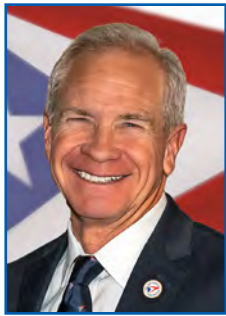


the Foghorn

Newsletter of the San Luis Yacht Club



View From the Bridge

by Pat Mullen,
Commodore



These members have gone above and beyond the call of duty in their respective activity and service representing this club and helping to further our goals and membership.

May kicks off with Derby Days, our Kentucky Derby watch party on May 2, and our first Ocean Race of the season on May 3. I hope to see you there and at the rest of our May events.

Cheers,
—Pat

A hoy everyone.

We had a terrific Opening Day on April 18th. My sincerest thanks to Vice Commodore **Kristin Rasmussen** for organizing such a fun celebration for our club's annual kickoff of the sailing season. It takes an incredible amount of work and the vice commodore is the person in charge of organizing Opening Day. We had a clubhouse full of members, dignitaries and officials visiting from other yacht clubs from Morro Bay to Santa Monica and everywhere in between.

We also honored those members who live on in our memories with the 8 Bells ceremony and a floating wreath in their memory. We also presented several significant awards. Join me in congratulating the following club members the next time you see them, who were presented awards for their service:

- Kathleen O'Neill** - The **Jay and Judy Chapel Award** for club spirit and her Sunshine chair work
- Donna Ellison** - The **Herbert McBratney Award** for club service, for her work on the Foghorn
- Kate and Bill McInerney** - The **Bristol Boat Award** for best maintained boat, "Blondie"
- Jack Luxton** - The **Howie O'Daniels Award** for the most nautical miles sailed in the past year
- John Diaz** - The **Chisler Award** for who saved the most money for the club; refurbishing the back staircase
- Tom Swem** - **Honorary Member**, awarded for lifetime achievement in service to the club



Vice Views

by Kristin Rasmussen,
Vice Commodore

A hoy.

The San Luis Yacht Club 2026 sailing season is officially open! Commodore **Pat Mullen** made the announcement at approximately 1:00 PM on Saturday, April 18th during our Opening Day celebration.

While we may not have ice to break in our harbor, Opening Day still marks an important transition—from winter maintenance projects to an active and vibrant boating season. It's a time when boats return to the water, cruising plans take shape, and the energy of the club shifts back to life on the water.

Thank you to everyone who contributed to making Opening Day such a success. As Pat noted several times during the ceremony—and I wholeheartedly agree—the San Luis Yacht Club is truly a special place because of its special members.

A sincere thank you to **Sylvia Dodd** and **Ali Stephenson** for their masterful work behind the bar; to **Phil Borgardt**, **Catherine Ulrich**, and **Val** and **Sally Gillespie** for their help with setup; and to **Mike Larrabee**, **Mark Corella**, and **Kevin Williams** for taking care of cleanup and returning the clubhouse to its usual condition.

Thanks to the continued progress on pier repairs, we were also able to bring back a meaningful tradition this

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year—the ceremonial wreath casting into the ocean. This tribute honored our members who passed away in 2024 and 2025, offering a moment of reflection and remembrance as we begin a new season together.

There are still a few volunteer spots available in Time to Sign Up (TTSU) for



those who need to complete their one service credit before the end of June. The most pressing need at the moment is a Chief Cook for Wet Wednesday on June 17, 2025. If you're able to help, your support would be greatly appreciated.

Here's to fair winds, full sails, and a wonderful 2026 boating season ahead.

—Kristin



From the Secretary

by Kyle Soucy,
Secretary

A hoy!
Let's talk about the "P" word: provisioning.

I've done the 'order ahead and deliver to the boat,' had a shared excel document with group input and send a few to do the shopping and what we're about to do in a week is 'buy on the fly' using the grocery store's free rum van to/from the marina to stock the boat (yes, Free. Rum. Van.)

