

the Foghorn

Newsletter of the San Luis Yacht Club



View From the Bridge

by Bret Clark,
Commodore

A hoy everyone!
I stopped by the Clubhouse last night to check the progress that Vice Commodore, **Pat Mullen**'s crew are making on the galley and bar refresh projects. I cannot tell you how much I appreciate the leadership that he and **Marty Fuller** are providing. I am very confident that the project will be complete on-time and under budget; something that is a rarity in these types of projects, especially when they involve a building that is nearing 85 years. In addition to Pat and Marty, there are other people without whom this project would not be successful. They include **Dennis Dempsey**, **Steve Dahl**, and **Gary Cox**. Please refer to the Vice Commodore's Articles for more details on the progress of this project.

Although the galley and bar have not been operational, we have still had very successful Friday night socials, have completed on end-of-the-month pot-luck, and, at the time of this writing, are preparing for another one. For the January pot-luck, Staff Commodore, **Barry Stewart**, and his crew used our new outdoor counter top to produce very tasty main dishes for about 80 people. In March, Social Chair, **Marcia Scott**, and Social Committee members, **Brenda Noakes** and **Terry Whitney** are working hard to ensure that the St. Patrick's Day Dinner and Dance will be a success. Please visit the Membership Page to reserve a space.



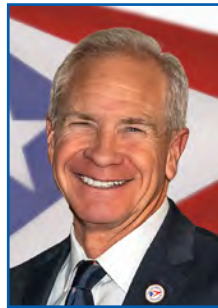
Clean-up Day will be on April 5. Rear Commodore, **Tom Swem**, is organizing the event. Please try to stop by and lend a hand. This annual cleaning prepares the club for Opening Day, on April 19. If you have never been to Opening Day, or haven't been in a while, I strongly encourage you to attend this year's event. We have much to celebrate this year, including a fully operational galley and bar—woo hoo!

On the Water:

I will be working with Sail Fleet Captain, **JJ Francoise**, to iron out the details for our first ASA 103 class offered to our membership on "Second Wind". Please stay tuned for details on dates and pricing. This will initially be offered to SLYC members only. Cruising Captain, **Kristin Rasmussen** is preparing for the year's biggest cruising event, our BVI Cruise, but still has a robust list of activities planned for the remainder of this year. For details, please visit the Cruising Page on the SLYC website (<https://www.slyc.org/Cruising/cruising.html>).

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.
Our galley refresh team; **Marty Fuller**, **Dennis Dempsey**, **Steve Dahl**, **Gary Cox** have been making big progress on the galley. You've likely seen the new coffee bar and sinks and we have just finished the bar area demo, floor demo, new bar electrical and plumbing and cleaner sheathing over the studs behind the bar. Flooring is going in now and should be complete by the time this is published. Painting and trim work is also underway now and soon to be complete prior to moving back into to the bar and galley. We are also soon to be reopening the bar and liquor closet which will allow us to reopen the restroom that has been closed for storage, and to take

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down the temporary bar over on the East wall. Thanks to everyone who has been understanding and accommodating of the temporary disruption during construction.

We appreciate everyone working with the temporary bar and related storage at the coffee bar.

The team is working hard to get everything finished up and back

in order by late March. When you see any of the member mentioned above, please give them a hearty “thank you!”

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 



Jr. Staff Commodore Report

by Bob Hurd,
Jr. Staff Commodore

A hoy Members. The new member process is concluding with the Membership Committee having interviewed applicants and submitting to the Board of Directors their recommendation for new members—just in time to be announced on Opening Day.

Speaking of Opening Day, this year will be our 88th year. Watch for information in the Foghorn and in Scuttlebutts. Usually the Vice Commodore is in charge of Opening Day but with all that **Pat Mullen** has going with the Galley Remodel I am handling it this year.

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

—Bob 



Commodore Bret Clark
and the Flag Officers of

San Luis Yacht Club

443 Front Street, Avila Beach, CA 93424
“At the foot of the Avila Pier”

Cordially invites you to attend

Opening Day Ceremonies Saturday, April 12, 2025

1100 hours ~ Hors d'oeuvres
1200 hours ~ Ceremonies

RSVP to
Bob Hurd, Junior Staff Commodore
jstaffcommodore@slyc.org or (805)550-9071

Celebrating 88 Years



San Luis  Yacht Club



Fleet News

by JJ Francoise,
Sail Fleet Captain

Hello fellow sailors and SLYC members!
Time to prepare for our Racing season, starting with some light reading, or viewing! Every four years, the Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS) are updated to improve clarity and reflect changes in the sport. The 2025-2028 rules, which take effect on January 1, 2025, include several key updates compared to the 2021-2024 version. Some of the biggest changes involve avoiding contact between boats, how boats must sail when overlapped, the definition of finishing, and race signals for stopping a race. These updates help make the rules fairer and easier to apply. If you're a sailor or race official, it's important to review the new rules to stay up to date. You can find a full breakdown in the official rulebook or resources like Dave Perry's Understanding the Racing Rules of Sailing through 2028. If your learning style is more visual, I would recommend the four-part Webinar Series of the 2025-2028 rules. Each part, initially presented live in November of last year, takes about 90 minutes. The \$40 replay fee includes: a) links to view all four sessions (as often as you want); b) all pre-read materials sent out before each session; and c) a link to the Google document with all the written series Q&A's. So what's new?

