

the Foghorn

Newsletter of the San Luis Yacht Club



View From the Bridge

by Bret Clark,
Commodore

A hoy everyone! As I write this, it is the week after Opening Day. Opening Day this year saw nearly 100 people in attendance. A special, "Thank you," goes to Junior Staff Commodore, **Bob Hurd**, for the work that he did in planning the day. In addition to the food provided by Brick & Mortar catering, Staff Commodore **Barry Stewart** and **Marty Fuller** provided a barbecued chicken, bread, and vegetable feast.

I recently met with the Galley Committee to finalize the remaining items. You should see more pots, pans, serving dishes, and knives in addition to some additional outlets and reverse osmosis water outlets behind the bar and at the coffee station.

We were well-staffed for the events through May—thank you to all of the members who have volunteered to date. As I look at the activities planned for the second half of the year, I see that there are opportunities to serve as Food Hosts/Clean-up in June, and many openings for the remaining months. I would like to remind those members who have yet to complete a service requirement that they will need to complete one by June 30th in order for their membership to remain in good standing. I also request that all of our members look at Time to Sign Up (<https://www.timetosignup.com/sanluisyc/folder/12024>) and try to sign up for at least one additional activity during the second half of the year. We have more than enough members to staff all of our remaining activities, assuming that each membership volunteers for two different events.

If you have any questions or concerns about the club and the course that we are on, please be sure to drop me a line. I will do my best to be transparent, informative, and open to opinions as we continue to chart through new waters.

Nautically,
—Bret



Vice Views

by Pat Mullen,
Vice Commodore

Greetings fellow Club Members. Opening Day was terrific! And I was thrilled at Opening Day to present the Chisler's Award (dedicated to those who have saved the club the most money) to our Galley and Bar Refresh Committee members **Marty Fuller**, **Dennis Dempsey**, **Gary Cox** and **Steve Dahl**. Their volunteer spirit, labor and expertise in working to improve our galley is the embodiment of our Club's foundation of volunteer service. They saved us tens of thousands of dollars. Congratulations to all four of them. And they couldn't have done it without the help of many other members who also volunteered, over 30 in all.

We are primarily a sailing club! So when we have a racing Wet Wednesday like the one on April 16, with **J.J. Francoisse** and **Roger Briggs** (see photo below)



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presenting a program on our club's sail boat racing you knew it was going to be good. And it was terrific! We all learned a lot about new rule changes and about our courses, handicaps, club boat types, rounding marks, finish line crossing direction and generally just had fun discussing sailing and racing. The club first ocean race is Sunday May 4, reach out to J.J. if you'd like to help, or better yet bring or help out on another boat. The more the better. And if you missed this Wet Wednesday, we are planning a second session on racing later in the year, so try to make that one when it's announced.

Since last month, we also just returned from the British Virgin Islands cruising trip. Cruising Captain **Kristin Rasmussen** did a terrific job organizing the largest club trip ever with over 44 of us going to the BVI and sailing for 10 days. It was so much fun. We had **Judy and Will Bellis**, **Kyle Soucy** and **A.J. Dudley**, **Francine** and **Brian Mossman**, and me and **Laura** on our boat, a nice Bali 4.4 catamaran with four staterooms, four heads and loads of room to relax and enjoy the sailing and motoring. We arrived at the Bitter End Yacht Club near Saba Rock

Resort just as a high-end inaugural race was finishing up, a race which included the likes of Sir Richard Branson. We enjoyed mooring and anchoring in quiet bays and busier ones, but always with the requisite rum punch beach bars. You could even get a rum punch delivered to your boat by Drake, the dog and his master in their dinghy. It was a fun way to learn about sailing in the BVI.

After the BVI last month, this month I'm going back on the water in a somewhat smaller craft, a canoe trip down the Green and Colorado Rivers through Stillwater Canyon into the Maze district of Canyonlands National Park. Our club is all about sailing, motoring and just being on the water...even paddling!

Reminder, you need to complete at least one service credit in the first half of the year, so sign up on TTSU now to get your service logged. We have many open spots that need volunteers to sign up.

