

View From the Bridge



by Bret Clark,
Commodore

A hoy everyone!

Happy New Year and Happy 2025!

I am very excited to serve as Commodore again this year and am looking forward to working with the energetic and enthusiastic board that you have elected. As I write this in mid-December, I have already had meetings with the Rear, Vice, and Jr. Staff Commodores about next year’s plans and have started setting up the agenda for our January Board meeting. During our first meeting, we will establish, as a group, board initiatives for the year. These initiatives will be consistent with our Constitution’s objectives and may include:

- Offering advanced ASA courses exclusively to our membership
- Completing the refresh projects on the Galley and the Bar
- Increasing membership events and participation

If you would like to offer some additional initiatives, please feel free to send me an email or stop by our board meeting at 1800 hours on Thursday, January 2.

December

Rear Commodore **Pat Mullen** and **Marty Fuller** purchased our Christmas Tree this year. I hope that you all have had a chance to see it in the clubhouse. Michelle and I participated in the Tree Trimming/Friday Social event that was well-attended despite several conflicting events occurring on the same night including the Christmas Parade in SLO. I hope that we can find a date for next year’s Tree Trimming event that allows for greater participation—especially for those members with younger children or grandchildren.

January 2025 Volume 80 Number 1

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I am still recovering from the whirlwind week that was the Civic Ballet of SLO’s production of The Nutcracker. Due to my involvement with the shows, I was unable to participate in the Turkey and Ham Potluck on December 13, but I was assured that all present had a fantastic time.

Looking Forward

Our first event of the year is the Polar Bear Plunge on January 1 at 10:00. I am told from a somewhat questionable source that Staff Commodores **Barry Stewart**, **Ken San Filippo**, and **Bob Hurd** will be participating in the plunge at 12:00. Please try to come down to the east side of the pier at 11:30 to participate, or egg-on/encourage the plungers. Afterwards, warm dishes and drinks will be served at the clubhouse.

I am pleased to inform you that the calendar is well-populated. While we have many events planned, we cannot do them without volunteer support. This year, many of you will need to renew your ABC/RBS certifications so that you can continue to work behind the bar. I am placing Director **Eddie O’Brien** in charge of ensuring that our bar tenders are in compliance with state law. At the time of the writing, I see that the beginning of the year is well-staffed. If you haven’t done so yet, please be sure to sign up for at least one volunteer event so that we can identify dates where we will be understaffed. If you have questions about Time to Sign-up, please contact Vice Commodore **Pat Mullen**.

During the first week in January, I will be sending out letters to all members who have yet to pay their dues. It is vital that dues are received on-time, because that informs us as to how many openings there are for new members. One of Jr. Staff Commodore **Bob Hurd**’s duties is to chair the New Membership Selection Committee. Please look on the Club’s homepage (slyc.org) for information regarding the New Membership process. The board will take action in determining how many new membership openings there are at our February board meeting.

Lastly, as many of you know, we will be closing the galley from January 5 through March to facilitate the Galley Refresh Project. Vice Commodore, **Pat Mullen** will be leading a group of volunteers to ensure that the

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work is complete in time for our Opening Day celebration. Already, work has been done to update our coffee station so that there is a sink while the project is being complete. While there will be small inconveniences during the time that the galley and bar are down, I believe that you will be very happy with the results.

I wish you all to know that it is an honor to serve as your Commodore. If you have any questions or concerns about the club and our course, 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. The Galley Refresh has begun! After more than a year in planning and many articles in the *Foghorn*, we are finally underway with the upgrade to the galley finishes including all stainless steel cabinets and shelving, new flooring in the galley and bar area, and a new stainless steel coffee service area with a sink. As shared many times, the new finishes will be a more functional and durable commercial type stainless steel and restaurant grade materials. Many thanks

to our Galley Refresh committee including **Marty Fuller, Steve Dahl, Gary Cox, Dennis Dempsey, Bret Clark,** and I will also continue on the committee as Vice Commodore. Reminder, the galley and bar area will be closed in January and February while the work is being done. A temporary bar will be open for regular Friday socials. Stay tuned for more detail in future *Foghorn* articles.



On Friday, December 13, the potluck committee outdid themselves with a fabulous Christmas potluck dinner of roast turkey, ham, stuffing and gravy. Over 80 members attended and brought the most delicious side dishes of casseroles, salads, vegetables, beans, and many, many wonderful desserts. It was truly a feast and made all the more special by the turnout of some many fun and active club members. If you weren't there you really missed a special evening at the club. Extra thanks to the potluck committee of **Barry Stewart, Marty Fuller, Karen Hiatt, Rod Valine, Bob Hurd, Jon and Cindy McKeller** and others.

Cheers,
—Pat 





Jr. Staff Commodore Report

by Bob Hurd,
Jr. Staff Commodore

A hoy Members. Junior Staff Commodore is traditionally the Chairperson of the Membership Committee. According to our By-Laws, “Section VIII. Applications for membership shall be in writing in accordance with procedure(s) established by the Board of Directors.”

