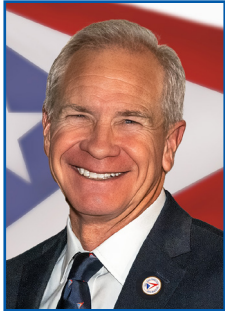


the Foghorn

Newsletter of the San Luis Yacht Club



View From the Bridge

by Pat Mullen,
Commodore

A hoy everyone.

As I write this, I am just home from the Santa Barbara Sail and Dock Party! What a fabulous time. We had nearly 50 club members attending, 45 or more out sailing on 7 club member's boats. It was sunny and warm with a good amount of wind. And a terrific dock party afterwards aboard **Darrel and Linda Rundstrom's** and **Marty and Lettie Fuller's** beautiful "Amigos," a 38' Seawind 1160 catamaran. The Fullers and Rundstroms were great hosts. And a big thanks to Cruising Captain **Mike Davis** for organizing such a successful club event.

Wet Wednesday in June was also great success with a full house turning out to hear **Roger Briggs'** program on sailing and racing. I think these are the perfect type of programs for our club, where you get to hear about fun and exciting boating and sailing, and you get to learn something valuable as well. All the attendees were engaged with good questions and discussion about the concepts and animated videos of different sailing and racing tactics and rules, and the Corinthian Spirit of safety, sportsmanship, camaraderie and integrity. The group was treated to a delicious grilled chicken dinner by cooks **Jim and Arlene Peterson**, with **Carina Sayles** as crew, and bar hosts Joe and Barb Boud and Dan Harper, and OD Ray Mattison. It was a fun and informative evening.

I hope everyone has a terrific 4th of July, whether at the club for Cheeseburgers in Paradise, or wherever you celebrate it. We are fortunate to



live where we do, and have the opportunity and freedom to pursue the many and varied interests we all share. Cheers to the United States 250th Independence Day!

Cheers,
—Pat



Vice Views

by Kristin Rasmussen,
Vice Commodore

A hoy. Sailing Memories and Lifelong Friendships

As I was enjoying the sail during our annual Santa Barbara Sail Day and Dockside Party, I found myself reflecting on how my own sailing journey began. I thought I would share a little of that story with you.

My first experience on a sailboat came at the age of two. My dad and a group of friends had purchased a beautiful 48-foot, 1938 John Alden cutter-rigged

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sloop named Freedom. The owners were an eclectic mix of local businessmen—some experienced sailors and some who were learning as they went. They spent weekends practicing together, learning together, and eventually racing together.

I loved going along on those adventures. My dad (or sometimes my mom) would tie a couple of lines to me, tethering me safely to the stanchions while I sat out on the bowsprit with my legs dangling over the bow, face turned into the wind as we cut through the swells. To a little kid, it felt magical. When I eventually got tired, they would tuck me into the sail locker where I would fall asleep nestled between the huge sailbags.

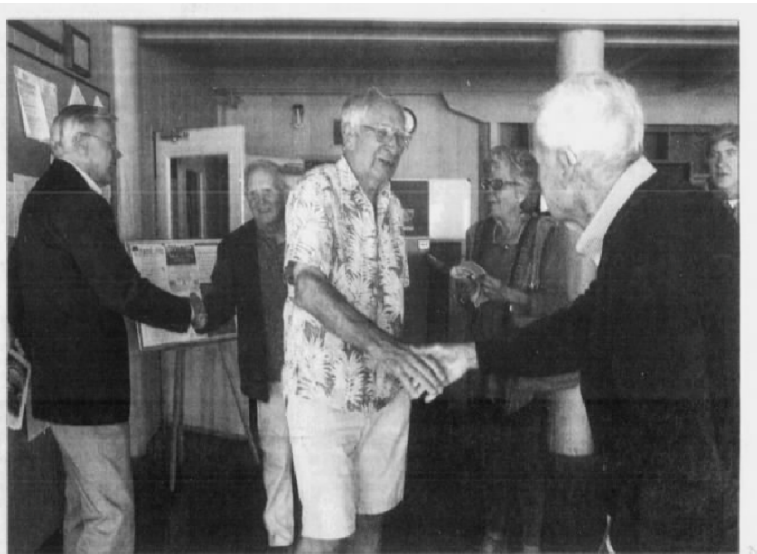
Over the years, Freedom and her crew became accomplished sailors. Together they competed in—and won—the Newport to

Ensenada Race a couple of times in the late 1960s. Fifty years later, the Ventura County Star published an article celebrating the anniversary of one of those Ensenada victories and the friendships that grew from those sailing days.

