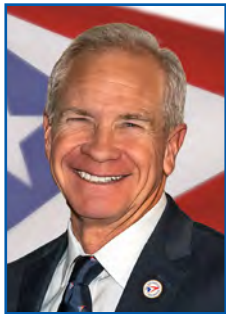


the Foghorn

Newsletter of the San Luis Yacht Club



View From the Bridge

by Pat Mullen,
Commodore

A hoy everyone. Spring is here and April brings exciting activities for San Luis Yacht Club. Opening Day is Saturday, April 18, so please plan to attend! Opening Day is the traditional kickoff to the sailing and racing season, as well as many of our club activities that occur from now until the fall. Vice Commodore **Kristin Rasmussen** is in charge of Opening Day and she has a terrific itinerary and list of activities, commendations and new member introductions, as well as good food and music. April also brings our annual Club Clean-up Day, which will be Saturday, April 11. Rear Commodore **Carter McGowen** leads this activity and has a full crew signed up, including Cruising Captain **Mike Davis** and **Brittany Tomasko** helping organize and coordinate the day's cleaning tasks. Thanks to the members that volunteer to pull these two big events off for our club.

Cruising Captain **Mike Davis**, along with Vice Commodore **Kristin Rasmussen** really hit it out of the park with our recent club trip to Sensorio Field of Lights in Paso Robles. Laura and I had such fun with our group at this light and art experience that we had never been to before. And our St. Patrick's Day event had members wearing 'o the green, and noshing and jiggng with the best of them! Our social activities have really hit their stride. Many thanks to Director and Social Chair **Marcia Scott**, and her team of volunteers. The Kentucky Derby Days is next up on Saturday, May 2, so come out and root for your favorite Thoroughbred.

With sailing season nearly upon use, be sure to attend the April 15 Wet Wednesday and catch Sail Fleet Captain **J.J. Francoisse's** presentation on ASA 103 and other certifications he and the club will be offering.

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On Saturday, March 7, I had the honor of contacting our newest members to inform them the board had unanimously approved their probationary memberships into the club. Please join me in welcoming the following to the club; **Grant Elwood, Roger Emmons and Elizabeth Burkhead, Tony and Pat Goetz, Dan Harper, Jim and Arlene Peterson, Chad and Jenny Pfarr, Trevor Moriarty and Leslie Santos, Carina Sayles, Darren Howey and Tiz Tomalin, Douglas Twisselmann and Gretchen Flicker.** Congratulations to them and to their sponsors. I also want to sincerely thank the 2026 Membership Committee, chaired by Jr. Staff Commodore **Bret Clark**, and including **Bill Dyer, Michael Dobrzensky and Marty Fuller.**

See you all at Opening Day!
Cheers,
—Pat



Vice Views

by Kristin Rasmussen,
Vice Commodore

A hoy everyone.

Celebrating St. Patrick's Day & Looking Ahead to Opening Day

The spirit of St. Patrick was alive and well at the club as members gathered to celebrate with good food, great company, and a festive atmosphere. A heartfelt thank you goes out to all the volunteers who made the St. Patrick's Day Dinner Dance such a memorable evening.

Special appreciation to **Barry Stewart** and **Marty Fuller** for preparing a delicious traditional corned beef and cabbage dinner, and to **Dave Ouelett** and **Patrick Corrigan** for keeping spirits high behind the bar. We are also grateful to **Lettie Fuller, Tina Radovich, John and Mary Janowicz, Angela Brokaw, Anna Mullen, Steve Goto,** and **Nancy Stewart** for their efforts as

servers and clean-up crew—your teamwork kept everything running smoothly. **Marcia Scott** and her decorating crew transformed the club beautifully for the occasion, creating the perfect festive setting. And of course, the evening wouldn't have been complete without a little friendly competition—our game brought out everyone's competitive side in the best way!

Now, as we turn the page to the next big event, Opening Day is just around the corner on Saturday, April 18th. With the unusually warm weather at the end of March, we can confidently say the harbor is ready—and so are we—for the start of sailing season.

Here are a few tips to make the most of Opening Day:

- Don't miss it—there's no better day to celebrate the boating lifestyle.
- Dress your preppy best and embrace the tradition.

