



the Foghorn

Newsletter of the San Luis Yacht Club



View From the Bridge

by Pat Mullen,
Commodore

A hoy everyone. Please sign up for some of the volunteer vacancies we have in October and November or we will need to cancel some events and socials! It's hard to believe we are in October already. The year has been flying by with so many fun SLYC activities! This month really transitions us into the fall and to thinking about winter and El Nino preparedness. Our last Avila Ocean Race is October 4th and the Farmer's Market in Avila ends on the 16. Avila becomes a bit more quiet towards the end of October, a slower beach vibe sets in.

Laura and I recently returned from a terrific ASA American Sailing Vacations trip in Greece. We were aboard, Artemis, a traditional Greek Gulet, a wooden sailing/motor vessel traveling from Athens through the historic Corinth Canal and into the beautiful islands of the Ionian Sea. The Corinth Canal was first envisioned in the 7th century BC, and finally completed in 1893. It was dug across the Isthmus of Corinth, and connects the Aegean Sea to the Ionian Sea via the Gulf of Corinth. Greece is full of centuries of amazing history and engineering. Other highlights included visiting the Parthenon and Acropolis in Athens, daily swimming in the clearest, bluest and cleanest Ionian waters, and visits to islands of Trizonia, Ithaca and Meganisi. After seeing the movie The Odyssey, it was super cool to visit Ithaca, the home of Odysseus and where he is trying to get back to in the poem and movie, The Odyssey. That quiet little island is about to get a lot busier now.

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Cheers to those magical quiet early fall mornings at the yacht club! See you there.

—Pat



Vice Views

by Kristin Rasmussen,
Vice Commodore

A hoy, members!

Upcoming 90 Years—and the Members Who Make It Possible

Can you believe it? Just three months remain before 2026 is in the history books. When we welcome 2027, we'll also begin celebrating the 90th year of the San Luis Yacht Club.

After spending time in Newport, Rhode Island, with the SLYC land cruise to the Newport International Boat Show, I came home thinking of our club as 90 years young. We may be younger than some of the country's storied yacht clubs, but we have a rich history of our own—and plenty to celebrate.

Born from a passion for the sea and boating on San Luis Bay, our club has changed in many ways over the decades. Yet the heart of SLYC remains the same: members coming together to share their love of the water and one another's company.

Of course, dues have increased since the days of a \$1 annual membership and a \$1 initiation fee! Still, keeping membership affordable remains a point of pride. How do we do it? You probably know where I'm going with this: because of you, our members.

Members create good times for fellow members, then enjoy the hospitality and efforts of others in return. That spirit of generosity keeps our club thriving. It reaches well beyond tending bar or preparing food. Maintaining and improving our club takes passion, commitment, and

work—much of it happening quietly behind the scenes.

Every helping hand makes a difference. Whether you host an event, tackle a repair, lend your expertise, or pitch in wherever needed, you help shape the experiences we all enjoy.

As we look ahead to our 90th year, I am grateful for your

dedication to the club and to one another. Thank you for sharing your time, talents, and enthusiasm. You are the reason SLYC continues to be such a special place.

Here's to the rest of 2026—and to celebrating 90 years young together in 2027!

—Kristin 



Jr. Staff Commodore Report

by Bret Clark,
Jr. Staff Commodore



Ahoy Members.

New Member Spotlight

Hello everyone, here is the fourth installment of our New Member Spotlight.

Nautically,
Bret Clark 

Jim and Arlene Peterson

Tell us a little about yourselves.

Jim and Arlene were married in 2006. Jim retired in 2023 after 45 years of owning his own chiropractic practice in Santa Maria. Arlene retired in 2020 following a 45-year career as an independent commercial insurance agent. Together, we have 4 children, 7 grandchildren, and a great-grandson born in March 2026. Our family is spread across Arizona, Texas, Sacramento, and Santa Maria, which keeps us traveling often to visit them. We have both served on numerous non-profit boards and originally met while serving on the Boys & Girls Club board.



What has been your favorite SLYC experience so far?

