety of Life at Sea. Their output became known as SOLAS and is the foundation of the body of Maritime safety regulation as we know it.

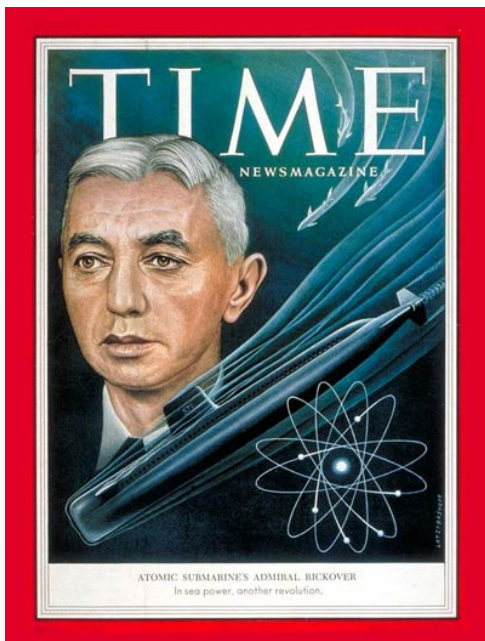


In 1979, yacht racing had its own Titanic – the Fastnet Race in the UK- where the loss of 18 lives shocked our sport. Our response included major revisions to organizing ocean races, measuring yacht stability, and providing formalized Safety-at-Sea training.

Just as the loss of Titanic was intimately tied to a failure of leadership, so were most of the losses in the Fastnet Race and many of the fatal sailing

incidents in the ensuing years.

The father of the U.S. Nuclear Navy, Admiral Hyman Rickover, tied leadership to accepting responsibility.



“Responsibility is a unique concept. It can only reside and inhere in a single individual. You may share it with others, but your portion is not diminished. You may delegate it, but it is still with you. You may disclaim it, but you cannot divest yourself of it. Unless you can point the finger at the man who is responsible when something goes wrong, then you never had anyone really responsible. Responsibility can be shared; accountability cannot. Being accountable not only means being responsible for something but also ultimately being answerable for actions.”

The accountable person in offshore sailing is the skipper.

Without leadership, the unsafe situation is more likely to occur, and even more likely to have a bad outcome. Leadership is the glue that holds it all together. To (mis)quote from the *Lord of the Rings*, **“Leadership is the Ring that Binds all the other Rings.”** Good leadership minimizes the chance of a dangerous situation, and when something goes wrong offshore, good leadership maximizes the chance for a satisfactory outcome.