My dad passed away last October after 90 wonderful years, and as I enjoyed another afternoon on the water during our Santa Barbara outing, I found myself thinking about those old sailing friends, my current sailing friends, and how our shared love of the ocean and boating brings people together across generations.

Sailing has always been about more than the boats. It is about friendship, memories, adventure, and the people we share the water with.

—Kristin 



Former owners of the Freedom reunite at the Ventura Yacht Club in April. From left are Larry Rasmussen, of Ventura; Dr. Art Ecker, of Camarillo; Bill Ramelli, of Camarillo; and Dr. Phil Snow, of Santa Paula.



The 48-foot cutter called Freedom was designed by famous boat builder John Alder.

Freedom and friendship

Boat's owners put the county on sailing map

By Cheri Carlson
ccarlson@vcstar.com
805-437-0260

Some might call it crazy: A real estate agent prone to seasickness buying a 48-foot yacht.

They might wonder how he persuaded nine other guys — most with no sailing experience — to go in on it with him.

But the part of the adventure no one saw coming: That those 10 guys and a sailboat called Freedom helped put Ventura County on the map in the yachting world.

Fifty years ago this spring, the local crew took home a win in the world-famous Newport to Ensenada race.

"They call it the biggest yacht race in the world because of the number of entries," said Stan Whisenhunt, who has sailed and written about sailing in the area for decades. "Back in the day, 50 years ago, they would have 300 entries."

News reports at the time called Freedom's win an upset. Precedent was broken when the cutter captured the prize, the Golden Coast News reported in 1966.

"It was the first victory for any Tri-County craft in the race, and served notice that



The Golden Coast News published a photo of the eight crew members with their trophy from the Newport-to-Ensenada race in 1966. From left are Larry Bruner, Dr. Bud Krebs, Sal Reyes, Dr. Phil Snow, John McNellis, Larry Rasmussen, Bill Ramelli and Dr. Art Ecker.

See FREEDOM, 3A

CONTINUED PHOTO



Crew members on the Freedom in a photo published in the Ventura County Star-Free Press in 1967.

San Luis  Yacht Club



Jr. Staff Commodore Report

by Bret Clark,
Jr. Staff Commodore

did this year in nominating ten new memberships to the club. These new members have been very active at the club, participating in both onboarding and social activities. I am sure that many of you have met them if you have been at the clubhouse for Friday Socials or on the water. In order for you to know them a little bit better, I have asked that two new memberships submit short articles each month where they highlight some of the...

Please be sure to check back each month over the next five months to learn a little bit more about all of them.

Nautically,
Bret Clark 

Ahoy Members. **New Member Spotlight**

The most important role of the Junior Staff Commodore is to preside over the New Membership Selection Process. I am very proud of the work that the New Membership Selection Committee

San Luis  Yacht Club

Trevor Moriarty and Lesley Santos

Tell us about yourselves.

As both life and business partners, we feel fortunate to have another exciting voyage to share through our SLYC membership. We own a Farmers Insurance Agency in San Luis Obispo, have four young adult children between us, and call Arroyo Grande our home port.

Our course first crossed while participating in the same Leadership SLO Class ('19 with **Hal Hannula**, too!), and we've been a "crew" ever since. We both value the opportunity to benefit from and give back to our incredible local community.

Mark Corella and Lesley also spent several years working side by side in the nonprofit world, so it's especially rewarding to spend more time with longtime friends while charting new friendships at SLYC. We look forward to dropping anchor at the club as often as we can!

What has been your favorite SLYC experience so far?

It's hard to choose a favorite experience so far, but two volunteer opportunities are currently at the top of our list.

First, we had a fantastic time getting to know our fellow new members while serving as crew for the Commodore's Dinner. We enjoyed learning about the tradition behind the event, picking up tips from Yvonne's seasoned leadership as an SLYC host, and sharing plenty of laughs while navigating the fast pace of the galley. Who knew working up a sweat in a compact kitchen could be so much fun?

We're also eager to learn more about racing and thoroughly enjoyed helping staff the June races. Our duties were fairly straightforward, but the experience was invaluable. It was a beautiful day on the water, and we were surrounded by members who were more than happy to help us get our bearings. We peppered them with questions: How are race courses charted? How does handicapping work? What challenges do different vessels face when competing? Everyone patiently gave us great information—thank you!

