



# the Foghorn

Newsletter of the San Luis Yacht Club



## View From the Bridge

by Bret Clark,  
Commodore

A hoy everyone!  
**July!**

July was an action-packed month. Our first big event was Cheeseburgers in Paradise. I would like to thank Social Chair, **Marcia Scott**, for organizing the band and activities, O.D., **Lily Curtis**, who kept things running smoothly. Bar Hosts, **Sylvia Dodd** and **Patrick Corrigan** kept everyone well-hydrated while we listened to a live band and waited anxiously for the food prepared by **Laurie Rainwater-Quinn** and her crew. This year's boat parade saw 50% of the boats flying the SLYC burgee! That's the good news—the bad news is that the parade consisted of "Second Wind" and the Harbor Patrol. Staff Commodore, **Barry Stewart** provided a gigantic U.S. flag—very appropriate for the day!

During our July board meeting, we were informed via public comment that a vendor intended to place a large sauna on the pod right next to the club. This naturally caught us by surprise and caused quite a bit of consternation. Junior Staff Commodore, **Bob Hurd**, and I accompanied Port Captain, **Carter McGowen** to the Port San Luis Harbor District meeting later in the month. I provided a written and public comment about the impact that this business would have on the yacht club. I am happy to report that the board is aware of our concerns and has located an alternate location for the business. It was clear that the Port is looking for ways to boost revenue, so if you become aware of any future business requests, please be sure to drop me a line; I want to be sure that we are able to represent the yacht club and our membership.

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I am writing this letter a little late after just getting back from the Santa Barbara Sail and Dockside Party. **Michelle, Brittany**, and I were guests aboard "Amigos". Initially, it looked like it was going to be a motor sailing event, but the wind filled in nicely and we all had a great sail. Afterwards, everyone gathered on "Amigos" for a taco bar and drinks. A big shout-out to **Darrel** and **Linda Runstrom**, and **Marty** and **Lettie Fuller** for continuing to provide such a wonderful platform for our after-sail activities. I also would like to thank Cruising Captain, **Kristin Rasmussen** for organizing the event and setting up the taco bar.

### Looking Ahead...

I would like to thank those of you who have signed up for volunteer duties so far this year. There are still many opportunities left in the remaining months. I would like all of our members look at Time to Sign Up (<https://www.timetosignup.com/sanluisyc/folder/12024/>) and try to sign up for at least one additional activity during the second half of the year. We have more than enough members to staff all of our remaining activities, assuming that each membership volunteers for two different events, but please also know that two volunteer credits represents the minimum volunteer activity for a Member in Good Standing.

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. Last Call for anyone who wants some of the old “historic” galley plates or bowls. Let me know by ASAP if you would like some of the place settings of the old heavy dishware. We will be donating them to a local charity or non-profit

later this month. So if any club members want some of those be sure to contact me right away.

It has been a great summer for the club so far. Lots of good socials, sailing races and cruising events. These events only happen because of members volunteering. If you haven’t completed your volunteer credits, please sign up on TTSU on the webpage. We still have many slots to fill for putting on our socials and activities. It’s what makes it fun to be involved and get to know other club members better.

**Laura** and I are off to Europe for a few weeks this month where we will be cruising on a Norwegian mailboat cruising up the coast of Norway as it delivers packages and freight to towns in the fjords along the way. It should be interesting—I’ll update you next month.

Cheers,  
—Pat



## Jr. Staff Commodore Report

by Bob Hurd,  
Jr. Staff Commodore

Onboarding is the process of introducing new members into the Club with opportunities to learn about the Club through activities.

Only one of our new members is not already completed with most if not all of their Onboarding, but he still has several months to catch up.

I forgot how much fun it can be to be OD when you have a good group for a Friday Social.

**Jeff** and **Melissa Watkins** and **Iris Swisher** and **Dick Strachan** served up Italian sausage sandwiches and salad and **Steve Williams** and **Melanie Topp** tended bar for Wet Wednesday on July 16.

Ahoy Members. I thought my responsibilities as Junior Staff Commodore ended after completing the new membership tasks (that was written by AI Copilot).

Evidently, the Commodore does not think so as evidenced by his insistent emails, “This is a reminder to send your Foghorn submissions to Donna and cc me by the 20th.”

I avoided it for June and July, but I am on the straight and narrow for August, so here it goes.

New members of the Club are Probationary Members and must complete an onboarding process to advance to Flag Membership.

And it was fun.

