

# the Foghorn

Newsletter of the San Luis Yacht Club



## From the Bridge

by Bob Hurd,  
Commodore

I recently read that late-night TV Comedian Johnny Carson once said, “Never continue in a job you don’t enjoy. If you don’t like it, stop doing it.”

The year is almost half over and I’m still enjoying being Commodore (much to the relief of Vice Commodore, **Warren Ristow** I’m sure). You only had to see me dance with an inflatable cactus at the Cinco De Mayo Taco Feed, held on Siete de Mayo and hosted

by **Steve ‘Esteban’ Davis** and amigos, to tell I’m enjoying myself as Commodore (no photos thankfully).

Thank you to Club members **Steve Davis, Joe Chufar, Brenda Noakes, Richard Warren** and the Seldom Heard Band, **Ramon Hopkins**, and to everyone else that made the Taco Feed so much fun. Where else can you get an all-you-can-eat taco dinner, a great band, and dancing all for only \$16? And if you missed Rear Commodore **Bill Dyer** sing and play guitar with the band, catch him some time. He’s one talented Officer.

Unfortunately, I’m not following Carson’s advice in my day job. Being Commodore has not been all fun and games either. There have been a few onerous tasks and I’ve been dressed down a few times.

While on the subject of difficult tasks, have you ever come to the Clubhouse

and found it a mess? Well I have, and many members have shared with me that they have too. Remember, all of us enjoy the Clubhouse and are welcome to use it any time, but we must adhere to some simple rules, including cleaning up after yourself. Your Board has taken the opportunity recently to update the RULES GOVERNING USE OF SAN LUIS YACHT CLUB and has mailed them out to all members as a reminder. If we are to protect the

Clubhouse for years to come we need to take care of it.

But overall I am enjoying being Commodore. I enjoy finding Club members in the local press like I did when I read in the Santa Maria Times on Sunday, May 8, 2011 that Club member **John Schlenker** is being honored by the Santa Maria Arts Council. According to the Times, “This year’s honoree is John R. Schlenker, an actor, director, educator,



Cinco De Mayo Taco Feed

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mentor and the co-founder of the Great American Melodrama in Oceano. Schlenker has positively influenced the lives of thousands of students and actors as well as provided family entertainment for more than three decades. As a former drama teacher at Righetti High School, he instituted "School Within a School." The program uses innovative drama techniques while teaching carpentry, painting, lighting, mechanical skills and math." Congratulations John.

It was also enjoyable when we hosted the U.S. Naval Sea Cadet Corps, Central Coast Division, for the May Wet Wednesday. Lieutenant Terry W. Hetrick, NSCC, Division Commander, a co-worker of mine and Bar Manager, **Ramon Hopkins**, shared with about 15 Club members what the Naval Sea Cadet Corps (NSCC) is all about.

Lt. Hetrick and his wife Venee', a Lieutenant Commander (what a coincidence, Margie out ranks me too), explained that the Sea Cadet program is

for future military service, but for those that do enlist Sea Cadet training may permit entry at an advanced pay grade. Sea Cadet experience is also looked upon favorably by military service academy and ROTC selection boards.

Locally Sea Cadets participates in community events such as parades and fairs and community service such as working for Veterans' groups and organizing clothing and food drives. We're hopeful we can coordinate with the Sea Cadets to present the colors for our Opening Day next year.

Three cadets accompanied Lt. Hetrick and his wife; Petty Officer Schow, Petty Officer Burnell, and Petty Officer Brown-Silva. All three young men were very impressive. They exhibited confidence and self-esteem and all three shared with us how they came to join the Corps and what their plans are for the future. They were engaging and fun to

talk to. Petty Officer Schow relayed to us how fun the ordnance disposal training was – blowing up a car.

All proceeds from the inexpensive dinner, hamburgers and Navy beans, that evening went to the local division of the Sea Cadets. I look forward to working with the Sea Cadets on activities and fund raising events in the future.