Watching the fleet from shore gave us a whole new perspective. Observing the competitors, conditions, and race strategy unfold in real time provided insights we simply couldn't gain while aboard a boat ourselves. It was an enjoyable and educational experience that left us excited to keep learning and become more involved in the racing side of the club.

What have you learned about the club that you didn't know before becoming a member?

We never knew that SLYC is the best restaurant in town. Our grill team is outstanding! (Thank you to that team!) Also, we learned that no one knows the history of the flag remnant on the wall near the bathrooms and we're anxious to find the answer!

What activities are you looking forward to doing?

We haven't had a chance to attend one of the paid social events yet and we're looking forward to participating in the Cheeseburger in Paradise event for the 4th of July. We can't think of a better way to celebrate that holiday. And, we have high hopes for the burgers! We're also avid travelers, so the club's cruising events are definitely on our horizon. We're excited about the chance to explore new ports, swap sea stories, and make wakes—and memories—with our fellow SLYC members. If the camaraderie we've experienced so far is any indication, we expect those adventures to be well worth the voyage.



Pat and Tony Goetz

Tell us a little about yourselves.

While we have enjoyed attending functions over the last 15 years with other members, as new retirees we felt now was the time to join this wonderful club so we could give back and participate actively. We were hosts owning our bed-and-breakfast, The Casitas Estate, for 17 years and closed it last April. We are now renovating our new forever home in Pismo Heights and hope to move in this November. We are active scuba divers and love the sea. Pat is a proud Irish midwesterner born in Chicago and Tony is a native Californian (an Angeliño) fluent in German and his family's first born in the US.



What has been your favorite SLYC experience so far?

For Tony: Surprisingly, I really loved when we worked on cleanup day. It was fun being alongside members that we have never met before. I really enjoyed the camaraderie and passion that everyone had to get the club in tiptop shape for opening day. And as a bonus, Pat and I were assigned to clean up the liquor closet. Now we know what drinks are possible! We look forward to bartending for you in the future, maybe even creating a signature cocktail when we next host!

For Pat: we have had three occasions already this season to bring friends and picnic at the yacht club. It's shocking on a beautiful evening when we walk in and absolutely no one else is there. Conversely, it's great when there's a few other tables and we get to cross paths with more members with great stories to share. Watch out! I think I may learn mahjong some Thursday.

What have you learned about the club that you didn't know before becoming a member?

We are so blown away by the hard work from the team who remodeled the kitchen—and the use of it along with the new plateware is such a treat—we love to entertain and these enhancements really make it a dream. We are so honored to have the trust of our fellow 199 members and make sure we leave the club in shinier shape than when we arrived on every visit.

What activities are you looking forward to doing?

We look forward to being 'chefs' in the future with creative and yummy treats. We are planning on gaining more than our childhood experiences boating, and expanding our love of all things ocean.



From the Director

by Marcia Scott,
Director 3 and Social Chair

nights on the boat and enjoyed my first sail since having rotator cuff surgery in March.

It's good to be back on the water and sailing again! I rushed home from the sailing adventure just in time to see my 2-½ and almost 6-year-old granddaughters dance at the Clark Center. And then I hopped on a plane and flew to Ireland with my daughter and granddaughters...where I am now while you are reading this. We will visit Prague, Austria, and Amsterdam before heading home in July.

There are still volunteer opportunities available for the following social events. If available, please consider signing up on the SLYC website under Volunteer Signups 2026!

- Halloween Dinner & Dance — Saturday, October 24, 6:00–8:30 p.m.
- Sunday Brunches — August 16 and October 18

Remember, whether you come for the sailing, the sunsets, or the friendships, SLYC is a great place to be. If you have questions or would like to get involved with our social events—whether planning, cooking, decorating, or simply lending a hand—I'd love to hear from you.

See you at the Club.

—Marcia 

A hoy. Cheeseburgers in Paradise is ready to take place on July 4th from 11:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. The bar will be open, Easy Breezes band will be playing, the boat parade will be cruising by, and bacon cheeseburgers will be served off the grill. Tickets are on sale now and **MUST** be purchased ahead of time on the SLYC website under Upcoming Prepaid Events.