The current process, approved by the Board of Directors, can be

found on the front page of the Club website The Chart Table, the Official Website of the San Luis Yacht Club, just below the link to prepaid events.

It is too long to include in this article, but here you will find everything you, and the prospective new members you hope to sponsor, will need to know including a description of the process, timelines, and dates. If you are a prospective sponsor, please read the information regarding sponsors.

We have already had the three informational sessions at Friday socials and there have been several people interested in becoming members.

I would like to thank Senior Staff Commodore **Ken San Filippo** for his work on new membership for the Club.

If you have any questions regarding new membership, please contact me at jstaffcommodore@slc.org or 805-550-9071.

—Bob



Rear Commodore Report

by Tom Swem,
Rear Commodore

A hoy Members. It is my pleasure to serve the SLYC as the 2025 Rear Commodore. I last served the Yacht Club as Rear Commodore in 2012 and as I review the requirements and duties of this position for 2025 I find that they are mostly the same.

This position generally is one of the “Manager of the House” in that pretty much the Rear Commodore deals with everything connected with our Clubhouse. The last 3 years or so, as Port Captain, I helped negotiate our way, with the very much appreciated help from club member **Michael Nordstrom**, to a new 20 year lease for us to stay in our present location at a favorable rent. So that is done now.

Going forward, my position deals with a long list of responsibilities that include; our Card Lock System, Security of our Alcohol, inspection and upkeep of the kitchen and bar areas (stay tuned for the March 2025 ribbon cutting for the new facilities), Chair the House Committee, Coordinates with all outside officials on our facility status, supervises most all physical issues dealing with the clubhouse, Clubhouse reservations, manages the YC computer and deals with all issues “Access Cards”.

As we dive into 2025 please put Saturday April 8th on your calendar for our “Clean-up Day” the week before Opening Day, April 12th. I will be coordinating getting our clubhouse cleaned, painted, and ready for our membership and visiting YC Commodores. That being said, I’ll be cruising on the Danube on the 12th, so I’m hoping Mercedes and I will send a video to say congratulations to our 2025 Commodore **Bret Clark** and to hope for an Ice-Free harbor and start of the Yachting Season.

I am looking forward to working with our membership this coming year and wishing you all a prosperous and safe 2025.

Respectfully submitted,
—Tom



From the Treasurer

by Lily Curtis,
Treasurer

H ello, friends! My name is Lily Curtis and I’m excited to be joining the Board as your new Treasurer this year. I joined SLYC last year with the

goal of getting involved, and I’m happy to have found a chance to apply my skills and experience so soon.

In my career, I’ve had several opportunities to run or manage small businesses, including a boat rental company and a dental practice. I’ve also managed budgets for academic departments at two different universities, and had responsibility for financial aid verifications and audits. I am encouraged by, and look forward to maintaining, the healthy state of the club’s finances.

Thank you all for the opportunity to serve our club, and I look forward to spending more time with everyone at the clubhouse and out on the water.

—Lily

2025 SLYC OFFICERS

Commodore	Bret Clark
Vice Commodore	Pat Mullen
Rear Commodore.....	Tom Swem
Secretary	Kristin Blecha
Treasurer	Lily Curtis
Port Captain.....	Carter McGowen
Power Captain	Michael Ginn
Cruising Captain	Kristen Rasmussen
Sail Fleet Captain.....	JJ Francoise
Sr. Staff Commodore	Ken San Filippo
Jr. Staff Commodore.....	Bob Hurd
Director 1	Eddie O'Brian
Director 2	Matthew Farmer
Director 3	Freeman Tidaback




2025 SLYC STAFF

Barkeeper.....	John Hrdlicka
Boatmaster	Greg Jackson
Burgees.....	Bob Rollins
Foghorn Editor	Donna Ellison
Historian.....	Pete Kelley
Purser	Denise Reynolds
Quartermaster.....	Jana Barter
Sunshine	Kathleen O'Neill
Webmaster	Michael Dobrzensky

Events Calendar JANUARY 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
29 No Reservations Allowed	30	31 New Year's Eve  Happy New Year 	1 New Year's Day 10am - Polar Bear Plunge Baked potato bar, Chili and Hot dogs 	2 6pm - SLYC Board Meeting in Clubhouse  	3 No Reservations 6pm - Social Hour and Tree Undecorating 	4 6pm - New Board, Old Board Dinner 
5 No Reservations Allowed	6	7	8	9	10 No Reservations	11
12 No Reservations Allowed	13	14	15	16 6:30pm - New Membership Application Meeting	17 No Reservations 6pm - Social Hour	18
19 No Reservations Allowed	20 Inauguration Day Martin Luther King Jr. 	21 6:30pm - New Membership Application Meeting	22	23 6pm - Friends of Avila Pier	24 No Reservations	25
26 No Reservations Allowed	27	28	29	30	31 No Reservations 6pm - Social Hour 7pm - Potluck 	1