On deck for June and July, look for information on real "Wet" Wednesdays with evening sails. In August watch for information on the Zongo All Stars Morro Bay to Port San Luis Race. And for the next few months, when the Avila Beach Fish and Farmers

Market is held, we will be experimenting with having our traditional dinner on the third Friday of the month on Saturday instead. Be sure to watch the Scuttlebutt for information.

Thank you to all of you who continue to support and help me.

—Bob 



Commodore Hurd with Petty Officer Schow, Petty Officer Burnell, Petty Officer Brown-Silva, and Ramon Hopkins.

for youth ages 13-17 who are interested in developing their skills in leadership, basic seamanship, courage, self-reliance, military discipline and are committed to being drug and gang free and maintaining a "C" grade average. Sea Cadets wear Navy enlisted uniforms appropriately marked with the Naval Sea Cadet Corps insignia and have to complete "boot camp." After completing recruit training Cadets can then participate in advanced training in many subjects, some on board Navy ships, including; Airman Training, Diving/Explosive Ordnance Disposal Training (where do I sign up?), EMT Training, Search and Rescue Training, and Seamanship Training. Cadets have no commitment





## Vice Views

by Warren Ristow,  
Vice Commodore

Melenie and I are in our “land yacht” traveling through Utah, Colorado and Arizona as I write this article. I want to give you an update on our second SLYC Finance Committee meeting. We looked at our expenditures to date and compared them to our budget and find that we are doing fine so far.

The second item we discussed was needing to find a financial adviser since our prior one is no

longer doing business in our community. The reason for the need of a financial adviser is to be consistent with our financial investments. We know our SLYC Board changes every year and the committee believes that with a consistent financial plan the new boards will follow the plan established and not try to reinvent the wheel so to speak each year. Pat Hood is coordinating the search for this new financial planner.

We also discussed the need to develop a listing of all the financial related work that needs to be done each year so we insure we meet all rules and reporting requirements required for the club. That’s all for now. Need to start the engine and get motoring.

—Warren



## Port Report

by Rick Bertram,  
Port Captain

Ahoy Mates, here is the news I have from the PSL Harbor District meeting. As good stewards of the port and its employees the district honored one of its members for over 20 years of service. I’m not putting in his name because truthfully I’m not sure of it. So rather than embarrass myself I’ll just say an employee was honored. It was nice to see multiple district employees step forward and mention his positive attitude and hard working attributes.

OK. Usually the bad follows the good so here are a couple negative blurbs. A woman, with disabilities, came forward and mentioned the fact that Fat Cats had horrible access for handicapped people. She mentioned that since the district received federal money the port was required to meet federal guidelines for handicapped access. No conversation by the board followed. Next a representative for the Commercial Fisherman’s association requested the resignation of the Harbor Master. I think that’s what he called the organization. No conversation followed that one either. You know what crickets sound like at night. That’s the response.

OK. Now on to other issues. We may in the near future have paramedics at the Avila station. It is being looked at however there will be costs associated with this addition and Cal Fire will not be implementing this anytime soon. It’s just a thought.

SLOCOG gave us an hour presentation on monies available to the county. I think it is 1.4 billion over the next 25 years. This money is used countywide and is available to the PSL district also. Maybe for the pier too but I’m not sure on that.

Speaking of the pier, there is a committee that is looking into design improvements that will be considered when repairs start. Now that the survey is done here are some numbers concerning the condition of the pier. I’m not sure I got them right though. There are 301 pilings, 80 are bad, 20 are missing and there are 40 that are questionable.

With that being said, even if my numbers are off considerably, I think they should first and foremost repair the pilings so the damn thing doesn’t go swimming. It doesn’t seem to be the case though. The committee is looking into redesigning the building at the end of the pier, which they don’t have a dime for. Yes, it looks good but in my opinion they should focus on stabilizing and repairing the pier and worry about modernizing it in the future. Stop wasting time on drawings that will not come to pass for many years to come. Fix or replace what is needed on the pier then move to the canopy. One board member stated that Pismo spent \$11,000 on one piling but that is not apples for apples I’m sure.