I was able to attend the Santa Barbara Day Sail and Dockside Party on June 20 and sailed aboard "Encore", a 44.5-foot Catalina, with owner **Grant Elwood** and crew/friends **Cindy Luxton**, **Lily** and **Jason Curtis**, and **Mika** and **Frank Richardson**. I spent two



Cruising News

by Mike Davis,
Cruising Captain

A hoy SLYC cruisers!

Fourth of July Boat Parade

Please mark your calendars for the 4th of July Boat Parade, which will be held on Saturday, July 4, 2026, at noon. Boats will line up at 11:30 a.m. next to the Cal Poly Pier. The parade is open to the public and is best viewed from the Avila Beach Pier.

If there is a Chase Boat Captain available to take out the "Chase" Boat for the 4th of July Parade, please contact me ASAP. A special thank-you goes to **Darby Neil**, **Frank Richardson**, and **Mika Richardson** for taking out "Second Wind" that day and helping support this fun holiday tradition.

Santa Barbara Sail & Dockside Party

Our Saturday, June 20th, Santa Barbara Sail & Dockside Party brought together a lively fleet and plenty of dockside camaraderie, with 41 members and guests on the water aboard five sailboats and two powerboats. Seven boats made the sail and helped turn the cruise into a memorable club outing: "Amigos", a Seawind 38 skippered by Staff Commodore **Darrel Rundstrom**; "Cloud 9", an Albin 28TE skippered by **Dave Erbstoesser**; "Encore", a Catalina 445 skippered by **Grant Elwood**; "Gran Cru", a Catalina 350 skippered by Director Patrick Corrigan; "Patricia II", a Sea Ray 48 skippered by **Dave Ouellet**, who sailed up from Ventura Harbor; "Sans-Souci", a Catalina 320 skippered by **Steve Dahl**; and "Windstar", a Hunter 33 skippered by Staff Commodore **Michael Dobrzensky**. Thank you to all the skippers and crews who participated and helped make this our largest participation ever.

After the sailing, we had 47 people gathered aboard "Amigos" for the Dockside Party, where we enjoyed tacos, margaritas, and dessert while talking about our sailing adventures and catching up with friends. After eating, we gathered for a group photo aboard "Amigos" to capture the day.

Special thanks go to **Marty** and **Lettie Fuller** for hosting the Dockside Party aboard "Amigos" and for coming out a day early to get the boat cleaned up and spiffy for the gathering, with help from Vice Commodore **Kristin Rasmussen** and Staff Commodore **Barry Stewart**. We also owe a big thank-you to Commodore **Pat Mullen**



Avila Beach July 4th Boat Parade

Sponsored by the San Luis Yacht Club

**Saturday, July 4th, 2026,
12:00 PM**

Boats Line Up at the Cal Poly Pier at 11:30 AM, Parade Starts at 12:00 PM.
Non-member boats are welcome.

Best View from the Avila Beach Pier

cruisingcaptain@slyc.org



for hosting the margaritas and celebratory tequila shots, which added just the right festive touch to a terrific evening on the dock. Thank you as well to our photographer, Staff Commodore **Michael Dobrzensky**, for taking a group photo aboard the sailboat "Amigos", photographing the other boats, and putting together a photo collage for the Foghorn (see group photo and collage on pages 7-8).

Channel Islands Cruise

We are planning a Channel Islands cruise from Friday, August 21, through Sunday, August 23. We will depart Friday morning from Santa Barbara Harbor at 1000 hours and determine our anchorage around Santa Cruz Island depending on conditions.

The anchorages around Santa Cruz Island are teeming with sea life and offer great opportunities for snorkeling, exploring, kayaking, or just hanging out. If you need a ride, you might consider chartering a boat to join this cruising event. For safety's sake, you must notify the Cruising Captain if you plan to sail. Please contact me if you plan to join us.

Please watch the Scuttlebutt and upcoming Foghorn notices for cruising updates.

Here's to fair winds, safe passages, and seeing more SLYC burgees out on the water.

—Mike

Sail 'N' Dock Party 2026





Photo by Michael Dobrzensky



Fleet News

by J.J. Francoisse,
Sail Fleet Captain

Ahoy Sailors.

“Fear Knot” Leads in the Avila Cup

The Avila Cup returned on June 7th with three races sailed off Cal Poly Pier, and when the last boat crossed the line, the result was decisive: **Kevin Williams** and his Holder 20, “Fear Knot”, had swept all three races for a perfect score. It was the kind of day that leaves little room for argument—“Fear Knot” led at every mark, finished first every time, and made it look almost effortless.