I've heard (but not experienced) the nightmare of substitutions that can occur when you allow the provisioning companies to do the shopping for you. I also don't want to leave the boat with a week's worth of leftovers so people's eyes can't be bigger than their stomachs (we'll go after breakfast).

Always good to get a general plan of what you're eating at what time of day on the boat.

For the BVI's many of my crew won't eat much for breakfast and breakfast will always be on the boat: yogurts, bananas, blueberries, cereal to provide some crunch in the yogurt, and English muffins. I'd like to be underway every day for lunch—so we'll want to make food that's easy to grab and snacky: sandwiches, cheese and crackers, apples, and mom is set on nachos at some point. Dinner is where it gets complicated—do we go ashore EVERY night? (That can get expensive) or pick a few restaurants

for the week and a few nights where we have dinner on the boat and maybe only drinks on shore—some kind of compromise? Or EMFH = everyman for him (or her or their) self.

What has been popular: hot dogs, hamburgers, a frozen lasagna last year (took a little while to cook!), **Carol Dobrzensky's** chicken piccata, and **Laura Mullen's** jambalaya and **Kyle/AJ's** breakfast sandwiches. We managed to get ice cream sandwiches aboard before they melted and those were VERY popular!

More important-how much water should we plan on buying? We figured last year we used 1/2 gallon per person, per day so 8 people x 0.5 gallons x 6 days = 24 gallons to start the trip. At the rate AJ drinks water, we might have to add another 6 gallons. I loved that we could store the gallon containers in the floor of the galley and kept a rotation going from the freezer to the fridge so they also helped the fridge stay cold.

Off the topic of food, here are some of my notes of what to bring and who I can attribute the idea to:

Styptic pencil – **Michael Dobrzensky**

Duluth trading quick dry underwear (iykyk)– **Judy Bellis**

Monocle and head lamp – **Pat Mullen**

Snap koozie (this year's Opening Day gift!), paracord, and a good knife – **Will Bellis**

BYO spices in ziplock bags no matter what it looks like to TSA– **Carol Dobrzensky**

One way checked bag of food when we heard that country was \$\$\$ - Me!

Bluetooth speaker- AJ

Anyways... I gotta go pack- 5 more sleeps!

Thanks,
—Kyle



What Pat thinks he looks like with his monocle...



Pat



AJ provisioning



Cruising News

by Mike Davis,
Cruising Captain

A hoy Sailors,
The sun is out, the wind is blowing so go out on the water and start sailing or boating.

First, please congratulate **Jack Luxton** for winning the Howie O'Daniels award for logging the most nautical miles in the past year.

Mark your calendar for the SLYC Santa Barbara Sail & Dockside Party on Saturday, June 20th. Members will sail from about 11:00 AM to 4:00 PM. After sailing, join the Dockside Party aboard the Sailing Vessel "Amigos", located on Marina 2, slip ST-2, beginning at 5:30 PM.

If you have a sailboat or power boat, and plan on joining us, please let me know so that we can coordinate on the water. If you have room aboard your boat for others to join you, please let me know as I have a list of members that are looking for a ride.

The dockside party (starting at 5:30 PM) will include a taco dinner, taco fixings, beans, rice, chips and margaritas. A \$10 cash donation will be requested. Members are also encouraged to bring their favorite dessert to share.

Please RSVP to Mike at cruisingcaptain@slyc.org or sign the 'Signup Sheet' at the Clubhouse.

Second, join the fun on the 4th of July in Avila Beach for the annual boat parade.

Decorate your boat or watercraft with red, white and blue and line up at the Cal Poly Pier at 11:30 AM. The parade starts at 12 Noon. Cheeseburgers in Paradise will be served from 12:00 PM to 2:00 PM.

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.

—Mike



Fleet News

by J.J. Francoisse,
Sail Fleet Captain

A hoy Sailors.
Do you need a California Boater's Card to legally Sail?