One last point for all the fisherman out there. The salmon enhancement group wants to raise white seabass. They will use the old salmon pens and will discuss placement with the board. It’s not a sure thing but it does look promising. Anyone who got into the seabass bite last year can attest to the great battle they put up. Hopefully they will return.

Bottoms up—Rick



## Power Report

by Wiley Poole,  
Power Fleet Captain

### A Busy Opening Day:

Things were pretty hectic for the Chase Boat on opening day. Starting off a bit late at 9:15 a.m. from the yacht club, we had to wait in line for a launch, and it was 10:30 a.m. before we got the first outer marker buoy (I) set. Before we were done setting the second one, calls were coming in for water taxi service.

We set off to help ferry eight crew members in two separate trips, so getting the last buoy set before the races began was tight to say the least. Next came picking up and exchanging a life jacket that had fallen overboard, followed by dropping another crew member off at the pier.

The first race then went smoothly while we tagged along with the big boats. As the wind came up the sailing was brisk. During the second race we

noticed *SLO Sloop* heading out to sea. We followed along and learned they had some broken rigging. They did a jury rig job and they were able to bring it back around and in to the harbor.

Winds were brisk enough that racing was declared over, so we set out to retrieve the buoys. The outer one was a wet experience for my crew as they struggled to grab the very slippery buoy in a blustery chop. The other two were easy though, so we headed back to port to give some more water taxi rides. Since the launch was closing at 4:00 p.m. we were only able to ferry six people before heading to the lift.

Retrieving the boat had its own set of events, as a crew member slipped off the dock ruining his cell phone, but not his day. Returning the buoys to the club house was a challenge as the streets were very crowded, and towing the boat through town isn't the best idea anyway.

It was 5:30 p.m. when we finished cleaning the boat and put it away at Dick's house. Once again he was very helpful. I'd have to say it was a long day, but a BLAST! Thanks.

—Wiley 📍

## SLO Sloop Update

We pulled *SLO Sloop* out of Lopez Lake, cleaned her up, and today April 27th, launched and put her on her Summer mooring at Avila.

Our thanks go to John Hiatt, Eoin Duffy, and Jay Chapel for their help on this project.

Hank Benjamin-Boatmaster



## A Sea Story

Written by Lori L. Lawson, as told to her by her 93 year old father, Gerard L. Parsons

**M**y Dad, Gerard L. Parsons, loves to reminisce about some of his favorite stories when he was younger. This story is of special interest to me regarding his time in the U.S. Navy during World War II.

He shipped out of New York City aboard an LST (Landing Ship Tanks) into a violent storm off Cape Hatteras. Scuttlebutt circulated among crew members about two British LST's breaking in half on the North Sea. The crew was very anxious about the trip after hearing about the British ships. Gerard sighted down the deck and the ship seemed to be unstable. Gerard and five other crew members were summoned to appear in a lower compartment at the rear of the ship. The Officer in charge stated that the steering mechanism of the ship had failed. The crew had to steer the vessel by installing two blocks and tackles on the tiller; with blisters on their hands, they steered the vessel on a zigzag course to the beautiful islands of Bermuda.

The ship was laid over three weeks in Bermuda and all hands visited many of the picturesque spots on the island. When Gerard was strolling on the waterfront one day, he noticed the Royal Bermuda Yacht Club. With his San Luis Yacht Club card in hand, he entered the door of the Yacht Club and was greeted by a very dignified English doorman. The doorman did not know what to do about Gerard, so he called the Commodore. The Commodore greeted Gerard and bought him a drink at the bar. He asked Gerard, "What is the largest yacht in your club?" Gerard replied, "The largest yacht in the San Luis Yacht Club belongs to Commodore Herb McBratley and that is a 17 foot sloop". The Commodore showed Gerard around the Royal Bermuda Yacht Club and then when he arrived at the back door, he stated, "Mr. Parsons, for your information we will extend the courtesy of our club house to the Officers of the U.S. Navy." He opened the rear door for Gerard and showed him out.