Our favorite part so far has been meeting so many amazing members. We also enjoyed learning that we could host a Friday Social and act as Chief Cook for a Wet Wednesday—and do a pretty good job!

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

The fascinating history of the club and its building. Arlene spent many childhood summers in Avila, but had no idea about the club's rich history until joining, attending events, and speaking with long-time members.

What activities are you looking forward to doing?

We both enjoy cooking, BBQing, and entertaining. While hosting our first Wet Wednesday and Friday Social felt a bit intimidating at first, we look forward to helping with more events in the future and also look forward to spending much more time at the club.

Carina Sayles

Tell us about yourself.

I have loved to sail ever since spending summers on Cape Code from my earliest years onward. I learned to sail in Hyannis Port, MA and went to a boarding school in Newport RI where sailing was their most successful sport, and was on varsity sailing teams in both high school and later, at Princeton University. I moved to SLO from a family farm in NJ a little over 10 years ago but I travel back east a couple of times per year to the farm and to my work at the Public Relations firm in New York City I co-founded in 2004. I have two kids who also learned to sail on Cape Cod as children. I live in Shell Beach with my Australian Shepherd Brody, and love to bike to SLYC. After years of owning horses and participating in equine activities, I'm excited to be gravitating back to sailing and re-honing my nautical skills. I also enjoy playing competitive tennis, playing music and singing, as well as working with environmental and farmland preservation groups.



What has been your favorite experience so far?

This is a hard question to answer as I have had so many great times with SLYC already in the past few months. A fantastic way to kick off the summer was the Santa Barbara Sail and Dock party, held on a gloriously beautiful day on June 20. I met so many new and longtime members, got to sail casually around the Santa Barbara area with other members old and new, honing some of our sailing skills and sharing snacks. I also enjoyed hanging out with some members at the Santa Barbara yacht club and then the delicious meal aboard Marty and Darryl's boat. It was the perfect mix of boating, friendship and food!

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

I didn't know much about the cruise trips that Mike Davis leads. While this year's trip to the International Boat Show in Newport, RI filled up fast, I was happy that since I was at my place in NJ, I was able to drive up to join the SLYC group for their first few days of the trip, attending the Boat Show together, hanging out at the Newport Elks Lodge, having meals (and drinks!) and creating a list of activities for them that they can enjoy this week, as I am very familiar with the area having spent many years there. I loved the vibe of the cruise group and hope to join for the full experience next year! In general, I have truly been so impressed and pleased by the supportive camaraderie of the SLYC members.

What activities are we looking forward to doing?

Of course what I most look forward to is a lot more sailing! I had a medical hurdle at the end of July that prevented me from all the sailing I had lined up for August. I was healed up enough by the second week of September to participate in the sailing race planned for September 13, but unfortunately it was cancelled. I really enjoyed the July Wet Wednesday focused on race tactics and can't wait for more chances to employ those! I also haven't yet gotten to sail on Second Wind so I am most looking forward to becoming familiar with her and taking her out soon. I also am looking forward to bar tending once I pass the test for my license—I think I will excel at behind the bar banter! I am unexpectedly facing two complete knee replacement surgeries this year starting with the first one on October 7, but am inspired to do all my PT and heal quickly so I can get back out onto the water between the surgeries and of course, after they are all done. I was happy to learn from a fellow SLYC member this past weekend that he had the same surgeon and achieved excellent results!





Port Report

by Ray Mattison,
Port Captain

Hi folks.

The August 25 Port San Luis Harbor (PSL) meeting raised several issues of interest to SLYC and conducted a thoughtful and touching memorial for former Commissioner and SLYC member James Blecha. Also, PSL has hired an expert in social media to serve and reach out to the public.

The Coastal Commission has given a go ahead to install the testing buoy on the east side of the Cal Poly pier. The Harbor Commission approved the project at a special meeting 9/7. This is one of two projects affecting the Harbor, both of which I have discussed in my prior reports: (1) placement of this testing buoy off the east side of the Cal Poly pier; and, (2) A device which filters seawater to pure water which will be off the end of the Avila Pier.