- Get to know the bar hosts—they'll keep the celebration lively.
- Welcome and connect with visiting members from other yacht clubs.



Volunteer Opportunities

There are still a variety of volunteer opportunities available on Time To Sign Up (TTSU). If you're still looking to complete your first volunteer duty before June, now is a great time to get involved. Volunteering is a wonderful way to meet fellow members and contribute to the club's success. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to ask.

We look forward to seeing everyone on Opening Day and throughout an exciting season ahead!

—Kristin 



*Commodore Pat Mullen
and the Flag Officers of*

San Luis Yacht Club

443 Front Street, Avila Beach, CA 93424

"At the foot of the Avila Pier."

Cordially invites you to attend

Opening Day Ceremonies

Saturday, April 18, 2026

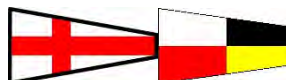
1100 hours ~ Hors d'oeuvres

1200 hours ~ Ceremonies

RSVP to

*Kristin Rasmussen, Vice Commodore
vicecommodore@slyc.org or (805)471-7127*

Celebrating 89 Years





Sr. Staff Commodore Report

by Bob Hurd,
Sr. Staff Commodore

Commodore, the two Staff Commodores, Secretary, Treasurer, Power Fleet Captain, Sailing Fleet Captain, Cruising Captain, Port Captain, and three other Flag Members of the Club (Directors).

The Club's Officers Handbook says the Senior Staff Commodore serves as the chair of the nominating committee.

That means as we get closer to the General Membership Meeting in November I will be looking to fill in a slate of officers for 2027.

Please think about having your photo on the wall of past Commodores and take the first step and take on of the officer positions next year.

You will be able to:

- Directly participate in the governance of the Club—help it flourish
- Learn about yourself and build valuable relationships
- Gain a sense of community within the Club
- Opportunity to give back to the Club

Contact me and let's talk about how good you would look with your smiling face on the Officer's page of the Club website.

Thank you and see you at the Club.

—Bob

A hoy Members. Most members first foray into being on the Board of the San Luis Yacht Club is as a Director. Although, many have started out as Secretary (thank you **Kyle Soucy**), Treasurer (thank you **Lily Curtis**), Port Captain, and frequently Fleet Captain (thank you **Dave Ouellet** and **J.J. Francoise**). I ran for Director one year where there were more than 3 candidates and I did not get elected (I should have stopped while I was ahead). Usually, candidates run unopposed for the various positions.

Our Club's Constitution defines the Board of Directors to be composed of the Commodore, Vice Commodore, Rear



From the Director

by Marcia Scott,
Director 3

and the decorating crew who transformed the clubhouse into a festive place that any leprechaun would want to sneak into. For some fun, I am including a photo of the early morning decorating crew—from left to right is **Lily Curtis**, **Cindy Luxton**, **Mika Richardson**, **Terry Whitney**, and **Marcia Scott** (me).

Have fun and take good care of each other! I look forward to seeing you all at the club soon.

A hoy Members. My first three months on the SLYC board have been enjoyable, and I remain confident and happy with my decision to serve. I'm also pleased to report there have been no major squalls or shipwrecks as of yet!

I attended the St. Patrick's Day Dinner & Dance at the club last week and fully embraced being Irish for the day by indulging in a delicious corned-beef dinner, Irish drink, and dancing to the music of Easy Degrees. A big shout out to all who made the party a huge success—the cooks, kitchen help, bar tenders, cleanup crew,