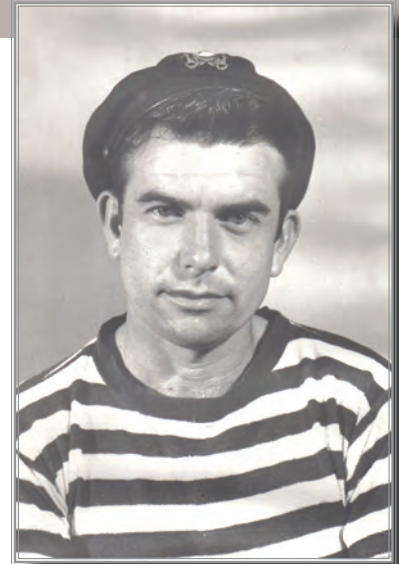
The LST embarked from Bermuda and headed towards Spain. Upon arrival at Spain, "ninety-day wonder Skipper" docked the ship and hit a large bolt on the dock, ripping a 100-foot long tear in the side of the ship. The Spanish welders installed metal plates over the damaged areas. The crew was informed that liberty would not be allowed in Spain. But the following morning on Sunday, Gerard mentioned to the Officers that he wanted

to attend a church service. He was allowed to go ashore in Spain and went to a High Mass in a Spanish Catholic Church.

The LST was then on to the Mediterranean Sea, heading to North Africa and finally landed at Tunis, Tunisia. The ship pulled along side an old LST moored in the Bay of Tunis with the stern blown off. The Crew was told that they would berth on this old ship. Upon arrival, they were informed that their duty would be to convert this old ship into a "repair ship". They built a wooden shack on top for a carpenter's mill workshop and moved machinery on the tank deck for a machine shop. Gerard lived aboard this old LST for almost 2 years. This "repair ship" was used to maintain U.S. Navy vessels being prepared for the invasion of Italy and Southern France.

A Naval Destroyer pulled along side the converted repair ship with a world class STAR sailboat on the deck. The crew hoisted the STAR sailboat aboard. Captain Oppie (Admiral King's son-in-law), stated that he had "found" this STAR in Southern France. Gerard was instructed to make a new spruce mast and maintain the craft. Captain Oppie enjoyed sailing this STAR sailboat on the Bay of Tunis with a pretty nurse aboard and Gerard acting as his crew.

Gerard had completed his time in the Navy and fortunately the liner "*America*" was at a nearby dock. Some of the crew were billeted aboard that ship. Gerard volunteered for duty in the galley and enjoyed all the milk and desserts he could consume on the five day trip back to the States.



Gerard L. Parsons

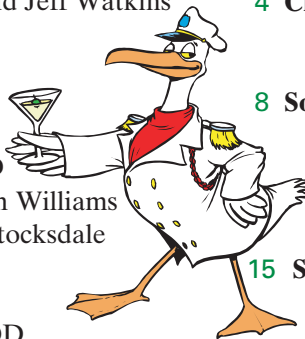


# Bar Host/OD Schedule

Warren Ristow Vice Commodore

## June

- 3 Social Hour**—Hugh Beatty, OD  
*Hosts:* Thomas Tucker and Robin Kisinger  
 Erine and Jean DeGasparis  
 Melissa Melissa and Jeff Watkins
- 5 Brunch**—Tom Swem, OD  
*Hosts:* TBD
- 10 Social Hour**—Michael Dobrzensky, OD  
*Hosts:* Richard and Karen Williams  
 John and Eilene Stocksdale  
 TBD
- 17 Social Hour/ No Dinner**—Bob Hurd, OD  
*Hosts:* John and Michelle Soegenfrei  
 John Diaz  
 John and Lynn Schlenker
- 24 Social Hour**—Jean Dyer, OD  
*Hosts:* Matt and Terry Roberts  
 Gregory Ross  
 Lois and Orville Hesch