Events Calendar FEBRUARY 2025

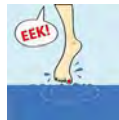
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
26 No Reservations Allowed	27	28	29	30	31 No Reservations 6pm - Social Hour 7pm - Potluck 	1
2 No Reservations Allowed	3	4	5	6 6pm - SLYC Board Meeting in Clubhouse 	7 New Membership Applications Due No Reservations 6pm - Social Hour	8
9 No Reservations Allowed	10	11 6:30-8:30pm New Membership Application Meeting	12	13	14 No Reservations Valentine's Day 6pm - Social Hour 	15 6pm - Valentine's Dinner/Dance 
16 No Reservations Allowed	17 Presidents' Day 	18	19	20 3pm - Friends of Avila	21 No Reservations 6pm - Social Hour	22 10am - New Member Interviews 4pm - New Member Deliberations
23 No Reservations Allowed 6pm - Friends of Avila Pier	24	25	26	27	28 No Reservations 6pm - Social Hour 7pm - Potluck 	1

Bar Host/OD Schedule



January 2025

- 1 Wednesday Polar Bear Plunge
—Ken San Filippo, OD
Bar Hosts (Morning 10-1): Thom Dimmitt
Sylvia Dodd
Bar Hosts (Afternoon 1-4): Gary Ross
Patrick Corrigan
Cook: Ken San Filippo
Assist. Cook/Clean-up: Barry Stewart
Clean-up: Keith Pellemeier
John and Mary Janowicz
Food Host (snacks): Tim and Sue Waag
Michael Taylor
- 3 Friday Social/Tree Undecorating
—Bret Clark, Lily Curtis OD
Bar Hosts: Cindy Luxton
Marcia Scott
Food Host/Clean-up: Christine and Ed Henry
- 4 New board/Old Board Dinner
—TBD, OD
Bar Hosts: Tom and Janine McNeill
Chief Cook: Barry Stewart, Marty Fuller
Assist. Cook: Barry Stewart, Marty Fuller
Cook Crew/Clean-up: Terry Whitney
Cindy Luxton
- 10 Friday Social
—Bret Clark, Kristin Blecha OD
Bar Hosts: Karen Haitt
Paul Waldron
Food Host/Clean-up: Annette Hackman
Keith Pellemeier
- 17 Friday Social
—Carter McGowen, OD
Bar Hosts: Reid Hester
Rick Bertram
Crew/Clean-up: David Erbstoesser
Margo Fraser
- 24 Friday Social
—Ken San Filippo, OD
Bar Hosts: Gary Ross
Randy Kingsbury
Crew/Clean-up: Don and Kathy Hannula
Hal and Kelly Hannula
- 31 Friday Social/Potluck
—Bob Hurd, Lily Curtis OD
Bar Hosts: Patrica Hood
Georgiana Peterson
Crew/Clean-up: Melenie Ristow
Hal and Kelly Hannula
Brenda Noakes



February 2025

- 7 Friday Social
—Ken San Filippo, OD
Bar Hosts: Bill McNerney
Rick Bertram
Food Hosts/Clean-up: David Erbstoesser
Margo Fraser
- 14 Friday Social
—TBD, OD
Bar Hosts: James Mattison
Ray Mattison
Food Host/Clean-up: OPEN (2)
- 15 Saturday Valentine's Dinner/Dance
—TBD, OD
Bar Hosts: OPEN (2)
Chief Cook: Michael Taylor
Assist. Cook: OPEN (1)
Crew: OPEN (2)
Clean-up: OPEN (2)
- 21 Friday Social
—Ken San Filippo, OD
Bar Hosts: Reid Hester
Thom Dimmitt
Food Host/Clean-up: Melenie Ristow
OPEN (1)
- 28 Friday Social/Potluck
—Tom Swem, OD
Bar Hosts: Tom McNeill
Janine Lamond
Kitchen Help/Clean-up: Don and Kathy Hannula
Hal and Kelly Hannula





San Luis Yacht Club

Officers, Staff, and Committees 2024

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 JJ Francoise (Racing)	909-561-6746 fleet_captain@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 IStaffCommodore@slyc.org

Staff

Bar Manager John Hrdlicka	707-287-7680 johnhrdlicka@hotmail.com
Boatmaster Greg Jackson	916-217-8166 jack2bg@charter.net
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Editor (Foghorn) Donna Ellison	805-440-9369 foghorn@slyc.org
Historian Pete Kelley	805-595-2526 pedrokelly@gmail.com
Purser Denise Reynolds	805-748-3064 Dmreynolds987@gmail.com
Quartermaster Jana Barter (Ship's Store)	805-550-5013 slocean123@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