As of January 1, 2025, anyone operating a motorized vessel on California waterways is required to carry a California Boater's Card. There are no more age-based exceptions and no further grace periods. The requirement is universal, immediate, and actively enforced by the U.S. Coast Guard and local marine patrol officers. Fines range from \$100 to \$500. Surprise!

The card traces its origins to Senate Bill 941, signed by Governor Jerry Brown in September 2014, and phased in over eight years beginning with boaters aged 20 and younger. California joins 45 other states with mandatory boating education, and U.S.

Coast Guard data consistently show that states with such requirements have fewer accidents and fatalities on the water. The card itself is an official, state-issued credential confirming that the holder has completed a NASBLA-approved safety course and passed the corresponding exam. Once issued, it never expires.

For our sailing members, the key nuance is this: if your sailboat has an auxiliary motor—as most do—the card is required whenever that engine is running. Operating under sail alone keeps you outside the requirement, but the moment the motor engages, the card must be on board. The exemptions are narrow: operators of rental vessels, individuals under the direct on-board supervision of an adult cardholder aged 18 or older, out-of-state residents visiting for fewer than 60 days who meet their home state's requirements, participants in an organized regatta or sanctioned race, and holders of a USCG Captain's License or valid STCW certificate.

Getting certified is straightforward. NASBLA-approved courses are available online (minimum three hours), by home study, or in a classroom setting. After passing the exam, you apply through the California Division of Boating and Waterways and your card arrives by mail. It is a one-time process with no renewal required. The full list of approved providers and the application are available at californiaboatercard.com. I personally recommend The BoatUS Foundation, which offers what it describes as the only free, state-specific online boating safety course in the country. The course itself is completely free, though an optional \$20 donation is added to your cart at checkout to help keep the program running—you can change or remove it before completing your order.

If you haven't yet obtained your card, please do so before your next outing under power. Questions? Contact **J.J. Francoisse**, Sail Fleet Captain, SLYC.

Fair winds,
—J.J.



Power Report

by David Butcher,
Power Captain

A hoy!
April was a busy month for getting “Chase” boat ready for the SLYC 2026 race season. The trailer lights needed to be replaced and the annual engine and boat maintenance performed. I am

happy to announce that we have a full “Chase” boat crew for five of the six races this season.

We have one opening for the June 7th race with **Jim Fuller**, an experienced crewman. Sign up on the June Volunteer link on Time To Sign Up (TTSU) even if you have not crewed “Chase” before, we can schedule a training before June.

A big thank you to **Mike** and **Jill Nunno**. They are very generous in storing “Chase” boat on their property. They have done this for the past seven years, which saves the club a lot of money not having to pay for storage.

Happy Sailing,
—David



"Chase"



Port Report

by Ray Mattison,
Port Captain

H i folks.
The two issues with the most importance to the club, the Waverider buoys off the Cal Poly pier and the October rodeo on the beach, did not come up. The Harbor Director will be in charge of these two issues and I will seek guidance from him in May. In other action:

-The Board approved an expenditure of \$29,000 for a new larger ice machine and a second freezer on the pier as requested by the fishermen.

-The feds approved \$4,000,000 for the much needed dredging of Morro Bay Harbor and \$25,000 for repairs to the Avila breakwater to hopefully start this year.

-The Board approved a resolution waiving competitive bidding on the Avila Pier Restoration and delegates this authority to the Harbor Director. This should make it much easier and faster to make the additional repairs.

After revisions and corrections the Harbor Commission approved the “San Luis Obispo County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan 2025 Update”.

This is a very long report involving many locations. The Commission made sure that our local issues, such as rising sea levels, are recognized. This will be important if we need funds to deal with the rising sea. If you are interested in all or part of this huge report the full Local Hazard Mitigation Plan can be accessed at the County’s website: [2025-san-luis-obispo-county-multi-jurisdictional-hazard-mitigation-plan](https://www.sanluisobispo.gov/2025-san-luis-obispo-county-multi-jurisdictional-hazard-mitigation-plan).