The wave power filter will be attached to tanks on the end of the Avila Pier. The device itself is offshore and attached to the pier underwater. We still do not have a good idea of the size of these tanks; although we know they will be 12' to 15' high. They will be joined together and fenced off at the end of the pier. The tanks accept the purified water, add chemicals and then pump it into the water system.

The issue of the PG&E proposed "Pecho Trial" leading from Montana de Oro to the PG&E front gate was discussed at length.

Currently, the proposed trail runs right by the Lighthouse, an issue focused on by the opponents. All of the speakers were opposed to the trail for many reasons. Currently you cannot use the trail without a docent; the new program will eliminate this requirement. The lighthouse resident outlined numerous objections: she cannot monitor the lighthouse so it is open to meddling, she has had to drive folks home who have gotten caught on the beach at high tide, and it takes an hour to get there by ambulance.

While the Commission has yet to set a date for consideration of approving the \$3,000,000 study, it is brought up by one or more members of the public at each meeting. This will analyze the suitability of Avila, in particular the Cal Poly pier, as a support port to serve offshore windmills.

See you all next month!

—Ray 



Cruising News

by Mike Davis,
Cruising Captain

Ahoy Sailors,

Channel Islands Adventure a Success

The San Luis Yacht Club's Channel Islands weekend turned out to be everything we had hoped for—and then some. Three boats—"Amigos", "Encore", and "Sans-Souci"—made the trip with a total of 13 SLYC members enjoying a great weekend on the water.

The weather cooperated, the sailing was enjoyable, and the Channel Islands provided the perfect backdrop for a memorable getaway. Between time underway, relaxing aboard the boats, and enjoying some good food—including the anticipated smash burgers—the group had plenty of opportunities to enjoy the camaraderie that makes these trips special.

As always, the best part of an SLYC cruise is the people, and

this trip was no exception. Everyone returned with some great memories, a few good stories, and, hopefully, plans for the next adventure. The Channel Islands once again proved to be a wonderful destination for a weekend of sailing, friendship, and fun.

Newport Boat Show and New England Adventure

As of this writing, nine SLYC members have made the trip to Newport, Rhode Island, and yesterday we had a great time attending the 2026 Newport International Boat Show.

We spent the day exploring the many boats and exhibits throughout the waterfront show. Of course, no boat show visit would be complete without some time in the VIP Tent, where we enjoyed the refreshments, food, and opportunity to relax and share stories with fellow boating enthusiasts.

The boat show is just the beginning of our New England adventure. Over the coming days, our itinerary includes a birthday celebration, tours of the Newport Mansions, a sunset cruise, a visit to Martha's Vineyard, exploring Bristol, and more time enjoying the Newport area.

With beautiful harbors, historic sites, spectacular scenery, plenty of boats, and good friends, this trip is shaping up to be another memorable SLYC adventure. There is still plenty more to see and do before we head home!

Winery Cruise to Rasmussen Vineyards

SLYC members are invited to Rasmussen Vineyards and Winery on Saturday, October 10th, from 12:00 noon to 4:00 pm. Come and see how a small family winery works, tour through the vineyard and learn about the vines, taste a few of our handcrafted small-

batch wines, or just sit and enjoy the outdoors. We are planning to barbecue something tasty, enjoy some snacks, and you are welcome to bring anything you like.

We would like to get an estimated head for food, so please RSVP the Cruising Captain Mike Davis at cruisingcaptain@slyc.org.

Happy sailing,
—Mike 🚢



San Luis 🚢 Yacht Club



From the Director

by Eddie O'Brien,
Director 1

Ahoy Members.

Our Avila Beach Clean Up Days have proven once again that a little time, a little teamwork, and a little club spirit can make a real difference in our community.

Our first Beach Clean Up Day on July 11th brought out an outstanding group of 24 volunteers, and our second cleanup on September 4th brought another 10 volunteers—a great turnout for a Friday morning heading into Labor Day weekend!