Cheers,
—Pat 🚢



Marty and Lettie Fuller and crew underway in full sail.



Picking up our snorkelers from Willy T's floating bar on Norman Island; L to R, Judy Bellis, Will Bellis, Kyle Soucy, Pat Mullen and A.J. Dudley.



Sunset dinner at Saba Rock Resort on Virgin Gorda Island; L to R, Brian Mossman, Kyle Soucy, A.J. Dudley, Judy Bellis, Will Bellis, Pat Mullen, Laura Mullen and Francine Mossman.



Jr. Staff Commodore Report

by Bob Hurd,
Jr. Staff
Commodore

A hoy Members.

I packed too much into the end of March and the beginning of April with the Club cruise in the British Virgin Islands and Opening Day. Both were a lot of fun, but I was worn out after all that much fun.

With all that I had going on New Membership took a back seat. Commodore **Bret Clark** and Senior Staff Commodore **Ken San Filippo** filled in for me at the New Member Orientation while I was off to the BVI. Two of our new members missed the orientation -so they will be on Double Secret Probation, and I will get to be Dean Wormer overseeing their extra special orientation.

New members were introduced at Opening Day and **Michael Dobrzensky** updated the photos posted by the end of the bar.

New members of the Club are Probationary Members and must complete an onboarding process to advance to Flag Membership. Onboarding is the process of introducing new members into the Club with opportunities to learn about the Club through activities.

Many of our new members have not only turned in their Onboarding Plan but completed most of the 6 activities they signed up for. I think we have great new members this year.

Opening Day was well attended and a lot of fun with food by Brick & Mortar Catering, Flowers by Grand Bouquet and music by Tim and Dale. **Marty Fuller** and **Barry Stewart**, with help from **Tim Waag** and others, served a delicious BBQ chicken, linquica, and garlic bread meal while some members danced.

When I look in the Officer's Handbook I see for Junior Staff Commodore:

STAFF COMMODORES

- Attend, participate, and vote at Board Meetings.
- Serve on Board committees and functions as appointed by the Commodore.
- Senior Staff Commodore serves as the chair of the nominating committee.
- Junior Staff Commodore serves as the chair of the membership committee.
- Junior Staff Commodore is primary contact with the Foghorn Editor for questions, guidance, and policy related matters.
- Perform Officer of the Day (O.D) duties as assigned – must have ABC Certification.
- Other Assigned duties from Commodore

I think that I am done with the hard stuff for this year.



Photo collage by Michael Dobrzensky

Thank you and see you at the Club.

—Bob 



Cruising News

by Kristin Rasmussen,
Cruising Captain

of us waited to visit this national park for another day, but that's another story. Whoever visited, whenever it was visited, it was a great on-land excursion.

Next month, I'll tell you about our float plan alterations, create meals and Pain Killers.

See you on the water.

—Kristin 

A hoy SLYC Members.

We had a record number of sailors participate in the SLYC 2025 BVI Sail. A special thanks to our 6 captains, **Marty Fuller, J.J. Francoise, Jack Luxton, Pat Mullen, Bob Hurd** and **Grant Elwood** for keeping us all safe and moving in the beautiful waters of the Caribbean. From the day of provisioning 6 chartered catamarans on Sunday, March 23rd to the day the boats were returned to the Hodges Creek Marina on Tuesday, April 1st, 45 yacht club members and friends enjoyed tropical weather, beautiful water, adventure, and camaraderie. There is so much to share with you all, there might be a few of Foghorn installments.

We met at the Hodges Creek Marina on Sunday, March 23rd, with our luggage and food.

The day was humid and warm. After the captains secured their assigned boats, we stocked the cupboards, stashed provisions, and secured our cabins before setting sail for Cooper Island. After a brief stop at Cooper Island, we pushed on to Spanish Town on the island of Virgin Gorda.

Spanish Town, on the southern end of Virgin Gorda, is the second largest town of the BVI. Some of us chose to visit The Baths, an area of unique geologic formations or "batholiths", before leaving, and some



Rod Valine exploring The Baths





Fleet News

by JJ Francoisse,
Sail Fleet Captain

Hello fellow sailors and SLYC members!

