



## View From the Bridge

by Bret Clark,  
Commodore

## Returning Members and New Membership Drive

By now, you should have received your 2026 membership invoices. Treasurer, **Lily Curtis**, has worked hard to ensure that you were sent the invoices and will work hard to ensure that any changes that you indicate to your address, phone number, etc., will be updated in our directory. When you send in your invoice, please

**A** hoy everyone!  
 The year is drawing to a close and my time as Commodore will end with it. The year has passed very quickly for me. As I look back on the year, I see that much was accomplished and also that there is still much to do. I can say that the Club is in solid fiscal shape, our members are participating in more activities, and the clubhouse improvements will be appreciated by our membership for many years to come. You also recently elected a 2026 Board that has the right amount of experience and fresh ideas to make the 2026 season a great one!



Photo by Michael Dobrzensky

### Thank you!

Your 2026 board has many returning members. This includes **Mike Davis, Bob Hurd, Pat Mullen, Kristin Rasmussen, Carter McGowen, Lily Curtis, J. J. Francoise, David Butcher, Matt Farmer, Eddie O'Brien**, and me. I would like to thank them for being willing to serve in 2026. I also would like to thank **Tom Swem, Kristin Blecha, Mike Ginn, and Ken San Filippo** for their service on the board. It takes so many people to keep this club running. In addition to the board our 2025 Staff kept the bar stocked and burgees up, ensured that we could represent SLYC with an array of clothing, and that we could always make change when things were purchased, kept "Second Wind" in ship-shape condition, sent us cards, kept us informed via the website, Scuttlebutt, and Foghorn, and chronicled the year for posterity. We celebrated the 2025 Staff and Volunteers at the Staff and Volunteer Appreciation Dinner on November 15. I want to thank Treasurer, **Lily Curtis** and her crew for the fantastic dinner recognizing the work that our volunteers and staff did for the club this year.



Photo by Michael Dobrzensky

be sure to sign up for your volunteer service. You can do so at (<https://www.timetosignup.com/sanluisyc/folder/12869>). I will be heading our New Membership drive which will start in January. If you know of people who would be good additions to the Club, please encourage them to come to the Club during our events and consider sponsoring them for membership. Here is an overview of the process:

- All applicants must have 2 sponsors who are Honorary or Flag Members in "Good Standing"

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- Sponsors may only sponsor one applicant per year
- Applicants and at least one sponsor must attend one of two Orientation Meetings (1/15/26 and 1/21/26). Only applications from applicants who attended the meetings will be accepted.

### Here are some important dates

- Mandatory Orientation sessions—January 15, 2026 and January 21, 2026
- Deadline for submitting applications - 8 PM Friday, February 13, 2026

- Notification of invitation to interview—Thursday, February 19, 2026
- Interviews—Saturday February 28, 2026
- New members approved by the Board of Directors—Thursday, March 5, 2026
- New Member Orientation and Brunch—Saturday, March 28, 2026

As this is my last Foghorn article as Commodore, I would like to thank you for the opportunity to serve in this role. It has been an honor...

Nautically,  
—Bret 🚢



## Vice Views

by Pat Mullen,  
Vice Commodore

A hoy Friends,  
Heads-up and a thank you! The heads-up is you should have received your 2026 dues invoice in the mail by now, so remember they must be paid by December 31st to avoid a \$50 late fee! So don't wait, make your payment now to ensure it is received before December 31. Sorry for that business item first, but now to the fun stuff. I'm so excited for next year and want to thank you for your trust and support to be your commodore for 2026. I am thrilled to get to work with all of

you, and our great 2026 board, to keep our special club the great place it is and always improve our programs, socials and facilities. For 2026 we have many of your favorite events and activities already scheduled, so take a look at TTSU and sign up, and check out the calendar of events. Also, I love to hear from fellow members about our club's history and how we collectively can keep making it better, so always feel free to email, call or text me anytime. It's good to hear and know how things are going and all your potential ideas, and like that favorite phrase "you can do anything you want, you just can't do everything you want" just keep in mind we can't always act on all ideas, or at least not at the same time. But please do offer up any thoughts, concerns or ideas to me (or any board member) as it's always good to hear what's on your mind. Cheers to a terrific 2026 with all the warmth, fun and fellowship that I feel whenever I open our Yacht Club door and see you all inside! It's the best.

Happy Holidays,  
—Pat 🚢



## Cruising News

by Kristin Rasmussen,  
Cruising Captain 2025

A hoy SLYC Members,  
November's Wet Wednesday was a spectacular evening filled with good friends, delicious Scandinavian flavors, and wonderful memories of cruising adventures. A heartfelt thank-you to our gracious hosts—**Carol Nylander**, **Georgina** and **Dan Pease**, and **Jesper Nielsen**—for preparing a delightful Scandinavian dinner that set just the right tone. Appreciation also goes to **Barry Cleveland** and **Sylvia Dodd** for their bar service, and to all the helping hands behind the scenes who made the evening run smoothly.