A sincere thank you to everyone below who participated:

Mike and Sandy Nordstrom, Mary Matakovich, Eddie O'Brien, Mercedes and Tom Swem, Mika Richardson, Tony Goetz, Tim

and Susan Waag, Kate and Mark Corella, Roger Emmons, Lena Friedman, Dan and Georgina Pease, Michael Dobrzensky, Bonnie Gardner, Paul Waldron, Annette Hackman, Terry Whitney, Paula Dempsey, Nancy Alvarado-Blauer.

Whether you joined one cleanup or both, we greatly appreciate your time and effort. Together, our volunteers cleaned areas around Avila Beach, removing litter and debris while caring for a place that means so much to our club and community.

These events are about more than earning a Volunteer Service Credit. They're an opportunity to spend a morning with fellow members, enjoy a little camaraderie, and give something back to the beautiful coastal community we're fortunate to be a part of. And judging by the smiles in our group photo, (next page) doing a little good can also be a lot of fun!

We hope to continue our Beach Clean Up Days in the future—and perhaps see an even bigger crew next time. If you haven't joined us yet, consider coming out for the next one. It's a few hours well spent, and many hands really do make light work.

Once again, thank you to all of our Beach Clean Up volunteers for rolling up your sleeves and showing what SLYC club spirit is all about.

See you at the next cleanup!

—Eddie



Rear Commodore Report

by Carter McGowen,
Rear Commodore

Hi folks.

As summer draws to a close, I want to thank all the members for keeping the club ship shape during this busy time and for letting me know when things are out of sorts. While we may not get to the issue

immediately, it all helps us keep the club in working order.

On to some upcoming projects—You may have noticed the small awnings are missing from the clubhouse. We are having all the awnings replaced and new frames built for the smaller awnings. After the club clean up day earlier this year we decided it was time to replace them since they were, quite literally, falling to pieces.

We will also be having some of the fire suppression system refreshed as part of scheduled maintenance for that system.

With the upcoming potential El Niño coming this winter, please make sure to report any damage, leaks, or any other building concerns to rearcommodore@slyc.org so we can take care of it as quickly as possible.

Thanks!
—Carter



Fleet News

by J.J. Francoisse,
Sail Fleet Captain

A hoy Sailors.

Three SLYC Sailors Challenge and Conquer ASA 103

This month's big news from the docks: **Stuart Marshall**, Robert "**Bob**", **Hurd**, and **Phil Borgardt** have all earned their ASA 103 (Basic Coastal Cruising) certification, each by taking the challenge route—going straight to the on-the-water skills check and written exam in lieu of taking the full instruction course designed for certified ASA 101 sailors. Three for three, all certified. Congratulations to all!

Wait—"challenge", the test? What does that mean? Sailors who already have solid time on the water can skip the classroom curriculum and go directly to demonstrating what they already know—a written exam covering coastal navigation, weather, docking, anchoring, and boat systems, paired with a live on-the-water evaluation where the candidate skippers a 25'+ keelboat through the maneuvers ASA 103 requires: crew overboard recovery, docking and undocking under various conditions, reefing, anchoring, and heavy-weather sail handling. No shortcuts on the water—you either sail it clean or you don't. It's simply an acknowledgment

that a sailor's logbook can speak as loudly as a multiple days of instruction. It's a great option for members who've quietly built years of real experience—cruising, racing, delivering—but never had a certificate to show for it. And for SLYC, it's a chance to formally recognize sailors who already anchor our fleet. Let's meet the recently certified sailors.

Stuart Marshall picked sailing back up after moving to SLO, following an ASA 101 course. That's on top of a sailing history that goes back to 1975 in the UK, dinghy racing on the River Hamble. Since then he's crewed on a Catalina 45 out of Santa Barbara.

Bob Hurd brings four decades of sea time to this certification, starting with cruising and racing 25-footers in the San Juan Islands back in 1979. Since settling on the Central Coast, he's logged countless passages around Point Conception aboard his Catalina 30 "Happy Hour" and now his Catalina 34 "Amelie", raced in SLYC Ocean Races and multiple Zongo Cups and—most recently—skipped a Bali 43 catamaran in the BVI on last year's SLYC club cruise.