## July

- 1 Social Hour**—Bill Dyer, OD  
*Hosts:* Hank and Elizabeth Benjamin  
 John and Fredene Maulhardt
- 3 Brunch**—Sharon Andresen, OD  
*Hosts:* TBD
- 4 Cheeseburgers in Paradise**—OD TBD  
*Hosts:* Bob and Sylvia Cazier
- 8 Social Hour**—Bob Ellis, OD  
*Hosts:* C. Baring Farmer  
 Matthew and Kimberly Farmer  
 Peggy Golden
- 15 Social Hour**—Jean Dyer, OD  
*Hosts:* Roger and Dagmar Malkus  
 Dan and Georgina Pease  
 Lauren Krup
- 22 Social Hour/Kids at Sea Dinner**—Wiley Poole, OD  
*Hosts:* Steve and Ann Hansen  
 Patrick McGowen  
 Steve and Teresa Match
- 29 Social Hour**—Ron Pigeon, OD  
*Hosts:* Mark and Christine Machala  
 Peter and Mary Kelley  
 Glenn and Lorie Norkus



## San Luis Yacht Club

### Officers, Staff, and Committees

|                                    |                          |
|------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| <b>Commodore</b>                   | 481-5827                 |
| Bob Hurd                           | commodore@slyc.org       |
| <b>Vice Commodore</b>              | 438-4406                 |
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| <b>Rear Commodore</b>              | 481-1933                 |
| Bill Dyer (Reservations)           | rearcommodore@slyc.org   |
| <b>Treasurer</b>                   | 528-4728                 |
| Sharon Andresen                    | treasurer@slyc.org       |
| <b>Secretary</b>                   | 481-1933                 |
| Jean Dyer (Membership)             | secretary@slyc.org       |
| <b>Port Captain</b>                | 773-0828                 |
| Rick Bertram (Liaison to the Port) | portcapt@slyc.org        |
| <b>Sail Fleet Captain</b>          | (209) 769-3157           |
| Bob Ellis (Racing)                 | fleet_captain@slyc.org   |
| <b>Power Fleet Captain</b>         | 481-2874                 |
| Wiley Poole                        | powercaptain@slyc.org    |
| <b>Cruising Captain</b>            | 481-7887                 |
| Ron Pigeon                         | cruisingcaptain@slyc.org |
| <b>Directors</b>                   |                          |
| Steve Johnson                      | 541-3571                 |
|                                    | director1@slyc.org       |
| Tom Swem                           | 544-4422                 |
|                                    | director2@slyc.org       |
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|                                    | director3@slyc.org       |

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#### Burgees, Jeff Liberman

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 captjl@msn.com



#### Committees

|                       |                      |
|-----------------------|----------------------|
| House—Bill Dyer       | See "Rear Commodore" |
| Finance—Warren Ristow | See "Vice Commodore" |
| Membership—Tom Swem   | See "Director2"      |
| Steering—Brian King   | See "Historian"      |
| Social—Brenda Noakes  | 489-4397             |
| Nominating—TBD        |                      |

# Events Calendar – June

## June 2011



| Sun   | Mon                  | Tue   | Wed                     | Thu                     | Fri  | Sat  |
|---|----------------------|---|-------------------------|-------------------------|--|--|
| 29<br>John F. Kennedy's<br>Birthday<br>No Reservations  | 30<br>Memorial Day   | 31  | 1                       | 2<br>6pm - Board(Poole) | 3<br>6pm - Social Hour                     | 4<br>No Reservations                         |
| 5<br>No Reservations<br>10am - Brunch<br>12pm - Ocean Races   | 6                    | 7   | 8<br>6pm - Wet Weds     | 9                       | 10<br>6pm - Social Hour                    | 11<br>No Reservations<br>9am - Sailing Class |
| 12<br>No Reservations<br>9am - Sailing Class  | 13                   | 14<br>Flag Day<br> | 15                      | 16                      | 17<br>6pm - Social Hour<br>7pm - No Dinner | 18<br>No Reservations<br>9am - Sailing Class |
| 19<br>Father's Day<br>No Reservations<br>9am - Sailing Class<br> | 20<br>6pm - Pale Kai | 21  | 22<br>4:30pm - Reserved | 23                      | 24<br>6pm - Social Hour<br>7pm - Potluck   | 25<br>No Reservations                        |
| 26<br>No Reservations   | 27                   | 28  | 29                      | 30<br>4pm - Reserved    | 1<br>6pm - Social Hour                     | 2<br>No Reservations                         |