Almost thirty people attended a not so wet Wet Wednesday and it was fun.

Speaking of fun, my boat is now in Channel Islands Marina and in the summer, (photo below) they have free concerts every Saturday and that is really fun. Look for more fun to be had at the Club this summer.

Thank you and see you at the Club.  
—Bob





## Fleet News

by J.J. Francoise,  
Sail Fleet Captain

Hello fellow sailors and SLYC members!

### Avila Cup: Tight Competition After Three Regatta Days

The Avila Cup monohull division is heating up after three regatta days spanning from May to July, with top sailors showing remarkable consistency in sometimes challenging conditions off the Cal Poly Pier. Everyone remembers the gale warning flags flying over the Harbor District building on opening day, forcing the racing committee to cancel the last of the three races planned for May due to excessive wind. The next two meets in June and July, on the other hand, gave every sailor a chance to finish all three races. Racing under the PHRF handicap system, six competitors are still battling for the coveted trophy in this classic series running from May through October 2025. As we reach the midpoint of the season, it's time to recap the current standings!

**Roger Briggs** aboard "Second Wind" (Catalina 30) and **Darrel Rundstrom** on "Fat Cat" (Catalina 38) are neck and neck, as both skippers have seized an early lead with 16.0 points each. Hot on their heels is **Kevin Williams** sailing "Fear Knot", a Holder 20 that's punching above its weight class. Despite recording three "DNC" (Did Not Compete) results in the final three races in July,

Williams' opening race victory keeps him mathematically in contention with 28.0 points total. **Phil Borgardt** in "Renaissance", a Westsail 32, sits in a solid third place with 37.0 points. Despite a crippling transmission issue forcing the Westsail to head back to its mooring on opening day, "Renaissance" has shown steady improvement, clawing back from a last place finish in Races 1 and 2 in May to consistent 4th and 3rd place results in the subsequent races. "Blondie" (Catalina 30) was unable to participate in the last regatta as her hull was getting a coat of fresh paint. However, this inconvenient situation did not prevent her skipper from crewing on another competitor's boat and joining the races.

The latest regatta wasn't without its colorful moments. "Second Wind" borrowed Blondie's asymmetrical spinnaker, which provided an amazing visual display to the fleet. Unfortunately, a technical issue related to the halyard almost ruined the day and prevented "Second Wind" from using its massive headsail during the second race. Meanwhile, "Fat Cat" demonstrated a "HOB" (Hat Overboard) as Darrel's tricornie ended up in the waters of San Luis Bay and was skillfully recovered by the crew.

With the series running through October, every race becomes crucial. The tight points battle between Briggs, Rundstrom, and Williams suggests that consistency will be key, but Williams' recent absence from the three races in July has put him at a significant disadvantage. His only path to victory likely requires winning the remaining races while hoping "Second Wind" and "Fat Cat" stumble. With the beautiful backdrop of San Luis Obispo's coastline providing the stage, the Avila Cup continues to deliver exciting racing for both participants and spectators alike. Stay tuned for the fourth edition of ocean races coming in August.

Keep on sailing! Hold on to your caps!

—J.J. ⚓





# Cruising News

by Kristin Rasmussen,  
Cruising Captain

“Wind Star”, Steve and Cheryl Dahl’s “Sans Souci”, Dave Ouelette’s “Patricia II”, and Marcia Scott aboard Grant Elwood’s “Majorie Gale”. The breeze cooperated, the sea sparkled, with everyone having a wonderful time both sailing and socializing.

Events like these highlight the spirit of SLYC—great sailing, warm friendships, and unforgettable days by the sea.

Mark your calendars! Our next cruising adventure will take us to the stunning Santa Cruz Island from Friday, August 22nd through Sunday, August 24th.

We’ll set sail together on Friday, heading across the channel for a weekend of exploration and relaxation. Once anchored, we’ll kick off the festivities with a group get-together Friday evening, perfect for reconnecting and unwinding after the sail.

Saturday will be all about island adventure—whether you prefer hiking, kayaking, snorkeling, or simply soaking in the natural beauty, there’s something for everyone. We’ll gather again for a casual and relaxing evening under the stars, enjoying good company and the peaceful surroundings.

On Sunday, after a leisurely morning, we’ll make our way back to our home ports, bringing back memories of another wonderful SLYC getaway.

We hope to see many of you out there enjoying the best of the Channel Islands.