1. Avoiding Contact (Rule 14)

- Old Rule: Boats had to avoid hitting each other, but it wasn't

always clear what happened if one boat caused another to crash.

- New Rule: If a boat's actions cause two other boats to crash (even if it doesn't hit them itself), it can still be penalized. This encourages safer sailing.

2. Sailing Properly When Overlapped (Rule 17)

- Old Rule: If one boat passed another and ended up in front but slightly to the side (overlapped), it could still turn slightly upwind to block the other boat.
- New Rule: Now, if a boat gets an overlap by tacking (turning through the wind), it cannot sail above its "proper course" (the normal course it would sail to the next mark). This stops unfair blocking moves.

3. Finishing a Race (Definition Change)

- Old Rule: A boat had to cross the finish line, but the rule didn't always specify from which direction.
- New Rule: The race committee can now clearly define in the instructions how boats must cross the finish line to avoid confusion.

4. Stopping a Race (Race Signals – Flag N)

- Old Rule: If the race committee raised flag "N," it meant the race was stopped, but it wasn't clear if it applied to all races or just the ones already in progress.
- New Rule: Now, it's clear that flag "N" only applies to races that have already started.

As we prepare for the opening ceremony next month, you may want to remind all your fellow racers that SLYC is open to all members, boat-owners and crew. In addition, SLYC encourages non-members to participate as well. Pass the word around!

—JJ

BVI Cruise Meeting





Port Report

by Carter McGowen,
Port Captain

Hi folks. Welcome to the initial Port Report for 2025. My name is Carter McGowen. This is my second year serving on the SLYC board, and I am the Port Captain. The Harbor District holds their meetings at the end of the month so you will be getting info about last month's goings-on.

The SLHD held a special meeting on January 14th to honor Yacht Club member and former Harbor Commissioner **Jim Blecha** for 40 years of service. He will be missed as a commissioner, especially by the SLYC. Serving for 40 years is a monumental achievement and his absence will be felt, but all good things must come to an end and hopefully Jim will enjoy the extra free time.

At the meeting on January 28th, outgoing Commodore **Bob Hurd** presented the SLYC Annual Report. We do this every year to educate the commissioners on what the SLYC brings to the community. Our report was well-presented and well received. Thanks, Bob!

They also confirmed the new commissioners, with Matt Ashton being named the Interim Harbor Director. Other topics discussed were approvals on additions to the Flying Flags Resort, which were ultimately held off on until a later date. They also covered some pier renovation related news—as you may have seen, the pier is slowly being reopened as the new sections are completed and deemed safe. There is a new Facilities Manager who is eager to finish the project.

See you all next month!
—Carter



Photo by Mary Matakovich

Jim Blecha honored for 40 years of service

Second Wind Sail

Friday, February 21st, was a great day sailing out on the bay on our club boat, "Second Wind"! We had fair winds, warm sun and blue skies. This time of year can provide some great local sailing. Join our club's Catalina 30 "Second Wind" team so you too can use and sail this terrific club boat. Or just join to help financially support our club boat and Second Wind activities. Reach out to boatmaster **Greg Jackson** if you're interested.

—Pat Mullen



L to R: Pat Mullen, Paige Mullen, Branden Dewyer and Anna Mullen (standing)



Renaissance – Thanks!



On August 28th, “Renaissance”, a 1976, 32 foot Westsail, was hauled out to the San Luis Boatyard with the help of **Gary Cox** and **Bob Hurd**. This was the beginning of a five-month Renaissance Restoration Project. Owners **Phil Borgardt** and **Chad Ianneo** sanded and taped and painted and sanded and varnished and sanded and updated electronics and sanded ... You get the idea. Thanks to those of you who stopped by to offer encouragement throughout the long work days. Regardless if you helped, brought lunch, or were avoiding honey-do lists at home, your kind words and company kept us going! And, we had the weather on our side for most of the process.

After a boatyard party with **Gary and Stacey Cox**, **Carol Kell**, **Randy Kingsbury**, **Pat McGowan**, and **Molly Montgomery**, “Renaissance” went back in the water on January 29th.