Roger Briggs aboard “Second Wind”, his Catalina 30, was equally consistent in second place. Race after race, “Second Wind”

settled into her groove and held it, posting a clean 2-2-2 scoreline that would have won most any other fleet. The corrected times tell the story: in Race 2, “Second Wind” finished just over four minutes behind “Fear Knot” on corrected time across a 2.24-mile course—close racing by any measure.

Phil Borgardt and “Renaissance”, the Westsail 32, had a tougher afternoon. A DNF in Race 1 set the tone, and another in Race 3 left the heavy-displacement cruiser with an 11-point total. She found her stride in Race 2, finishing third on corrected time and reminding everyone that the Westsail is built for distance, not short-course sprints. Phil handled the conditions with good seamanship throughout, and “Renaissance” is always a welcome presence on the racecourse.

Three completed races and fair wind throughout made for an enjoyable event.

Congratulations to Kevin and the crew of “Fear Knot” on a flawless day, to Roger and “Second Wind” for a steady performance, and to Phil and “Renaissance” for being out there in spite of a reduced crew. The ocean race season continues—watch the club schedule for the next one.

Fair winds,
—J.J. ⚓



Port Report

by Ray Mattison,
Port Captain

Hi folks.

Most of the May 26 Harbor Commission meeting was devoted to comment on a Report by the County staff concerning the California Energy Commission's offer to PSL of the \$3,000,000 grant which was earlier offered to PSL and partner Clean Energy Terminals (CET). The purpose of the grant was to study PSL as a possible supply port for a planned offshore windmill farm. Later, CET withdrew from the project.

Proponents argued, for example, that it is "only a study" and it would be years before any project would be built. Opponents raised the impact on our community in making Avila an industrial port and the related environmental damage.

It has not yet been set for a vote.

The Commission also discussed the 2026 preliminary budget:

The discussion included funding of required port operations, maintenance, projects and asset purchases. Net Revenue \$7,797,835 and costs of operation \$9,063,071.

The proposed 2026/27 preliminary budget results in a consolidated net operating loss of \$1,265,236 due to capital expenditures, lost grants, and lower income from operations. Additionally, projects using \$489,500 in operating reserves and \$234,000 in specified reserves result in a total use of \$1,754,736 of operating reserves. This would leave an ending consolidated reserve balance of \$4,873,413, which adheres to the District's fund balance policy.

See you all next month!

—Ray 

Sunshine Committee



Remember to notify Kathleen O'Neill, Chairperson of the Sunshine Committee, of any illnesses, injuries, or surgeries of Club Members who may need some get well wishes and support from other Club Members. Please also notify her of the passing of any Club Member or their family members so that she may compose a tribute for them and send them a condolence card on behalf of the Club. As she and the Club always respect the privacy of Club Members, she will post a notice in the Foghorn about such illnesses, injuries, etc. only with the member's permission. Please contact Kathleen at 805-550-5010 or email her at koneill555@gmail.com.

— Kathleen O'Neill
Sunshine Committee

Reminder - Bar Hosting



Attention to all club members who wish to complete their club services as a Bar Host.

All bar hosts and/or anyone who checks ID's, serves alcohol, serves as a cashier, manages, or trains those who are responsible for alcohol-related duties, must complete a California State Responsible Beverage Service Training (RBS) course.

Your training course must include the successful completion of an Alcohol Beverage Control (ABC) administered RBS exam. The certification requirements for AB 1221 must be renewed every 3 years.

You will find an RBS Training course from one of the Department-approved training providers online and must pass the Department's alcohol server certification exam with a 70% or better.

The California Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control (ABC) offers an online Responsible Beverage Service Portal! This portal provides access to all the tools you will need to ensure compliance with the mandatory RBS training requirements for Alcohol Servers, Licensees, and Training Providers.

www.rbstp@abc.ca.gov.