Fair winds and following seas.  
—Kristin

**A** hoy SLYC Members.

## SLYC Santa Barbara Sail Day & Dockside Party – A Perfect Summer Gathering

On Saturday, July 19th, members of the San Luis Yacht Club enjoyed a fantastic Sail Day and Dockside Party in beautiful Santa Barbara. Under sunny skies and wonderful sailing conditions, members came together to celebrate camaraderie, sailing, and summer fun.

A special thank you to **Marty** and **Lettie Fuller**, and **Darryl** and **Linda Fuller** for graciously hosting the lively Dockside Party aboard “Amigos” and on the dock. Their hospitality made the evening memorable, with plenty of good company, refreshments, and shared stories from the water.

Out on the water, it was a spectacular sight with several of our members aboard boats enjoying being on the water. Members participating on the water were “Amigos”, **Michael Dobrzensky’s**



“Wind Star” July 19, 2025



“Marjorie Gale” July 19, 2025



“Sans Souci” July 19, 2025



SLYC Santa Barbara Sail and Dock Party!

# ASA 103 Challenge Certification

## Now at SLYC: ASA 103 Basic Coastal Cruising Certification for Experienced Sailors

You mastered the fundamentals of sailing on keelboats? Gained experience cruising 25–35-foot boats in coastal waters? ASA 103 Coastal Cruising (American Sailing aka ASA) is surely the advanced certification you have your eyes on. SLYC now offers experienced sailors who completed ASA 101 Basic Keelboats a fast track to achieving the ASA 103 Basic Coastal Cruising certification through challenging both the on-the-water practical standards and the written knowledge test.

The ASA 103 certification builds directly on your existing sailing foundation, introducing the advanced techniques required to confidently skipper a cruising sailboat in moderate coastal conditions. The certification process combines written examination with hands-on practical evaluation covering the following topics: boat systems and operations, advanced sailing techniques, docking and anchoring, navigation and weather, safety & seamanship.

Since March '24, American Sailing (AKA American Sailing Association – ASA) offers an ASA 103 Online Prep Class at no charge (contact me for promo code) to SLYC members, a self-paced digital 4–6-hour course covering most essential concepts covered by the written knowledge test. Together with the official ASA manual Coastal Cruising Made Easy, this online prep will provide the basis for a two-hour in-class ground review provided by SLYC prior to the written examination. Next, an on-the-water skill challenge (about one afternoon) aboard our 30ft Catalina Second Wind will complete the process and grant you ASA 103 certification seal.

Send a picture of your ASA log book with ASA101 seal along with your ASA number to [fleetcaptain@slyc.org](mailto:fleetcaptain@slyc.org). You will receive free of charge the access code link for American Sailing's Online Prep Class ASA 103 mentioned above. Once we gather a small group of candidates, we will conduct an in-person review class, take the written exam, and schedule the on-water skill test. Upon successful completion of these requirements, SLYC will send American Sailing your paperwork and the certification will be issued. If this call for candidates is successful, we can anticipate a similar approach to the ASA 104 certification, culminating with the coveted International Certificate of Proficiency (IPC), often required when sailing in the Mediterranean.

Let's keep sailing forward—smarter, safer, and farther.

J.J. Francoisse  
Sail Fleet Captain

## Cheeseburgers in Paradise - 2025



Photo Collage by Michael Dobrzensky

# Bar Host/OD Schedule

## August 2025

- 1 **Friday Social**  
—Tom Swem, OD  
Bar Hosts: Richard Scangarello  
Gary Joralemon  
Food Hosts/Clean-up: Sheila Baxter and Tom McCann  
Tina Radovich
- 8 **Friday Social**  
—Kristin Blecha, OD  
Bar Hosts: Don or Patrice Eley  
**OPEN (1)**  
Food Host/Clean-up: Cathy Dahl Kunkel  
**OPEN (1)**
- 15 **Friday Social**  
—Bret Clark, OD  
Bar Hosts: Debbie Collins-Johnson  
**OPEN (1)**  
Kitchen Crew/Clean-up: Scott and Karen Negri  
Connie Bruton
- 17 **Sunday Brunch**  
—Lily Curtis, OD  
Bar Hosts: Jason Curtis  
Jon McKellar  
Chief Cook: Ryan McKellar  
Assist. Cook: Douglas Anthony  
Crew: Steve DeRose  
Mark Plassard
- 20 **Wednesday-Wet Wednesday**  
—TBD, OD  
Bar Hosts: Chad Ianneo  
Pat Cusack  
Chief Cook: Gregory Ross  
Assist. Cook: **OPEN (1)**  
Kitchen Help/Clean-up: Lauri Rainwater-Quinn
- 22 **Friday Social**  
—Kristin Blecha, OD  
Bar Hosts: Amber Tierney  
Don or Patrice Eley  
Food Hosts/Clean-up: Mary Bucher  
**OPEN (1)**
- 29 **Friday Social/Potluck**  
—Kristin Rasmussen, OD  
Bar Hosts: J and Kathy Johnson  
Kitchen Help/Clean-up: Wendy Lucas  
**OPEN (3)**