Phil Borgardt is a familiar face at the start line—owner of a full-keeled tiller-steered Westfall 32 and a regular in SLYC regattas year after year. Phil's the kind of sailor whose boat handling you learn from just by watching, and whose post-race wine (he makes it himself, and it's genuinely excellent) has closed out more than a few club gatherings. This certification simply puts paper behind what the fleet already knew.

Why this matters for the rest of us? If you're an experienced sailor at SLYC who's never gotten around to certifying—this is your sign. You don't need to carve out a week of classroom time to make it official. Talk to me about scheduling a challenge exam, and let's get your experience on record too.

Fair winds,
—J.J. 



From the Director

by Marcia Scott,
Director 3 and Social Chair

Greetings fellow SLYC members!

Another month has sailed by, and I have news to share from both on and off the water. I will start with what's coming up on our social calendar and end with a report on our recent SLYC Santa Cruz Island sail.

Our next Sunday Brunch is coming up on October 18 from 10:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m. SLYC brunches are a great way to enjoy the yacht club during the daytime, when things tend to be a little quieter than at our evening events. Tickets need to be purchased in advance on the SLYC Members page under Upcoming Prepaid Events.

The Halloween party will look a little different this year as it will combine the fun with the traditional monthly October potluck on

Friday, October 30. No pre-sale tickets are required and there will not be a band for this event. Bring an appetizer, side dish, or dessert for the potluck, don a costume IF you'd like, and join your fellow yacht club members for a festive evening.

On the water side of things, Skipper **Grant Elwood** and I set sail in August aboard our relatively new-to-us Catalina 445, "Encore", with crew **Mika** and **Frank Richardson** for SLYC's annual three-day, two-night Santa Cruz Island adventure along with two other SLYC boats. For those of you paying close attention, we set sail and returned a day later than the others because I wasn't going to miss my granddaughter's 6th birthday dinner (priorities...)! It was such a wonderful trip that I am going to spend some time sharing it with you.

The wind and sunshine were nearly perfect, and the water was so blue and beautiful it could have been the Caribbean. We sailed 3 1/2 hours before reaching our first anchorage on Santa Cruz Island at Yellowbanks. We were thrilled with numerous dolphin sightings along the way. After setting anchor for the night, crews from all three boats gathered aboard "Amigos" for happy hour, a delicious dinner, plenty of laughter, and good conversation.

The next day we sailed and anchored in Pelican Harbor, one of the more popular anchorages due to its scenic beauty surrounded by high cliffs. After a dingy ride to explore the rocky coastline lined with arches and caves, eating a delicious dinner, and taking in a beautiful sunset, we called it an early night. An interesting book I discovered while researching Pelican Harbor is *The Diary of A Sea Captain's Wife* which is the personal account of Margaret Eaton, who with her husband, Ira, operated the Pelican Bay Camp on Santa Cruz Island during the early 1900's.

The following morning, we sailed along the coastline to Painted Cave which is the largest sea cave in California. The cave is 1227 feet long, longer than four football fields and its entrance is almost 100 feet wide. The name comes from the naturally occurring colors created by various rock types, lichens and algae. We were only able to view the cave from the boat because conditions were too choppy for us to venture inside, but even from this viewpoint it was still a

sight we won't forget.

We then turned "Encore" toward Santa Barbara to sail home spotting hundreds of dolphins and even two whales along the way. It made an already wonderful trip feel pretty epic!

Skipper Grant reports that "Encore" performed beautifully both under sail and at anchor. He was particularly pleased with the proper functioning of the watermaker, air conditioning, and new anchor.

That's my report for this month. You won't see much of me at the club in October because I am off sailing again. More on that trip in next month's report!