The Commodore and I attended the event where P.G.&E announced its license extension of 20 more years. When it is closed there is a plan for trails and etc. which will then occupy the property. This will be of great benefit to the harbor and the community when it does close down. I passed around the plan at the last Board Meeting.

See you all next month!
—Ray



Sr. Staff Commodore Report

by Bob Hurd,
Sr. Staff Commodore

A hoy Members. By the time you get to the back of the Foghorn where this article is you will have read a lot already about Opening Day so I won't go on much about it other than to say it was very nice and a lot of fun.

I was able to attend one of the other Southern California Yachting Association Club's Opening Day ceremonies: Anacapa Yacht Club. Their Club is very informal, and their Opening Day is

a lot of fun. It was at their Opening Day a few years ago when I first saw the presenters had to take a shot of rum or something if they mispronounced a name or made some other mistake. This year our Commodore **Pat Mullen** took shots of espresso—it was not the same.

As the year goes on, I will be working more intently on filling out the slate of officers for 2027. I may start up a conversation with you about your photo on the wall of past Commodores and taking that first step as a director or one of the captain positions.

As a Club officer you will:

- 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 next year wearing a blue blazer as an officer on Opening Day.

See you at the Club,
—Bob



Rear Commodore Report

by Carter McGowen,
Rear Commodore

Hi folks. Earlier this month we held our annual Club Cleanup Day in preparation for Opening Day. We had an impressive amount of volunteers this time around—thank you to all who came out to help! Just a reminder that this is a great way to earn your yearly volunteer credits. I especially want to thank **Brittany Tomasko** and **Mike Davis** for their expertise in organizing all the tasks and recording the volunteers.

The support of volunteerism is alive and well at the club and the cleanup day is so important in taking the pressure off Monica, our regular cleaner. Everyone's participation helps the club look “shipshape,” not only for opening day but the upcoming summer season. Everyone, members and guests alike, will enjoy a freshly clean and polished club and repainted deck and banister—shoutout and thanks to **Phil Whitney**.

The board appreciates not only our cleanup day volunteers but also all of our members and staff who keep the club tidy for the remainder of the year. We all play a part in keeping our club looking its best. Always remember to tidy up after using the club, especially when you are there on a non-event day or after volunteers have cleaned up on Fridays or post events. It helps to check table and bar tops and on the floor. Cleaning supplies, rags, and brooms can be found in the closet where the name tags are stored.

See you next month!

—Carter

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



From the Director

by Eddie O'Brian,
Director 1

Hello. Welcome Aboard New Members!

You've joined a truly special club—one with a rich history dating back to 1937, and one that is as committed to its members and community as it is to sailing and social life.

My name is Eddie O'Brien, and I serve on the Board of Directors. This is my second year in the role, and I've genuinely enjoyed getting to know both the club and the people who make it such a great place to spend time.

I'll briefly introduce myself in my official capacity—which includes keeping track of two membership items: Volunteer Service Credits and RBS Certifications.

Both are simple requirements that are easy to complete.

Our club runs on member involvement, which is why each member is asked to complete at least two Volunteer Service

Credits annually to remain in good standing. This simply means choosing an event or activity, lending a hand, and being part of the energy that keeps the club running smoothly. It's a great way to meet other members, get involved, all while having a good time. You can easily sign up by clicking the "Time to Sign Up" link in our weekly newsletter, The Scuttlebutt.

The second item is RBS Certification ("Responsible Beverage Service Certification"), this is for those who choose to assist with serving alcohol at club events. The California Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control (ABC) requires every server to have this certification. It's simple to complete and helps ensure we maintain a safe, compliant, and responsible environment for our members and guests. I'm pleased to share that over half of our members are RBS Certified.

My role isn't just to track these requirements, but to also be a resource. If you have any questions about how to sign up, what to choose, or where to begin, I'm always happy to help point you in the right direction.

Most importantly, I encourage you to take advantage of everything the club offers. The more you participate, the more rewarding the experience becomes. This is a welcoming, fun, and active community—and now you're a part of it.