Set Sail for Excitement – Join the SLYC Racing Season!

Sailing is always an adventure, but nothing compares to the challenge and excitement of racing. Whether you're an experienced sailor or just starting out, racing is a great way to hone your skills, test your strategy, and enjoy time on the water with fellow sailors. With the San Luis Yacht Club's race season running from May through October, now is the perfect time to get involved.

We invite you to join us for another great season of racing in Avila/Port San Luis. The 2025 race schedule is set, with races on May 4, June 1, July 13, August 3, September 7, and October 5. Each

race day begins with a Skippers' Meeting at 9:30 a.m., followed by the first race around 11:00 a.m. We typically run three races per day, all within view of the club, making for an enjoyable experience whether you're on the water or watching from shore.

Why Race?

Racing isn't just about competition—it's about becoming a more confident and capable sailor. Unlike cruising or day sailing, racing challenges you to refine boat handling, sail trim, and decision-making in a way that makes you a stronger sailor overall. It puts you in a variety of conditions, from light winds to heavier weather, giving you valuable experience that translates to better seamanship. Each boat is handicapped using its PHRF rating, so any boat can be competitive. And while the race itself is exciting, the post-race gathering back at the club is just as enjoyable—a time to share stories, compare strategies, and celebrate a day on the water.

Join Us on the Water!

Mark your calendar and come be part of the fun. If you're looking for crew or hoping to join a boat, we can help match sailors with opportunities. For questions or to get involved, contact Sail Fleet Captain J.J. Francoisse at fleetcaptain@slyc.org.

We look forward to seeing you on the water for a fantastic season of racing!

—JJ



From the Director

by Matthew Farmer,
Director 2

Hello.
Informative presentation to start, SLYC Racing Season 2025, by **JJ Francoisse**, and **Roger Briggs**, Wet Wednesday, April 16.

JJ covered Updated Rules for 2025–2028, after completing Update Classes, for referral. An updated copy of the Rules, is available at the SLYC, for your review, questions.

Roger Briggs took the floor, reviewing some of our Courses, based on Wind Direction, nomenclature associated with the Course Listing, on file, on the website to review, Starts, Finish, Race Committee, signaling, and some great slides of previous races. Perhaps, Rules of the Road, for another Session.

We were treated to an excellent Spaghetti Dinner, by **Mike Taylor**, **Sean Schuur**, the Bar was hosted by **Jon** and **Cindy McKeller**, with **Pat Mullen** as O.D.

Thanks, to all who attended, we even got a couple Race Support, Chase Support, sign ups.

I would also like to mention, that Avila Jr. Lifeguards just completed their Age Group Tryouts, Swim Quals., and JG Bootcamp, in preparation for their 25th year of Students on Avila Beach.

Congrats, to all 440 participants in this years historic Guard Program.

Sincerely,
—Matthew

San Luis  *Yacht Club*

Eight Bells

Please remember with fondness the San Luis Yacht Club members who passed away in 2024. They are all greatly missed.