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

Until next time,
—Marcia 🚢



From the Secretary

by Kyle Soucy,
Secretary

A hoy! After seeing the Tall Ships on our recent summer trip to Boston, we took the train to NYC for the rest of the week (lovely way to travel!). Due to smoke from Canadian fires, the sun was blocked from the sky for 2 days, but it honestly smelled like being home in winter with the fireplace roaring, and about 70 percent humidity. Twenty-five plus years of seasonally inhaling that – we can survive 2 days. That left us with a hot and humid Friday, so I thought we'd go see the Odyssey movie on opening day. I also THOUGHT I bought IMAX tickets – I was wrong. I did purchase tickets at an IMAX theatre, but found out it wasn't one of the 25 in the country with the 70mm film, but I did purchase 4-D movie tickets (whatever that meant). Do your homework before you see anything in 4-D. It's like trying to watch a movie while simultaneously riding a roller coaster. At the end, AJ said "there should be some kind of waiver or something to do this" (I may have rushed through that to get to the payment screen). I had to hold on to the cupholders to stay in my seat- and laughed so hard (at inappropriate movie times) because of how I felt I was being launched out of my chair. We both agreed there should be seatbelts. Also, A LOT of the movie takes place on the ocean and the 'water effects' from the chair were hilarious.

During the movie, AJ said "I shut my water off and I'm still getting wet!" Every time a bow and arrow was used (again, A LOT), a puff of air would come from behind your ear to make it feel like the arrow just missed you; it would launch a chunk of my hair up into the air and cover my face as well. The movie was fantastic! I think I need to see it again in the intended 70mm format—but that would be located in Hollywood, Irvine, San Francisco, or Sacramento and a few others. Maybe I'll suggest it for another land-based trip to our cruising captain?



Happy Sailing,
—Kyle 🚢



San Luis 🚢 Yacht Club

History of "Chase"

The History of "Chase" The SLYC Safety Boat

by Ken Brokaw

Unless you have been a member of the SLYC for at least 20 years, you may not be aware of how and why the SLYC chose to purchase "Chase".

In those days, the SLYC had in addition to our normal summer ocean races in Avila Beach, we also (in conjunction with the Morro Bay Yacht Club) held small boat races at both Lake Lopez and Santa Margarita lake in the Winter.

The lake races generally required that we have a race committee boat stationed strategically plus an additional boat to assist those racers who frequently found themselves knocked down by the wind. I had been Power Fleet Captain for about 3 years, and it was the job of the PFC to find members to volunteer their time and boats to fill this need.

For years we were able to generally meet these requirements. Frequent volunteers included **Mike Wilson**, former Commodore **Pat McGowan** with his 17-foot Boston Whaler, **Bob and Sylvia Cazier** with their lake ski boat. **Guy and Annette Hackman** often provided their pontoon boat as a committee boat. There were others

as well. As time went on however, we had fewer and fewer volunteers.

We became aware that since these boats and those that operated them were strictly voluntary, the club had no say in how they were operated

or if the boats could meet U.S. Coast Guard safety inspections. There was also a question about liability as our club's liability insurance may not have covered us in certain situations.

Excerpt from the minutes of the SLYC directors June 7, 2007 "during our first (lake) race, Mike Wilson had a committee boat. Six boats capsized even before the races began! There was no safety boat available".

We actually did have a volunteer members' boat that day but upon contacting them by radio, found they were back at the marina having just towed some inoperable fisherman's boat in. Another time upon radioing the volunteer's boat for assistance, they were in another part of the lake fishing! Being volunteers on their own boats

they basically could do whatever they wished, and we had little if any control over them.

We were at a point where we did not have enough members volunteering their boats. We were frequently conducting races

without them. An additional problem was that the Port San Luis water taxi frequently quit operating at 4:00 p.m. well before our ocean races were finished. Having our own boat could solve the problem of returning the racers from their moored boats to the dock areas without the need of a water taxi.

At the directors meeting of June 7, 2007 I addressed to the board, the need for our club to consider purchasing our own boat citing the reasons

why. I also noted that the Morro Bay Yacht Club had their own assistance boat for many years. There were many months of discussions among our members, and I wrote articles about it in the Foghorn.

Ultimately the directors accepted my recommendation to purchase a boat for assisting with races and set out the maximum purchase price, type of boat and motor etc. Although most of the directors were on board with the idea, there was a surprising number of members that were opposed. Citing either the cost of a boat or just not seeing the need for one.