—Marcia



From the Secretary

by Kyle Soucy,
Secretary

A hoy! Tall Ships Coming to Boston! July 11-16, 2026

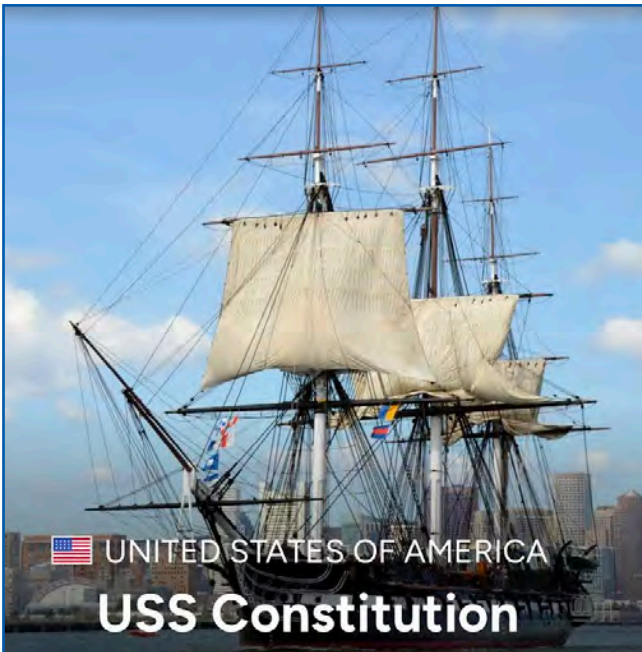
The Sail250® tour is celebrating the 250th anniversary of the founding of the United States (1776) which sees the arrival of this international fleet of tall ships in Boston Hah-bah. Also reads as: the city is gonna be a madhouse. Fifty humungous ships convene in

Boston ports and a few offer tickets to go out for a day sail (sailboston.com). Even Old Ironsides (USS Constitution) will be representing my home port. As kids, my parents took us to this grand event and we basically adopted a French sailor for the day (also reads: loosely kidnapped). Acting as his personal tour guides, we took him all over Boston and of course fed him a cup of chowda. My limited high school French and his French/English dictionary got us through the day. When we went to drop him back at his ship, he told us to wait and spoke to his captain. He got permission for a private tour of his boat (which even housed a helicopter that folded in half)! Just per chance, AJ and I are headed home that week to see new babies born on both sides of the family and plan to stay in the North End for a few nights. Maybe I can get AJ to go on a day sail with me! Let us know if you're going to be in town!

Thanks,
—Kyle ⚓

The Tall Ships Return to Boston Harbor for Sail Boston® July 11-16, 2026

This spectacular event offers crews, cadets and visitors from all over the world an unforgettable experience and a world-class maritime celebration. Come and see why Tall Ships America named Boston its 2009 and 2017 Port of the Year.





Fleet News

by J.J. Francoisse,
Sail Fleet Captain

A hoy Sailors.

Beyond the Buoys—Take the Helm with ASA 103. Mark your calendar—our next Wet Wednesday on April 15 will be dedicated to ASA 103, Basic Coastal Cruising, giving you a relaxed, no-pressure afternoon to get an overview of the course along with some practical hands-on activities. Our yacht club is forming a group to pursue ASA 103 certification, and this is the perfect opportunity to ask questions, get a feel for the skill set involved, and meet others who are equally passionate about taking their sailing to the next level. If you hold an ASA 101 certification or are already comfortable at the helm of a sailboat, this course was designed with you in mind.

Think of ASA 101 as learning to drive in a parking lot. You mastered the fundamentals—points of sail, basic maneuvering, safety awareness—on a smaller boat in controlled conditions. ASA 103 takes you out onto the open road. Where ASA 101 focused on a smaller daysailer in the 20–27-foot range under light to moderate winds, ASA 103 moves you up to an auxiliary-powered keelboat between 25 and 35 feet, sailing in conditions up to 20

knots. The shift in scope is every bit as significant as the shift in vessel size. In ASA 101, your role was that of a developing helmsman learning the basics of sail trim and boat handling. In ASA 103, you step fully into the role of skipper, responsible for the safety of the vessel, the well-being of your crew, and the success of the passage.

The curriculum reflects that added responsibility at every turn. Navigation moves well beyond the introductory level, putting charts, GPS, and coastal piloting tools squarely in your hands. Weather awareness evolves from basic concepts into a working understanding of high- and low-pressure systems, weather fronts, local patterns, and the Beaufort Scale—giving you the knowledge to make sound go or no-go decisions before you leave the dock. Anchoring is taken up in earnest, covering proper scope calculation, anchorage selection, and overnight techniques. And perhaps most practically for many sailors, the course dedicates real time to handling the auxiliary engine—maneuvering in close quarters, entering and exiting a slip, and docking with confidence in variable conditions. USCG Navigation Rules, including right-of-way, crossing and overtaking situations, and protocols in restricted visibility such as fog, round out a curriculum designed to make you a fully capable coastal skipper.