-Submitted by Catherine Ulrich



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

~ Kentucky Derby ~
“Run for the Roses”
Watch Party

Saturday, May 3rd, 2025, 2:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.
\$15 per person

- Light lunch will be served
- Bar will offer Juleps in addition to usual Bar menu
- Dress: Ladies: Fancy flowered hats encouraged
Gents: Club casual
- Club TV will be tuned to the races
- New Competition: Show Boat or Show Horse

Please RSVP by April 30th
Sign up via SLYC.ORG members
PRE-PAID EVENT



Events Calendar MARCH

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
23 No Reservations Allowed	24	25	26	27	28 No Reservations 6pm - Social Hour 7pm - Potluck	1
2 No Reservations Allowed	3	4	5	6 6pm - SLYC Board in Clubhouse 	7 No Reservations 6pm - Social Hour	8
9 Daylight Saving Time Starts No Reservations Allowed 	10	11	12	13	14 No Reservations	15 6pm - St. Patrick's Day Dinner Dance 
16 No Reservations Allowed	17 St. Patrick's Day 	18	19	20 3pm - Friends of Avila Pier	21 No Reservations 6pm - Social Hour	22 11am - New Member Orientation Brunch
23 No Reservations Allowed	24	25	26	27	28 No Reservations 6pm - Social Hour 7pm - Potluck 	29
30 No Reservations Allowed	31	1	2	3 6pm - SLYC Board in Clubhouse 	4 No Reservations 6pm - Social Hour	5 9am - Annual Clean-up Day 

Events Calendar APRIL

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
30 No Reservations Allowed	31	1	2	3 6pm - SLYC Board in the Clubhouse 	4 No Reservations 6pm - Friday Social	5 9am - Annual Clean-up 
6 No Reservations Allowed	7	8	9 1pm - Wet Wednesday on the Water 	10	11 No Reservations 6pm - Friday Social	12 11am - Opening Day 
13 No Reservations Allowed	14 Tax Day 	15 Wet Wednesday 	16 3pm - Friends of Avila Pier	17 No Reservations 6pm - Friday Social	18	19
20 Easter Sunday No Reservations Allowed 	21	22	23	24 No Reservations 6pm - Social Hour 7pm - Potluck 	25	26
27 No Reservations Allowed	28	29	30	1 6pm - SLYC Board in the Clubhouse 	2 No Reservations 6pm - Social Hour	3 2:30pm - Kentucky Derby 

Bar Host/OD Schedule

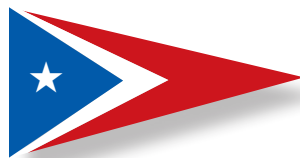
March 2025

- 7 Friday Social
—Carter McGowen, OD
Bar Hosts: Karl and Carolyn Blum
Patrick McGowen
Food Host/Clean-up: Michael Larrabee
OPEN (1)
- 14 Friday Social
—Pat Mullen, OD
Bar Hosts: Brandon and Delaney Spiller
Shad and Shelly Springer
Food Host/Clean-up: Andi Tennant
Dennis Law
- 15 Saturday St. Patrick's Dinner/Dance
—Kristin Rasmussen, OD
Bar Hosts: Doug Parish
Kevin Daily
Chief Cook: Debbie Collins-Johnson
Assist. Cook: Marty Fuller
Cook Crew/Clean-up: Barry Stewart
Terry Whitney
Nancy Stewart
Jason and Lily Curtis
- 21 Friday Social
—Bret Clark, OD
Bar Hosts: Georgina Peterson
Patrick Hood
Food Host/Clean-up: **OPEN (2)**
- 28 Friday Social/Potluck
—Bob Hurd, OD
Bar Hosts: Bill McInerney
Mike Davis
Kitchen Help/Clean-up: Sharon Williams
OPEN (2)



April 2025

- 4 Friday Social
—Ken San Filippo, OD
Bar Hosts: Steve Johnson
Tom Capen
Food Hosts/Clean-up: **OPEN (2)**
- 11 Friday Social
—Bob Hurd, OD
Bar Hosts: Patrick McGowen
Jeff Bucher
Food Host/Clean-up: **OPEN (2)**
- 12 Saturday Opening Day
—Bob Hurd, OD
Early Setup Help: Val Gillespie, Philip Borgardt
Bar Hosts: Ali Stephenson, Cindy Luxton, Sylvia Dodd
Kitchen Help: Renee Capen
Clean-up: Mark Corella
OPEN (2)
- 18 Friday Social
—Kristin Blecha, OD
Bar Hosts: Kathy and Brian Metcalf
Barrie Cleveland
Food Hosts/Clean-up: Kathy and Brian Metcalf
Sally Krenn
- 25 Friday Social/Potluck
—J.J. Francoise, OD
Bar Hosts: Thomas Hill
Cindy and Jason Vormbaum
Kitchen Help/Clean-up: **OPEN (3)**



San Luis  Yacht Club



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 JJ 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 IStaffCommodore@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 pedrokelly@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