The board appointed a committee with me as chairman to start the search for a boat. Committee member **John Stocksdales** was very good at on-line searching and found a boat in Ventura that might meet our needs. John and I drove to the owner's home and checked out our potential boat.

The boat was a 1997 19 foot Wellcraft. The outboard engine was a 2004 115 Horsepower Yamaha 4-stroke that the seller had purchased new. We agreed to a final price of \$13,250 that would be presented after we conducted sea trials. The sea trials were acceptable and we completed the purchase including a trailer.

We needed to make some modifications and make sure it was properly serviced so we enlisted the help of past member **Dick Williams**. Dick replaced the throttles with proper Yamaha models and cleaned up the boat, added SLYC decals and added a Bimini top. This was due to the harsh sun at the lakes. We later found the Bimini top to be a problem during certain operations so it was ultimately removed.

Our new club race assistance boat was finally introduced to the members during the 2008 Opening Day celebration. **Dick** and **Karen Williams** were given the honor of christening the boat as Dick had not only spearheaded the modifications, but they agreed to allow us to store "Chase" at their home for many years.





Many members volunteered to be trained to operate “Chase” and she has served us well all these years. Her carrying capacity also allows for being an effective “water taxi” before and during the races.

It didn’t take long for “Chase” to prove her worth as a safety assistance boat. About a year after we acquired “Chase”, she was involved in what I consider a life-saving situation.

It was a cold, blustery day for the ocean races. Wind waves and chop was running 2 to 3 feet and light fog made it difficult to see the entire racecourse. In addition to the normal big boats racing, member **Del Hollinger** and former member Blair Woods were racing Del’s homebuilt Geary 18 “Salty Dog”.

I was helping Chase that day with **Jim LaMarca** assisting. All of the racers were struggling with the elements. “Salty Dog” was trailing

the other racers by at least 1/2 mile so I tried to position “Chase” where I could attempt to keep an eye on all racers. At one point I looked seaward and could no longer see “Salty Dog” so I hit the throttles to find them.

Between the swells I could make out something in the distance. I finally found “Salty Dog” floating bottoms up and both sailors floundering in the water with waves sometimes sweeping over their heads.

Both sailors had sweatshirts and winter clothing on and were NOT wearing personal floatation devices. Del managed to grab the side of his inverted boat, but Blair was about 12 feet away and the chop was pushing him further away. We made for Blair first and then managed to get both aboard Chase safely. We called the Harbor Patrol to assist in bringing in “Salty Dog”. They came out but could not right the boat in the heavy swells so towed it back to Port San Luis inverted and secured it. The next day, they managed to right the boat.

Many lessons were learned that day. Among them the race should have been called due to bad weather and that all race participants need to be wearing PFD’s. The biggest lesson was always having an assistance boat handy.

—Ken 

San Luis  *Yacht Club*

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 OCTOBER 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
27 No Reservations Allowed	28	29	30	1 6pm - Board Meeting in Clubhouse 	2 No Reservations 6pm - Friday Social Hour Alpha Fire Working on Sprinkler System 8:00 - 11:00am	3 2pm - FOAP Reservation
4 No Reservations Allowed Ocean Race #6 and final race 	5	6	7 Absentee Ballot Requests Due	8 RESERVED 5pm - Whitney	9 No Reservations 6pm - Friday Social Hour	10 Winery Cruise to Rasmussen Vineyards RESERVED 10am - Whitney
11 No Reservations Allowed	12 Columbus Day	13	14	15 2pm - Friends of Avila Pier	16 No Reservations 6pm - Friday Social Hour	17 RESERVED 11am - Davis
18 No Reservations Allowed 10am - Brunch 	19	20 Wet Wednesday 	21	22	23 Absentee Ballots Due No Reservations 6pm - Friday Social Hour	24 RESERVED 2pm - Mattison
25 No Reservations Allowed	26	27	28	29	30 No Reservations 6pm - Friday Social Hour 7pm - Potluck  	31 Halloween 