Whether your goal is to charter in the Channel Islands, make an overnight run up the coast to Morro Bay, or one day sail the Sea of Cortez or the Mediterranean, ASA 103 is where that journey truly begins. We hope to see you on the dock on April 15 to learn more. Come with your questions, your curiosity, and your enthusiasm.

Dock lines are meant to be cast off—we'll see you out there.

—J.J. ⚓



Cruising News

by Mike Davis,
Cruising Captain

A hoy Sailors,

On March 7, sixteen members participated in a group outing to Tin City Distillery, Barrelhouse Brewing Co., and Sensorio's Field of Light. Attendees included **Laura and Pat Mullen; Kyle and AJ Soucy; Mika and Frank Richardson; Carrie Anne and Michael Ginn; Lettie and Marty Fuller; Kristin Rasmussen; Barry Stewart; Sylvia Dodd; Melissa Smith; and Mike Davis.** The group began the evening with food and beverages at Tin City in Paso Robles before gathering on Sensorio's main lawn for live music and dancing (see photo collage on next page). Laura and Pat arrived early and secured a firepit

table and seating, providing a comfortable spot for the group to enjoy music, refreshments, and conversation. At sunset, members explored Sensorio's illuminated exhibits, making the outing both well attended and thoroughly enjoyable.

Our next event is the Santa Barbara Sail & Dockside Party on Saturday, June 20. Members will sail together beginning at 1000 hours, followed by a dockside gathering aboard "Amigos" (Marina 2) at 1730 hours, featuring tacos, beverages, and dessert.

Please visit the SLYC Cruising Events page at <https://slyc.org/Cruising/cruising.html> for the full schedule. For questions or to participate, contact Mike Davis, Cruising Captain, at cruisingcaptain@slyc.org or 8058786817.

I hope everyone is enjoying the early summer weather. I hope to see you at the next SLYC social event.

—Mike ⚓



SLYC SENSORIO 2026





Port Report

by Ray Mattison,
Port Captain

Hi folks.

It is a great honor to return to the Board filling the vacant Port Captain position. Mere days later the Commodore and I attended the PSL Property Committee Meeting on Friday, March 20th (Drew Brandy and **Mary Matakovich**).

Of interest to all of our members are two issues heading up to the March 24 Commission meeting.

Cal Poly seeks to hold their yearly “BreakaWave” Rodeo on the beach directly before the Clubhouse in September of this year. They expect 2,000-3,000 rodeo fans. Rob Rossi plans an event at the golf course and is helping with parking.

Within the year Cal Poly seeks to put 3 buoys in the navigable waters before their pier to study the use of “wave energy” to make electricity. The *Datawell Waverider buoy* does all the work.

Round, 3’ diameter, 500 pounds, it is connected to the pier by an underwater cable with two smaller buoys holding it up.

Commodore **Pat Mullen** informed the Commissioners that this was an important issue for us and obtained a promise to be involved in the process. We will keep an eye on this request.

Here is the Port Report from the March session. I had a nice introductory meeting with the Port’s new Harbor Manager, Will Friedman, at their property meeting, and presented the board with our club’s 2025 annual report, written by Commodore **Bret Clark**.

The Lighthouse Keepers were awarded grant funding, which will be used to refurbish the cistern on site. They will also be celebrating their 135th Anniversary! Be sure to check out their summer concert series as they are selling out fast.

The Fiscal Year 25/26 preliminary budget was the big topic of conversation. Link to budget packet: <https://tinyurl.com/y897uz8d>

Their current budget will cover any operating loss for this fiscal year—approximately \$356K operating loss projected. The Harbor Commission stressed that revenue generation ideas need to be found to make up future operating losses in coming years. The port has \$200K left in reserves currently. The 25/26 budget will be approved at the June 24th meeting.

See you all next month!