A special BIG thank you to **Michael Dobrzensky** for creating an outstanding video presentation that brilliantly captured the essence of our 2025 cruising season. The video took us back to the spirited

4th of July Boat Parade, with scenes of our boat underway while festivities at Cheeseburgers in Paradise unfolded at the Club. He continued the cruise down memory lane with highlights from the Santa Barbara Sail and Dock Party in July, then the unforgettable Santa Cruz Island expedition in August. And who could forget how the year began—the SLYC Cruise to the British Virgin Islands in March, setting the tone for a year of camaraderie, adventure, and seamanship.

Looking ahead, our 2026 Cruising Captain, **Mike Davis**, is already charting a course for another exciting year. He's planning to bring back some of our beloved traditional events while introducing fresh new cruise concepts for both water and land-based adventures. There will be opportunities for sailors, power boaters, and land cruisers alike to join in.

I hope you will consider being part of a 2026 cruising event—whether it's hoisting sails, dropping anchor at a distant harbor, or joining a land cruise filled with food, fellowship, and fun. These experiences bring our club closer together, connect us through shared adventures, and create memories that last well beyond the journey.

—Kristin 🚢



## Cruising News

by Mike Davis,  
Cruising Captain 2026

**A**hoy Sailors,  
As the 2025 cruising season comes to a close, I had the pleasure of attending the final Wet Wednesday event of the year.



Photo by Michael Dobrzensky

The evening featured an engaging recap video that highlighted the unforgettable experiences from our 2025 cruises, skipped by **Kristin Rasmussen**, 2025 Cruising Captain. The video captured fond memories and showcased the camaraderie and adventure that define our club.

A special thank-you goes out to **Michael Dobrzensky** for his dedication in gathering photos from last year's trips. His creative efforts produced a wonderful video complete with animations,

music, and voice overs, capturing the spirit of our journeys. For those interested in reliving these moments, please visit the "Photos" section on the club website to view the collection of images from our cruising adventures, or click this link: <https://www.slyc.org/images/2025%20Cruises%20Summary.mp4>.

We extend our heartfelt thanks to **Georgina Pease**, **Carol Nylander**, and **Sandra and Jesper Nielsen** for their outstanding organization and hospitality. Their Scandinavian dinner added a delightful touch to the evening, making the event enjoyable for all who attended.

### Looking Ahead: Cruising for 2026

I am honored to serve as your Cruising Captain for the upcoming year. My journey with the club began in 2017 with my first trip to Puerto Vallarta, Mexico. That experience allowed me to connect with fellow members, visit new destinations, and create lasting memories. I encourage all boaters, sailors, and members to join us on our future sailing adventures and make memories of your own.

The 2026 calendar is filled with exciting opportunities, including:

- NWSA/SCYA Women's Sailing Convention, March 20th–22nd at Long Beach Yacht Club
- 4th of July Boat Parade in July
- Santa Barbara Sail & Dock Side Party, June 20th
- Channel Islands Cruise, August 21st–23rd
- Newport Boat Show, September 17th–20th & Exploring Martha's Vineyard
- Winery Cruise to Rasmussen Vineyards, October 17th
- Lighted Morro Bay Boat Parade, December 12th

We are also considering local excursions to attractions such as Field of Light at Sensorio in Paso Robles, Port San Luis Lighthouse, Santa Maria Speedway, and the Great American Melodrama. In addition, we are exploring possibilities for future travel to destinations like Croatia, Mexico, and other locations. If you have suggestions for new cruising events, please share your ideas with me.

Don't forget—this year's Morro Bay Lighted Boat Parade will be held on Saturday, December 13th, from 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM, weather permitting. Mark your calendars!

Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays to all! Wishing safe travels to everyone spending time with family and those taking a holiday getaway.

