



The South Bay Yacht Club

Since 1896

Slough News

www.southbayyachtclub.org

March 2025



Thursday, March 13, 2025

6pm Board Meeting 7pm Member Meeting
Please join us!

The South Bay Yacht Club
-- presents the --
129th Annual CRAB FEED
SOUTH BAY YACHT CLUB
1491 Hope St, Alviso, CA

Saturday March 01, 2025
Dinner at 5pm
OR Pick Up To Go at 4pm

Early Bird Special thru Sat Feb 22 - \$75 / Adult
Regular Price Sun Feb 23 onward - \$85 / Adult
OR Half Chicken OR Veggie Lasagna only \$50
Pasta, Salad, Veggies, Bread and much more.

southbayyachtclub.org/events
sbyc.alviso@gmail.com

Kids under 18 only \$5

SOUTH BAY YACHT CLUB

PADDY'S HAVING A PARTY

Adults 18+ \$25
Hotdogs FREE for Kids

Home-Made
Guinness Stew
Corned Beef & Cabbage
All the Fixings

St. Patrick's
**Saturday
March 15**
Bar open 4pm
Entertainment
4:30pm onward
Dinner 5pm

Greene Academy
Of Irish Dance

Celtic Harmony Band

1491 HOPE ST
San Jose, CA

southbayyachtclub.org/events
Info: sbyc.alviso@gmail.com

Online RSVP
←-required



Commodore's Corner

Lisa Bickford, Commodore lisabickford@gmail.com

Welcome to March at our yacht Club! The grounds are turning green and the grass needs to be mowed again, finally! We've had a busy February, with work done on our dock power due to some vandalism, completion of the storage yard concrete entrances, and planning for more work needed in 2025.

On February 5th, the board met in a closed session to discuss our ongoing programs and projects and help support smooth running of our club. I'm happy to say it was a great meeting where we were able to discuss, debate, and ultimately agree on how we will operate together this year.

At the February board meeting on February 13th, we held our standard agenda and reviewed all the upcoming club projects, including voting to spend club funds to repair some vandalism to the power feeding our docks. We also discussed the projects we want to get done in 2025 and requested the House & Grounds Committee to work with the board on a major projects list, to ensure we start funding now for our capital requirements.

I want to again encourage everyone to join a committee for our club!

As you are reading this, we are working on our largest annual fundraiser, our Crab Feed. I hope you were able to buy tickets, help with setup, prep and/or cleanup since it takes our whole club working together to make the Crab Feed happen!

We have not been able to kayak in January, February, or March so we're going to find another Saturday in March to hold a club kayaking activity. Stand by for more info as soon as we've identified a date that works.

Thank you to all those who completed the annual member survey! I'm reviewing your comments and putting together the feedback for the board to review at our March board meeting on Thursday, March 13th.

I'm looking for help with our Speaker Series. If anyone has ideas on a speaker or two, please talk to me so we can coordinate some speakers for our club!

I hope to see you soon around the clubhouse or on the water!

~ Commodore Lisa



Club Calendar – *What's Ahead*

Every month:

- **Saturday Kayak Crew**, 1st Saturday 8am -12pm
- **Sea Scouts**, 2nd & 4th Saturdays 9:30am – 1pm
- **Thirsty Thursday**, 3rd Thursday 6pm - 9pm
- **Friday with Friends**. Lasr Friday 5pm - 9pm
- **Work Parties**: Every Wednesday 9:30am – 12:30pm and monthly on the Fourth Saturday 9am - 12pm

March

- 1/Sat Crab Feed
- 13/Thurs SBYC Monthly Meeting
Board 6pm, Club 7pm
- 15/Sat St. Patrick's Day Party

See the full
calendar on the
Club website.

Watch for emails
with event details
and registration
links.



April

- 10/Thurs SBYC Monthly Meeting
Board 6pm, Club 7pm
- 12/Sat Burgers & Bingo

May

- 8/Thurs SBYC Monthly Meeting
Board 6pm, Club 7pm
- 10/Sun Opening Day on the South
Bay & Mother's Day

Sea Scouts

Shirley Reekie - Skipper, Ship 300 and SBYC Board Member



300

Sea Scout Ship 300, a charter of the SBYC

We had two very different outings this month. The first was to complete the required annual swim test. We had good attendance and a variety of swimming styles from both Sea Scouts and adults were on display. The fact that there are no pictures is perhaps a good thing.

Our second outing was to the CSU Cal Maritime Academy in Vallejo. They kindly showed us around the TS Golden Bear and various shore labs where we saw welding, tool making, motor construction/deconstruction, various simulators, and a variety of other ship skills. While a new training ship is on order, scheduled to arrive in a couple of years, it was interesting to see that the cadets also have to do a lot of what we do in Sea Scouts: knots, navigation, marlinspike skills, and even—in this modern age—use of a sextant.