## September 2025

- 5 **Friday Social**  
—Carter McGowen, OD  
Bar Hosts: Shawn Harper  
David Murray  
Food Host/Clean-up: Neil Tardiff  
**OPEN (1)**
- 9 **Friday Social**  
—Matthew Farmer, OD  
Bar Hosts: Karl and Carolyn Blum  
David Murray  
Food Host/Clean-up: Kate and Dana Gillespie  
Neil Tardiff
- 17 **Wednesday-Wet Wednesday (on the water)**  
—TBD, OD  
Bar Hosts: Bob Engel  
**OPEN (1)**  
Chief Cook: **OPEN (1)**  
Cook Crew: Steve Williams
- 19 **Friday Social**  
—TBD, OD  
Bar Hosts: **OPEN (2)**  
Food Host/Clean-up: **OPEN (2)**
- 26 **Friday Social/Potluck**  
—Pat Mullen, OD  
Bar Hosts: **OPEN (2)**  
Kitchen Help/Clean-up: Bob Lucas  
Janet Leonard



# Events Calendar AUGUST

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
27 No Reservations Allowed 	28	29	30	31	1 No Reservations 6pm - Social Hour	2 No Reservations
3 No Reservations Allowed Ocean Race 4 	4	5	6 6pm - SLYC Board	7	8 No Reservations 6pm - Social Hour	9 No Reservations
10 No Reservations Allowed	11	12 Reserved 5pm - 8pm Corrigan	13	14	15 No Reservations 6pm - Social Hour	16 No Reservations
17 No Reservations Allowed 10am - Brunch 	18	19 1pm - wet wednesday on the water 	20	21 2pm - Friends of Avila Pier	22 No Reservations 6pm - Social Hour	23 No Reservations Santa Cruz Island Trip 
24 No Reservations Allowed	25	26	27	28	29 No Reservations 6pm - Social Hour 7pm - Potluck 	30 No Reservations
31 No Reservations Allowed	1 Labor Day 	2	3 6pm - SLYC Board	4	5 No Reservations 6pm - Social Hour	6

# Events Calendar SEPTEMBER

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
31 No Reservations Allowed	1 Labor Day 	2	3	4 6pm - SLYC Board Meeting 	5 No Reservations 6pm - Social Hour	6
7 No Reservations Allowed Ocean Race 5 	8 Notice of General Membership Meeting	9	10	11 RESERVED 3pm - 10pm Reynolds	12 No Reservations 6pm - Social Hour	13
14 No Reservations Allowed	15	16 1pm - Wet Wednesday on the water 	17	18 2pm - Friends of Avila Pier	19 No Reservations 6pm - Social Hour	20
21 No Reservations Allowed	22	23	24	25	26 No Reservations 6pm - Social Hour 7pm - Potluck 	27 RESERVED 11am - 6pm Karl Blum
28 No Reservations Allowed	29	30	1	2 6pm - SLYC Board Meeting 	3 No Reservations 6pm - Social Hour	4



# San Luis Yacht Club

## Officers, Staff, and Committees 2025



### Officers

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Commodore Bret Clark	805-704-2608 <a href="mailto:commodore@slyc.org">commodore@slyc.org</a>
Vice Commodore Pat Mullen (Volunteer: TimeToSignUp)	805-305-3364 <a href="mailto:vicecommodore@slyc.org">vicecommodore@slyc.org</a>
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2 - Matthew Farmer	805-440-4399 <a href="mailto:Director-2@slyc.org">Director-2@slyc.org</a>
3 - Freeman Tidaback	805-888-1621 <a href="mailto:Director-3@slyc.org">Director-3@slyc.org</a>

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### Committees

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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"
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Co-Chair—Brenda Noakes	805-748-4001 <a href="mailto:skihut21@yahoo.com">skihut21@yahoo.com</a>