—Ray

Sunshine Committee

Members know me best as the “Sunshine lady” who for about the last 15 years has attempted to provide comfort to our members dealing with illness, recovery from surgeries, or even grief. Most of you don’t know that I have a cohort who provides comfort to our broader community through her therapy work. She is my Australian Labradoodle, Millie, who is a nationally-certified therapy dog and who works in local hospitals, 8 care centers, schools, and the Nipomo library. She brings love and joy to anyone she serves, and this volunteer work is immeasurably rewarding.

If you have a calm loving dog who might be a good therapy dog, or if you would like to receive the services of one, read on. I was asked by Dave Congalton of KVEC radio to come onto his program on 3/11 with Millie to describe the work she does so well for our community. I emphasize that she is the star who does all the therapy work; I am merely her chauffeur who brings her to various facilities.

Click on the link below to listen to KVEC’s 30-minute podcast.
[hometown_radio_kathleen_o’neil](#)



— Kathleen O’Neill
Sunshine Committee

Bar Host/OD Schedule

April 2026

3 Friday Social

—Bob Hurd, OD
Bar Hosts: Gary Ross
Greg Ross
Food Help/Clean-up: Amber Tierney
Douglas Anthony

10 Friday Social

—Bob Hurd, OD
Bar Hosts: Stephen Johnson
Barry Cleveland
Food Host/Clean-up: Don and Kathy Hannula
Kelly Hannula

15 Wet Wednesday

—Mike Davis OD
Bar Hosts: Joe Boud
Dave Tennant
Chief Cook: Jan and Jim Smith
Crew: Rick Bertram



17 Friday Social

—TBD, OD
Bar Hosts: Shad and Shelly Springer
Brandon and Delaney Spiller
Food Host/Clean-up: Lauri Rainwater-Quinn
Karen Silva

18 Saturday Opening Day

—Kristin Rasmussen and Bob Hurd, OD
Early Setup: Catherine Ulrich
Phil Borgardt
Val Gillespie
Bar Hosts 9:30-1:00: Sylvia Dodd
Ali Stephenson
Bar Hosts 1:00-4:00: Sylvia Dodd
Ali Stephenson
Clean-up: Michael Larrabee
Mark Corella
Freeman Tidaback



24 Friday Social/Potluck

—TBD, OD
Bar Hosts: Lindalee Fromm
Karen Silva
Food Host/Clean-up: Noreen Johnston
OPEN



May 2026

1 Friday Social - Cinco de Mayo

—TBD, OD
Bar Hosts: Paul Waldron
OPEN
Food Host/Clean-up: Annette Hackman
OPEN(2)



2 Saturday - Kentucky Derby Day

—Lily Curtis, OD
Bar Hosts: Lindalee Fromm
Tom Swem
Food Host/Clean-up: **OPEN(2)**
Set-up/Decorations: Marcia Scott
Lily Curtis
Check in/Clean up: Marcia Scott



8 Friday Social

—Mike Davis, OD
Bar Hosts: Jeffrey Stewart
Thomas Hill
Food Host/Clean-up: Melissa Smith
Kevin Williams

9 Saturday-Commodore's Dinner

—Kyle Soucy, OD
Bar Hosts: Melanie Topp
Yvonne and Peter Secord
Assist. Cook: **OPEN**
Crew/Clean-up: **OPEN(3)**



15 Friday Social

—Bret Clark, OD
Bar Hosts: Shad and Shelly Springer
Brandon and Delaney Spiller
Food Host/Clean-up: Andrew Anthony
Wendy Lucas

20 Wet Wednesday

—Kristin Rasmussen OD
Bar Hosts: George Risher
Bob Engel
Chief Cook: Martin and Debra Testa
Cook Helpers: Scott and Karen Negri



22 Friday Social

—David Butcher, OD
Bar Hosts: Jeff Blauer
Michael Nunno
Food Host/Clean-up: Diane Frost
Nancy Alvarado

29 Friday Social/Potluck

—TBD, OD
Bar Hosts: David Murray
Albert Censullo
Food Host/Clean-up: Tom and Ruth Donnelly
OPEN (3)