Our most exciting news is that one of our Sea Scouts, Lexi, has just been accepted to Cal Maritime; congratulations to her!



For more info on Ship 300, please contact either Skipper Shirley Reekie (kayakrowsail@gmail.com) or Committee Chair Lisa Bickford (lisabickford@gmail.com)



PICYA & Regional News

Tim Ellenberger t.ellenberger@sbcglobal.net

Ahoy and thanks for stopping by Cap'n Tim's Dock. I've been sitting topside and spinning a yarn or two with our friends from the PICYA and RBOC. Here is what's been whistling in the wind for SBYC.

PICYA (Pacific Inter Club Yachting Association)

As we set course for spring, the weather is warming, and we can look forward to great times out on the water. Next up on the PICYA calendar is the March 2nd Delegates Brunch Meeting at the Stockton Sailing Club. Our PICYA Delegate Gus Meyner is planning to attend, along with JoAnn Barr. Both JoAnn and Gus belong to the San Jose Sailing Club as well as SBYC and all our appreciation goes to them for their representation of our interests. Shelia Tost is also a Delegate to the PICYA and is a great and enthusiastic supporter of regional boating events. All are invited to attend in person or via Zoom and registrations can be made through the PICYA website.

A reminder, the PICYA has changed the look of its website and a visit to PICYA.org will introduce you to its friendly new interface which continues to evolve. Prominent new features include a yearly event calendar. A look there is an easy way to see what's going on for recreational boaters around the Bay.

A glance at the new PICYA website will inform you about the SAIL GP races coming up on March 22nd and 23rd in San Francisco. This international event, exciting races held annually all around the world, features high speed catamarans with top notch crews. It promises to be an exciting weekend and can be viewed from the shore. Also on the calendar is the 2025 PICYA Spring Leadership Conference, which will be held on March 29th at the Encinal Yacht Club on the shores of the Oakland Estuary. Please do plan on attending...a detailed flier will be sent our soon!

RBOC (Recreational Boaters of California)

The RBOC has been our primary legislative representative for many years. Upcoming is the 2025 California Boater's Congress, May 27-28 in Sacramento. This event co-sponsored by the RBOC and Boat US, reviews issues of importance to boaters and gathers input towards the formation of the RBOC's legislative agenda.

COTY (Club of the Year Competition)

SBYC is cruising ahead into the 2025 boating year and the annual COTY interclub competition. We have submitted our annual PICYA Yearbook data on time and will soon be making donations to the PICYA and RBOC in support of recreational boating. Thanks to each of you who made supplemental donations along with their annual membership renewals! The new COTY year began on October 15th and we already are posting points! The next opportunity for BIG COTY POINTS is coming up at the March 29th Spring Leadership Conference. Our goal is to register 10 members and have a great time at the conference in support of Bay Area boating.

There you have it SBYC... as always; we're the fun club!



Safety Officer's Report

Tim Ellenberger t.ellenberger@sbcglobal.net

The Safety Corner by Lu Abel

Possible Problem with LED Lights on Boats

Light Emitting Diodes (LEDs) are, in my opinion, one of the great inventions of the century. Old fashioned incandescent light bulbs make light by using electricity to heat a thin piece of wire, known as a filament, white hot. Hot enough to glow white. But the filament also gets very hot, so hot you can burn yourself grasping an illuminated bulb. This heat simply wastes electricity – the electricity isn't making light, it's making heat.

A diode is an electrical device that permits electricity to flow through it in one direction but not in the opposite direction. A commonplace example are the diodes in your car's alternator that take the alternating-current (AC) electricity generated by the alternator (get it? alternating current, so it's an "alternator") into the direct current (DC) that's needed to charge your car's battery.

Light Emitting Diodes are the first cousins to your alternator's diodes – but when current flows through them, they emit light. And only light – making them seven to ten times more efficient in terms of electricity usage versus incandescent lights for the same amount of light. What a great thing for boats, especially sailboats. Navigation lights illuminated for an entire overnight sail for what incandescent lamps would use for just a couple of hours. Or comfortable cabin illumination at anchor, or at a dock without electricity, draining only a fraction of a battery's charge.

The Coast Guard has, however, issued a warning to recreational boaters that some LEDs designed to work with your 12-volt lights may cause interference with your VHF radio and other devices, such as AIS.

How to determine if any LED lights aboard your boat are emitting radio interference? Simple: turn off all the lights (cabin, deck, navigation, whatever) on your boat. Turn on your VHF radio to an unused channel (for example, channel 6 or 9). If you have a handheld radio, follow the same procedure with that, also. At a comfortable volume, turn down the

Squelch control on the radio until you hear the hiss of background noise. Gently turn the Squelch up until the noise just disappears. Now turn on your boat's lights one-by-one.

If you suddenly hear a rush of noise on your radio, that LED is emitting radio interference. You should replace it.