Events Calendar JULY 2026



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
28 No Reservations Allowed	29	30	1	2 6pm - Board Meeting in the Clubhouse CANCELLED 	3 No Reservations 6pm - Friday Social Hour	4 Independence Day 11:30am - Cheeseburgers in Paradise 
5 No Reservations Allowed	6	7	8 Tentative Reservation 4:30pm - Harper	9 6pm - Steering Committee Meeting	10 No Reservations 6pm - Friday Social Hour	11 8:00am - Beach Cleanup
12 No Reservations Allowed Ocean Race #3 	13	14 Wet Wednesday 	15	16	17 No Reservations 2pm - Friends of Avila Pier 6pm - Friday Social Hour	18
19 No Reservations Allowed	20	21	22	23	24 No Reservations 6pm - Friday Social Hour	25
26 No Reservations Allowed	27	28	29	30	31 No Reservations 6pm - Friday Social Hour 7pm - Potluck 	1

Events Calendar AUGUST 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
26 No Reservations Allowed	27	28	29	30	31 No Reservations 6pm - Friday Social Hour 7pm - Potluck 	1
2 No Reservations Allowed Ocean Race #4	3	4	5	6 6pm - Board Meeting in Clubhouse 	7 No Reservations 6pm - Friday Social Hour	8
9 No Reservations Allowed	10	11 5pm - RESERVED - Murray	12	13	14 No Reservations 6pm - Friday Social Hour	15
16 No Reservations Allowed 10am - Brunch 	17	18 Wet Wednesday 	19	20 2pm - Friends of Avila Pier	21    Santa Cruz Island Trip No Reservations 6pm - Friday Social Hour	22    Santa Cruz Island Trip
   Santa Cruz Island Trip No Reservations Allowed	24	25	26	27	28 No Reservations 6pm - Friday Social Hour 7pm - Potluck 	29
30 No Reservations Allowed	31	1	2 6pm - Board Meeting in Clubhouse 	3	4 No Reservations 6pm - Friday Social Hour	5

Bar Host/OD Schedule

July 2026

3 Friday Social

—David Butcher, OD
Bar Hosts: Ali Stephenson
Darren Howey
Food Help/Clean-up: Douglas Twisselmann
Tiz Tomalin



4 Saturday-Cheeseburgers in Paradise

—Ray Mattison, OD
Bar Hosts: Sylvia Dodd
Lesley Santos
Chief Cook: Lauri and Josh Rainwater-Quinn
Cook Crew: John Sorgenfrei
Terry Whitney
OPEN (1)
Clean-up: Steve and Ann Hansen
Noreen Johnston



10 Friday Social

—TBD, OD
Bar Hosts: Karen Hiatt
Dan Harper
Food Host/Clean-up: Margo Fraser
Carina Sayles

15 Wet Wednesday

—J.J. Francoisse OD
Bar Hosts: Dick Strachan
J Johnson
Chief Cook: Melissa Watkins
Cook Crew: Tony Goetz



17 Friday Social

—Marcia Scott, OD
Bar Hosts: Gary Joralemon
Chad Ianneo
Food Host/Clean-up: John Maulhardt
OPEN (1)

24 Friday Social

—Marcia Scott, OD
Bar Hosts: Tom and Janine McNeill
Kevin Daily
Food Host/Clean-up: David and Sharon Williams

31 Friday Social/Potluck

—TBD, OD
Bar Hosts: Ali Stephenson
OPEN (1)
Kitchen Crew/Clean-up: Jeff or Sasha Szytel
Kent Burnett



August 2026

5 Friday Social

—J.J. Francoisse, OD
Bar Hosts: Ken San Filippo
Thom Dimmitt
Food Help/Clean-up: Kate Gillespie
Tammy Casiano

12 Friday Social

—Kristin Rasmussen, OD
Bar Hosts: Kristin Blecha and Bret Robinson
John Wallace
Food Host/Clean-up: Thomas Tucker
Joan and Ron Perkins

17 Wet Wednesday

—Ray Mattison OD
Bar Hosts: Barb Boud
Shawn Harper
Chief Cook: Jim and Arlene Peterson
Crew: Carina Sayles



19 Friday Social

—Carter McGowen, OD
Bar Hosts: Chad Ianneo
Bob Engel
Food Host/Clean-up: Linda and Bill Thoma
Makenzie Blodgett

26 Friday Social/Potluck

—Kristin Rasmussen, OD
Bar Hosts: Michael Nordstrom
Paul Waldron
Food Host/Clean-up: Kent Burnett
Shelley LaMon





San Luis Yacht Club

Officers, Staff, and Committees 2026



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House—Carter McGowen	See "Rear Commodore"
Membership—Bret Clark	See "Staff Commodores"
Steering—Bob Hurd	See "Staff Commodores"
Nominating—Bob Hurd	See "Staff Commodores"
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San Luis  *Yacht Club*

San Luis Yacht Club
Avila Beach, California
“At the foot of the Avila Pier”



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