I look forward to seeing you around the club in the months ahead.

Sincerely,
—Eddie



From the Director

by Marcia Scott,
Director 3

Ahoy. Opening Day was a wonderful success, and I truly was honored to be introduced as a Director on the SLYC Board. It was great to see so many familiar faces and such strong club spirit as we kick off the season together. As we head into a fun-filled season at the Club, I'm excited to highlight a few upcoming social events and opportunities to get involved.

Join us on May 2 from 2:30–5:00 for our Kentucky Derby celebration, where we'll gather to watch the race, don our Derby best, place a few friendly bets, and test our knowledge with Derby



trivia. Tickets are on sale now and must be purchased in advance on the SLYC website under Upcoming Prepaid Events. There are still a few volunteer spots open for kitchen support and clean-up on Time To Sign Up, so please consider jumping in and joining the crew.

Planning is also well underway for our July 4th Cheeseburger in Paradise event. We'll have the clubhouse dressed shipshape for the occasion, with festive décor and music setting the tone for a lively celebration. Tickets will be available for purchase in May, so be sure to grab yours early.

On a personal note, I'm currently recovering from rotator cuff surgery, which has kept me off the water for nearly two months and has me typing this with one hand—but I'm hanging in there and looking forward to getting back underway soon. As always, everything is more fun on the waterfront at SLYC. If you have questions or would like to get involved—whether planning, cooking, or decorating—I'd love to hear from you.

Fair winds and following seas until we see you at the Club.
—Marcia





Collage by Michael Döbrzensky



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	5 Cinco de Mayo 	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	12 6pm - Steering Committee	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

Bar Host/OD Schedule

May 2026

1 Friday Social - Cinco de Mayo

—TBD, OD

Bar Hosts: Paul Waldron

Chad and Jenny Pfarr

Food Host/Clean-up: Annette Hackman

Don and Patrice Eley

OPEN(1)



2 Saturday - Kentucky Derby Day

—Lily Curtis, OD

Chief Cook: Sheila McCann

Assist. Cook: Tom Baxter

Bar Hosts: Lindalee Fromm

Tom Swem

Crew/Clean up: Keith Pellemeier

OPEN(2)

Set-up/Decorations: Marcia Scott

Terry Whitney



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

Chief Cook: Yvonne Jordan and Peter Secord

Assist. Cook: Gary Joralemon

Crew/Clean-up: Tiz Tomalin and Darren

Howey

Lesley Santos and Trevor Moriarty

OPEN(1)



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

Kitchen Help/Clean-up: Tom and Ruth Donnelly

Douglas Twisselmann

Freeman Tidaback

Dennis Law



June 2026

5 Friday Social

—TBD, OD

Bar Hosts: Ken San Filippo

Thom Dimmitt

Food Help/Clean-up: Kate Gillespie

Tammy Casiano

12 Friday Social

—Kristin Rasmussen, OD

Bar Hosts: Bret Robinson

Kristin Blecha

Food Host/Clean-up: Thomas Tucker

Joan And Ron Perkins

17 Wet Wednesday

—Kyle Soucy OD

Bar Hosts: Barb Boud

Shawn Harper

Chief Cook: **OPEN**

Crew: Carina Sayles



19 Friday Social

—Marcia Scott, OD

Bar Hosts: Frank and Mika Richardson

Amber Tierney

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: Sandra Nordstrom

Shelley LaMon





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 Francoise (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

Directors

1 - Eddie O'Brien	831-620-5472 Director-1@slyc.org
2 - Patrick Corrigan	(509) 998-6290 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 IStaffCommodore@slyc.org

Staff

Bar Manager John Hrdlicka	707-287-7680 johnhrdlicka@hotmail.com
Boatmaster Darby Neil	541-508-9078 Darbyneil3@gmail.com
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 pedrokelly@gmail.com
Galley Manager Mika Richardson	805-471-7768 mika.richardson2021@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—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