Naughty Cal Corner

By Wind Lass

Some more sea expressions in common usage, some more obvious than others:

“I was taken aback” meaning to be suddenly surprised refers to the stalling of a ship caused by a sudden unexpected wind shift that made the sails lay back against the masts instead of having wind filling them.

“Toeing the line” comes from sailors who, barefoot, had to line up for inspection on the deck, with their toes along the planking of the deck

“By and large” meaning in general, or on the whole, comes from the old names of two points of sailing (relative to the wind). “By the wind” is to sail as close to the wind as possible (and there’s another phrase; someone who sails close to the wind is taking a risk) whilst sailing “large” is to sail in the same direction as the wind.

And have you ever felt *“flaked out”*? This is what is done to chain to inspect each link, meaning to lay it flat on the deck. You may feel like lying down flat when you are very tired.



by William
van de Velde
the Elder

Contact & Rental Info

South Bay Yacht Club

(408) 263-0100

www.southbayyachtclub.org

sbyc.alviso@gmail.com

Addresses:

- **Mailing:**

PO Box 100
Alviso, CA 95002

- **Clubhouse:**

1491 Hope Street
Alviso, CA 95002

Clubhouse Rentals

Rent the historic South Bay Yacht Club for your next corporate or personal event. This relaxed, rustic location accommodates up to 96 guests. Rental rates are negotiable. A signed Usage Agreement is required for all uses of the Club. Contact the Club Rental Manager at sbyc.alviso@gmail.com



Who to Contact

at the *South Bay Yacht Club*

Commodore & General Questions

Lisa Bickford, Commodore

(408) 398-8398 lisabickford@gmail.com

House & Grounds, Storage, Lockers

Earl Jensen, Vice Commodore

(408) 655-9548 earl_jensen@comcast.net

Financial Questions

Jim Reid, Treasurer (408) 442-8158 reidjc@sbcglobal.net

Secretary

Sheila Tost (408) 218-9914 bradandsheila@yahoo.com

Clubhouse Rental

Roy Hays (408) 502-2022 roylhays@aol.com

Mooring and Docks

Bart Laine, Port Captain (408) 590-6875 (cell)

bart.laine@gmail.com

Committees:

- **Audit:** Jeff Barnes (503) 730-3508 jeffbarnes@gmail.com
- **Bar:** Evan von Kugelgen (408) 221-8132 vonkugelgen@gmail.com
- **Barn:** Dean McCully (408) 209-3049 dean@dmccully.com
- **Events & Activities:** Meg Taylor (408) 410-3124 megntaylor39@gmail.com
- **Fleet:** Shirley Reekie (408) 460-0398 kayakrowsail@gmail.com
- **Galley:** Gillian Tyndall (408) 398-4130 gillygag@gmail.com
- **History:** Edwin El-Kareh (408) 774-9300 edwin@albansdesign.com
- **House & Grounds:** Sharon Coate (408) 607-7533 scoate@gmail.com
- **Membership:** Mallory von Kugelgen (408) 813-3677 malloryvk@gmail.com
- **Storage Yard:** Samuel Levya (408) 203-7925 slevya408@gmail.com

Yachty Things



A San Francisco Bay tradition since 1917 and organized by the Pacific Inter-Club Yacht Association, the parade runs just north of Anita Rock off the shore of Crissy Field in the Presidio, follows along the city front to first Fort Mason building east of the Marina Green.

The blessing tradition was added to the festivities in 1963, known as the "Blessing of the Pleasure Craft," modeled on the age-old blessings of vessels of working fishermen.

Each year a theme is selected, and many boats decorate to the year's theme.

This year it's "**Generations on the Bay**," to celebrate and honor the vivid historical generations of the San Francisco Bay from the Gold Rush to the Summer of Love to the Tech Explosion. The theme is open to many interpretations and skippers are encouraged to be creative. Some boats will fly flags and streamers or just join in the parade not decorated.

Don't have a boat? Join the Officers and Directors of PICYA for Opening Day Cruise on the Luxe Cruises' vessel, Cabernet Sauvignon, which provides spectacular views of the parade and beautiful San Francisco Bay. Also, enjoy a fabulous buffet lunch by the Luxe Cruises' chefs with a no host bar and a front row view of the parade. You do not have to be a yacht club member to attend. Ample free parking.

DEPARTURE DOCK: 2394 Mariner Square Drive, Alameda, CA 94501
BOARDING: at 9:00 AM SHARP – Boat leaves the dock promptly before 9:30 AM and returns by 2:45 PM

PRICING: Adult Ticket (Early Bird by April 13th) \$135
Table of 10 (Early Bird by March 31st) \$1200

PURCHASE: www.picya.org

Mallory and Evan von Kugelgen plan to attend – are there 8 more people who'd like to join in on a table? It is a fantastic day on the water! Please contact Mallory at malloryvk@gmail.com