—Mike 

## 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](mailto:koneill555@gmail.com).



— Kathleen O'Neill  
Sunshine Committee

# Bar Host/OD Schedule

## December 2025

### 5 Friday Social/Tree Decorating

—Matthew Farmer, OD

Bar Hosts: Sylvia Dodd

Ali Stephenson

Food Help/Clean-up: Betty and Mark Gillespie

Sally Krenn



### 12 Friday Social

—Bob Hurd, OD

Bar Hosts: Freeman Tidaback

Mary Witkowski

Food Host/Clean-up: Cynthia and Andy Anthony

Wendy Lucas

### 19 Friday Social

—JJ Francoisse, OD

Bar Hosts: Gareth Kelly

Ellen and Michael Sheffer

Food Host/Clean-up: Ellen and Michael Sheffer

Jim Fuller



### 2 Friday Social/Tree Undecorating

—TBD, OD

Bar Hosts: **OPEN (2)**

Ali Stephenson

Food Host/Clean-up: **OPEN (2)**



### 9 Friday Social

—TBD, OD

Bar Hosts: Kyle Martin

**OPEN (1)**

Food Host/Clean-up: **OPEN (2)**

### 10 Saturday New Board/Old Board Dinner

—Mike Davis, OD

Bar Hosts: **OPEN (1)**

Chief Cook: **OPEN (1)**

Assist. Cook/Clean-up: **OPEN (1)**

Cook Crew/Clean-up: **OPEN (2)**



## January 2026

### 1 Thursday - Polar Bear Plunge

—Kristin Rasmussen, OD

Bar Hosts (Morning 10-1pm): John Sorgenfrei

Reid Hester

Bar Hosts (Afternoon 1-4pm): Sylvia Dodd

Ali Stephenson

Chief Cook: Pat Cusack

Assist. Cook/Clean-up: **OPEN (1)**



### 16 Friday Social

—TBD, OD

Bar Hosts: **OPEN (2)**

Food Help/Clean-up: **OPEN (2)**

### 23 Friday Social

—TBD, OD

Bar Hosts: **OPEN (2)**

Food Host/Clean-up: **OPEN (2)**

### 19 Friday Social/Potluck

—TBD, OD

Bar Hosts: **OPEN (2)**

Food Host/Clean-up: John Sorgenfrei

**OPEN (1)**



## 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.

# Events Calendar DECEMBER 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
30 No Reservations Allowed	1	2	3	4 6pm - SLYC Board Meeting 	5 Decorating Contest / Tree Decorating/ Potluck No Reservations 	6 RESERVED 12-8pm - Negri
7 No Reservations Allowed	8	9	10 RESERVED 4-9pm - Fuller	11	12 No Reservations 6pm - Social Hour	13
14 No Reservations Allowed	15	16	17	18 2pm - Friends of Avila Pier	19 No Reservations 6pm - Social Hour	20 RESERVED 12-7pm - Matakovich
21 No Reservations Allowed	22	23 Christmas Eve 	24 Christmas Day 	25	26 No Reservations 6pm - Social Hour 7pm - Potluck	27
28 No Reservations Allowed	29	30	31 New Year's Eve 	1 New Year's Day 10am-2pm - Polar Bear Refreshments 12pm - Polar Bear Plunge 	2 No Reservations	3

# Events Calendar JANUARY 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
28 No Reservations Allowed	29	30	31 New Year's Eve 	1 New Year's Day 10am - Polar Bear 12pm - Polar Bear Plunge  <i>Happy New Year</i>	2 No Reservations	3
4 No Reservations Allowed	5	6	7	8 6pm - SLYC Board 	9 No Reservations	10
11 No Reservations Allowed	12	13	14	15 2pm - Friends of Avila Pier	16 No Reservations	17
18 No Reservations Allowed	19 Martin Luther King Jr. Day	20	21	22	23 No Reservations	24
25 No Reservations Allowed	26	27	28	29	30 No Reservations 6pm - Social Hour 7pm - Potluck	31 10am - Tentative Reservation Pat Hood



# 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>
Rear Commodore Tom Swem (Facility)	805-544-4422 <a href="mailto:rearcommodore@slyc.org">rearcommodore@slyc.org</a>
Secretary Kristin Blecha	805-459-5115 <a href="mailto:secretary@slyc.org">secretary@slyc.org</a>
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Sail Fleet JJ Francoise (Racing)	909-561-6746 <a href="mailto:fleetcaptain@slyc.org">fleetcaptain@slyc.org</a>
Power Fleet Captain Michael Ginn (Chase Boat)	805-788-8850 <a href="mailto:powercaptain@slyc.org">powercaptain@slyc.org</a>
Cruising Captain Kristin Rasmussen	805-471-7127 <a href="mailto:cruisingcaptain@slyc.org">cruisingcaptain@slyc.org</a>

### Directors

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1 - Eddie O'Brian	831-620-5742 <a href="mailto:Director-1@slyc.org">Director-1@slyc.org</a>
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>

### Staff Commodores

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Ken San Filippo	805-704-8625 <a href="mailto:SStaffCommodore@slyc.org">SStaffCommodore@slyc.org</a>
Bob Hurd	805-550-9071 <a href="mailto:IStaffCommodore@slyc.org">IStaffCommodore@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"
Social Directors Chair—Terry Whitney	805-406-9196 <a href="mailto:twhitney@ati7.com">twhitney@ati7.com</a>
Co-Chair—Brenda Noakes	805-748-4001 <a href="mailto:skihut21@yahoo.com">skihut21@yahoo.com</a>

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



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