BURT FUGATE
RON SINCLAIR
JOSEPH MONTGOMERY
JOHN FIELDER
JOHN DUFFY
HANK JOHNSTON
CINDY CHURCHILL
WILLO CASHIER
NEIL THOM

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" Chair

Events Calendar MAY

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<div>27</div> <div>No Reservations Allowed</div>	<div>28</div>	<div>29</div>	<div>30</div>	<div>1</div> <div>6pm - SLYC Board Meeting in Clubhouse</div> 	<div>2</div> <div>No Reservations Allowed</div> <div>6pm - Social Hour</div>	<div>3</div> <div>2:30pm - Kentucky Derby</div> 
<div>4</div> <div>No Reservations Allowed</div> <div>Ocean Race #1</div> 	<div>5</div> 	<div>6</div>	<div>7</div>	<div>8</div>	<div>9</div> <div>No Reservations Allowed</div> <div>6pm - Social Hour</div>	<div>10</div> <div>4:30-9:00pm Commodore's Dinner</div> 
<div>11</div> <div>No Reservations Allowed</div> 	<div>12</div>	<div>13</div> <div>6pm - Steering Committee Meeting</div>	<div>14</div>	<div>15</div> <div>3pm - Friends of Avila Pier</div>	<div>16</div> <div>No Reservations Allowed</div> <div>6pm - Social Hour</div>	<div>17</div>
<div>18</div> <div>No Reservations Allowed</div>	<div>19</div>	<div>20</div>	<div>21</div> <div>1pm - Wet Wednesday on the water</div> 	<div>22</div> <div>3pm - RESERVED Swisher</div>	<div>23</div> <div>No Reservations Allowed</div> <div>6pm - Social Hour</div>	<div>24</div>
<div>25</div> <div>No Reservations Allowed</div>	<div>26</div> <div>Memorial Day</div> 	<div>27</div>	<div>28</div>	<div>29</div>	<div>30</div> <div>No Reservations Allowed</div> <div>6pm - Social Hour</div> <div>7pm - Potluck</div> 	<div>31</div> <div>No Reservations Allowed</div>

Events Calendar JUNE

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<div>1</div> <p>No Reservations Allowed</p> <p>Ocean Race 2</p> 	<div>2</div>	<div>3</div>	<div>4</div>	<div>5</div> <p>6pm - SLYC Board</p> 	<div>6</div> <p>No Reservations</p> <p>6pm - Social Hour</p>	<div>7</div> <p>No Reservations</p>
<div>8</div> <p>No Reservations Allowed</p>	<div>9</div>	<div>10</div> <p>1pm - Wet Wednesday on the water</p> 	<div>11</div>	<div>12</div>	<div>13</div> <p>No Reservations</p> <p>6pm - Social Hour</p>	<div>14</div> <p>Flag Day</p> <p>No Reservations</p>
<div>15</div> <p>Father's Day</p> <p>No Reservations Allowed</p> <p>10am - Brunch</p> 	<div>16</div>	<div>17</div>	<div>18</div>	<div>19</div> <p>Juneteenth</p> <p>3pm - Friends of Avila Pier</p>	<div>20</div> <p>No Reservations</p> <p>6pm - Social Hour</p>	<div>21</div> <p>No Reservations</p>
<div>22</div> <p>No Reservations Allowed</p>	<div>23</div>	<div>24</div>	<div>25</div>	<div>26</div>	<div>27</div> <p>No Reservations</p> <p>6pm - Social Hour</p> <p>7pm - Potluck</p>	<div>28</div> <p>No Reservations</p>
<div>29</div> <p>No Reservations Allowed</p>	<div>30</div>	<div>1</div>	<div>2</div>	<div>3</div> <p>6pm - SLYC Board</p> 	<div>4</div> <p>Independence Day</p> <p>No Reservations</p> <p>12pm - Cheeseburgers in Paradise</p> 	<div>5</div> <p>No Reservations</p>