Events Calendar NOVEMBER 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Daylight Saving Time No Reservations Allowed 	2	3 Election Day 	4	5 6pm - Board Meeting in Clubhouse 	6 No Reservations 6pm - Friday Social Hour	7 RESERVED 2pm - Testa
8 No Reservations Allowed	9	10 V 	11 Veterans Day	12 RESERVED 2pm - Pfarr	13 No Reservations 5:30pm - General Membership Meeting 6pm - Friday Social Hour 	14 6pm - Staff and Volunteer Appreciation Dinner 
15 No Reservations Allowed	16 RESERVED 10am - Collins	17	18 Wet Wednesday 	19 2pm - Friends of Avila Pier	20 No Reservations 6pm - Friday Social Hour	21 RESERVED 2pm - Pfarr
22 No Reservations Allowed	23	24	25	26 Thanksgiving Day 	27 Bar Closed Black Friday No Reservations	28
29 No Reservations Allowed	30	1	2	3 6pm - Board Meeting in Clubhouse 	4 Christmas Cookie Decorating Contest No Reservations Tree Decorating 6pm - Friday Social Hour 	5 RESERVED 5pm - Wilkowski

Bar Host/OD Schedule

October 2026

2 Friday Social

—Carter McGowen, OD

Bar Hosts: Chad and Jenny Pfarr

OPEN (1)

Food Host/Clean-up: Linda and Bill Thoma
Makenzie Blodgett

9 Friday Social

—Bret Clark, OD

Bar Hosts: OPEN (2)

Food Host/Clean-up: Brady Moore
OPEN (1)

16 Friday Social

—David Butcher, OD

Bar Hosts: Barrie Cleveland

OPEN (1)

Food Host/Clean-up: OPEN (2)

18 Sunday Brunch

—Kyle Soucy, OD

Bar Hosts: Cindy Luxton

Darren Howey

Chief Cook: OPEN (1)

Assist. Cook: OPEN (1)

Cook Crew/Clean-up: Ken Brokaw
OPEN (2)



21 Wet Wednesday

—Mike Davis, OD

Bar Hosts: Judith Bellis

Mary Witkowski

Chief Cook: Scott and Karen Negri

Cook Crew/Clean-up: Eileen and Paul Sverchek



23 Friday Social

—Bret Clark, OD

Bar Hosts: OPEN (2)

Food Host/Clean-up: Neil Tardiff
Thomas Tucker

30 Friday Social/Potluck

—Kristin Rasmussen, OD

Bar Hosts: OPEN (2)

Food Host/Clean-up: OPEN (2)



November 2026

6 Friday Social

—David Butcher, OD

Bar Hosts: Tom and Janine McNeill

Food Help/Clean-up: Andrew Anthony
Randy Kingsbury

13 Friday Social General Membership Meeting

—Bret Clark, OD

Bar Hosts: OPEN (2)

Crew/Clean-up: Ron Pigeon
Chris Barrett
OPEN (2)



14 Saturday Staff and Volunteer Appreciation Dinner

—Kyle Soucy, OD

Bar Hosts: OPEN (2)

Chief Cook: OPEN (1)

Assist. Cook: OPEN (1)

Cook Crew: OPEN (1)

Clean-up Crew: Richard Scangarello
Neil Tardiff



18 Wet Wednesday

—Marcia Scott, OD

Bar Hosts: Stephen Johnson

OPEN (1)

Chief Cook: OPEN (1)

Kitchen Crew/Clean-up: Chris Barrett
OPEN (1)



20 Friday Social

—Carter McGowen, OD

Bar Hosts: Berenice Parsons

Doug Parish

Food Host/Clean-up: Joe and Julie Caradonna
Andrew Anthony





San Luis Yacht Club

Officers, Staff, and Committees 2026



Officers

Commodore Pat Mullen	805-305-3364 commodore@slyc.org
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3 - Marcia Scott	805-440-3662 Director-3@slyc.org

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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 social@slyc.org

San Luis  *Yacht Club*

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



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