# Events Calendar – July



## July 2011

| Sun   | Mon   | Tue | Wed                   | Thu                            | Fri  | Sat   |
|---|---|-----|-----------------------|--------------------------------|--|---|
| 26<br>No Reservations   | 27  | 28  | 29                    | 30<br>4 pm - Reserved          | 1<br>6 pm - Social Hour  | 2<br>No Reservations                          |
| 3<br>No Reservations<br>10 am - Brunch<br>12 pm - Ocean Races | 4<br>Independence Day<br><br>Cheeseburgers<br>in Paradise<br> | 5   | 6                     | 7<br>6 pm - Board(Dyer<br>B&J) | 8<br>6 pm - Social Hour  | 9<br>No Reservations<br>9 am - Sailing Class  |
| 10<br>No Reservations<br>9 am - Sailing Class                 | 11  | 12  | 13<br>6 pm - Wet Weds | 14                             | 15<br>6 pm - Social Hour<br>7 pm - Dinner  | 16<br>No Reservations<br>9 am - Sailing Class |
| 17<br>No Reservations<br>9 am - Sailing Class                 | 18<br>6 pm - Pale Kai   | 19  | 20                    | 21                             | 22<br>6 pm - Social Hour<br>7 pm - Dinner-Kids at<br>Sea<br> | 23<br>No Reservations                         |
| 24<br>No Reservations   | 25  | 26  | 27                    | 28                             | 29<br>6 pm - Social Hour<br>7 pm - Potluck   | 30<br>No Reservations                         |
| 31<br>No Reservations   | 1   | 2   | 3                     | 4<br>6 pm - Board(Swem)        | 5<br>6 pm - Social Hour  | 6<br>No Reservations                          |

## Classified

**1985 SeaRay Cruiser:** 25' cuddy cabin. MerCruiser Alpha One V-8 motor, Garmin GPS, Pioneer Stereo, Cybermet marine radio, lots of fishing accessories. Fresh tune up. Not used in past year.

Karen Gruber, (805) 748-1964

**Marine Battery Charger:** Guest Charge Pro Model 2632 Three Stage Battery Charger. 30 Amps, 3 Individual Outputs 20A/5A/5A, Input – 115 VAC \$150.

Brian, (805) 235-7361


**Auto Pilots:** 2 auto pilots: Wagner MP 320 and a Sport Pilot. Original price for each was approximately \$1,000 or best offer.

Denny Wheeler, (805) 441-9161

## Business Advertising



**JASON VORK**  
REALTOR® Associate  
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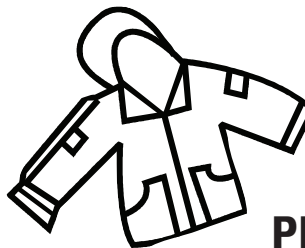
The SLYC  
wishes to  
thank



for providing excellent  
assembly and mailing  
services.

**Hey!**

The **Ships Store**  
seams, pun intended.



is bursting at the  
Please take a look at the

variety of **garments** and **accessories** that are for sale and  
buy something to wear and show your support for the Club.  
Hopefully the Ships Store will be open at every Club event, but  
if it isn't and you want to look at something just grab an officer.  
They've all been instructed to sell, sell, sell.