Bar Host/OD Schedule

May 2025

2 Friday Social-Cinco de Mayo

—Freman Tidaback, OD

Bar Hosts: Thomas Hill

Ali Stephenson

Food Host/Clean-up: Makenzie Blodgett

Linda and Bill Thoma



3 Saturday-Kentucky Derby Day

—Lily Curtis, OD

Bar Hosts: Marcia Scott

Jason Curtis

Food Host/Clean-up: Andrea and Greg Jackson

Georgina Pease

Set-up/Decorations: David and Patty Ouellet

Ali Stephenson

Check in/Clean up: Sylvia Dodd

9 Friday Social

—Pat Mullen, OD

Bar Hosts: David Butcher

Nick Frost

Food Host/Clean-up: Charlotte Butcher

Diane Frost



10 Saturday-Commodore's Dinner

—Michael Ginn, OD

Bar Hosts: Dave Tennant

Chief Cook: Yvonne and Peter Jordan-Secord

Assist. Cook: Tom and Ruth Donnelly

Crew: Paul and Eileen Sverchek

Marcia Scott

Terry Whitney



16 Friday Social

—Kristin Blecha, OD

Bar Hosts: Jeff Blauer

Mike Nunno

Food Host/Clean-up: Nancy Alvarado

Mike Nunno

21 Wednesday-Wet Wednesday

—TBD, OD

Bar Hosts: Chad Ianneo

George Risher

Chief Cook: Jim and Jan Smith

Cook Helper: Dennis Law

23 Friday Social

—Kristin Blecha, OD

Bar Hosts: Cindy Luxton

Frank Richardson

Food Hosts/Clean-up: Karen and Scott Negri

Lauri Rainwater-Quinn



30 Friday Social/Potluck

—Kristin Rasmussen, OD

Bar Hosts: Judy Bellis

Kyle Martin

Kitchen Help/Clean-up: Melissa Smith, Kevin Williams



June 2025

6 Friday Social

—Pat Mullen, OD

Bar Hosts: Mike Nunno

Jeff Blauer

Food Hosts/Clean-up: Nancy Alvarado

Mike Nunno

13 Friday Social

—Kristin Rasmussen, OD

Bar Hosts: Karen Hiatt

Patricia Hood

Food Host/Clean-up: Mark Hawes

Molly Montgomery

15 Sunday Brunch

—TBD, OD

Bar Hosts: Albert and Margaret Censullo

Sylvia Dodd

Chief Cook: **OPEN (1)**

Assist. Cook: Mark Hawes

Crew: Doug Anthony

Steve DeRose



18 Wednesday-Wet Wednesday

—TBD, OD

Bar Hosts: Barb Boud

Margaret Censullo

Chief Cook: Martin and Debra Testa

Crew: Jesper Nielsen



20 Friday Social

—Tom Swem, OD

Bar Hosts: Gareth Kelley

OPEN (1)

Food Hosts/Clean-up: Robin Kisinger and Tom Tucker

John Maulhardt

25 Friday Social/Potluck

—Kristin Rasmussen, OD

Bar Hosts: Shawn and Dan Harper

Kitchen Help/Clean-up: John and Mary Janowicz

Eoin and Claire Duffy





San Luis Yacht Club

Officers, Staff, and Committees 2025

Officers

Commodore Bret Clark	805-704-2608 commodore@slyc.org
Vice Commodore Pat Mullen (Volunteer: TimeToSignUp)	805-305-3364 vicecommodore@slyc.org
Rear Commodore Tom Swem (Facility)	805-544-4422 rearcommodore@slyc.org
Secretary Kristin Blecha	805-459-5115 secretary@slyc.org
Treasurer Lily Curtis	219-299-9087 treasurer@slyc.org
Port Captain Carter McGowen (Liaison to the Port)	805-550-6072 portcaptain@slyc.org
Sail Fleet J.J. Francoise (Racing)	909-561-6746 fleetcaptain@slyc.org
Power Fleet Captain Michael Ginn (Chase Boat)	805-788-8850 powercaptain@slyc.org
Cruising Captain Kristin Rasmussen	805-471-7127 cruisingcaptain@slyc.org

Directors

1 - Eddie O'Brian	831-620-5742 Director-1@slyc.org
2 - Matthew Farmer	805-440-4399 Director-2@slyc.org
3 - Freeman Tidaback	805-888-1621 Director-3@slyc.org

Staff Commodores

Ken San Filippo	805-704-8625 SStaffCommodore@slyc.org
Bob Hurd	805-550-9071 JStaffCommodore@slyc.org

Staff

Bar Manager John Hrdlicka	707-287-7680 johnhrdlicka@hotmail.com
Boatmaster Greg Jackson	916-217-8166 jack2bg@charter.net
Burgees Bob Rollins	805-712-7729 brollins@charter.net
Editor (Foghorn) Donna Ellison	805-440-9369 foghorn@slyc.org
Historian Pete Kelley	805-595-2526 pedrokelley@gmail.com
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—Pat Mullen	See "Vice Commodore"
House—Tom Swem	See "Rear Commodore"
Membership—Bob Hurd	See "Staff Commodores"
Steering—Ken San Filippo	See "Staff Commodores"
Nominating—Ken San Filippo	See "Staff Commodores"
Social Directors Chair—Terry Whitney	805-406-9196 twhitney@ati7.com
Co-Chair—Brenda Noakes	805-748-4001 skihut21@yahoo.com