Events Calendar APRIL 2026

SUN 29	MON 30	TUE 31	WED Apr 1	THU 2	FRI 3	SAT 4
				6pm Board Meeting in Clubhouse 	No Reservations 6pm Friday Social Hour	
5 Easter Sunday No Reservations Allowed 	6 Easter Monday	7	8	9	10 No Reservations 6pm Friday Social Hour	11 9am Annual Clean-up Day 
12 No Reservations Allowed	13	14	15 Tax Day Wet Wednesday 	16 2pm Friends of Avila Pier	17 No Reservations 6pm Friday Social Hour	18 11am Opening Day 
19 No Reservations Allowed	20	21	22	23	24 No Reservations 6pm Friday Social Hour 7pm Potluck 	25 Tentative Reservation Hawley 3-8pm
26 No Reservations Allowed	27	28	29	30	May 1 No Reservations 6pm Friday Social Hour	2 2 :30pm Kentucky Derby Watch Party 

Events Calendar MAY 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
26 No Reservations Allowed	27	28	29	30	1 No Reservations 6pm - Friday Social Hour	2 2:30pm - Kentucky Derby 
3 No Reservations Allowed Ocean Race #1 	4 Cinco de Mayo 	5	6 6pm - Board Meeting in Clubhouse 	7	8 No Reservations 6pm - Friday Social Hour	9 6pm - Commodore's Dinner 
10 Mother's Day  No Reservations Allowed	11 6pm - Steering Committee	12	13	14	15 No Reservations 6pm - Friday Social Hour	16
17 No Reservations Allowed	18	19 1pm - Wet Wednesday on the water 	20	21 2pm - Friends of Avila Pier	22 No Reservations 6pm - Friday Social Hour	23
24 No Reservations Allowed	25 Memorial Day 	26	27	28	29 No Reservations 6pm - Friday Social Hour 7pm - Potluck 	30
31 No Reservations Allowed	1	2	3	4 6pm - Board Meeting in Clubhouse 	5 No Reservations 6pm - Friday Social Hour	6 RESERVED 5pm - Rainwater-Quinn



San Luis Yacht Club

Officers, Staff, and Committees 2025



Officers

Commodore Pat Mullen	805-305-3364 commodore@slyc.org
Vice Commodore Kristin Rasmussen (Volunteer: TimeToSignUp)	805-471-7127 vicecommodore@slyc.org
Rear Commodore Carter McGowen (Facility)	805-550-6072 rearcommodore@slyc.org
Secretary Kyle Soucy	978-621-2716 secretary@slyc.org
Treasurer Lily Curtis	219-299-9087 treasurer@slyc.org
Port Captain Ray Mattison (Liaison to the Port)	805-544-1945 portcaptain@slyc.org
Sail Fleet JJ Francoisse (Racing)	909-561-6746 fleetcaptain@slyc.org
Power Fleet Captain David Bucher (Chase Boat)	805-215-9995 powercaptain@slyc.org
Cruising Captain Mike Davis	805-878-6817 cruisingcaptain@slyc.org

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1 - Eddie O'Brien	831-620-5472 Director-1@slyc.org
2 - Matthew Farmer	805-440-4399 Director-2@slyc.org
3 - Marcia Scott	805-440-3662 Director-3@slyc.org

Staff Commodores

Bob Hurd	805-550-9071 SStaffCommodore@slyc.org
Bret Clark	805-704-2608 JStaffCommodore@slyc.org

Staff

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Purser Denise Reynolds	805-748-3064 Dmreynolds987@gmail.com
Quartermaster Jana Barter (Ship's Store)	805-550-5013 slomocean123@gmail.com
Sunshine Committee Kathleen O'Neill	805-550-5010 koneill555@gmail.com
Webmaster (Scuttlebutt) Michael Dobrzensky	805-801-4988 webmaster@slyc.org

Committees

Finance—Kristin Rasmussen	See "Vice Commodore"
House—Carter McGowen	See "Rear Commodore"
Membership—Bret Clark	See "Staff Commodores"
Steering—Bob Hurd	See "Staff Commodores"
Nominating—Bob Hurd	See "Staff Commodores"
Social Director—Marcia Scott	805-440-3662 twhitney@ati7.com

