

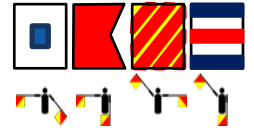


The South Bay Yacht Club

Since 1888

Slough News

www.southbayyachtclub.org



April 2026



View from the Slough by member Roy Hayes, at the March 1st Saturday Kayaking.

⚓ Make Your Next Event at the Historic South Bay Yacht Club!

Looking for the perfect backdrop for your next celebration? Whether you're planning an elegant wedding, a professional business meeting, or a casual get-together, our historic clubhouse offers the charm and versatility you need.

With the beautiful weather approaching, our calendar is filling up fast! From our scenic outside patio to our classic indoor space, we are ready to host your:

- Milestones: Birthdays, Anniversaries, & Showers
- Professional Events: Luncheons & Meetings
- Special Occasions: Weddings & Receptions

Don't wait for the sun to come out to secure your date.

Reach out today to book your spot at the South Bay's most beautiful historic gem!



Contact:
Sharon Coate
📞 408-888-1459

**Board Meeting at 6pm
Member Meeting 7pm**

Thursday, April 9

Calling all members!

Sunday Work Party on April 19th, 9am – 12pm

Please help give the clubhouse some TLC. Nothing too strenuous, just a good sprucing up ~ Please let Gill Tyndall (408) 398-4130 or Sharon Coate(408) 888-1459 know if you're coming.



Commodore's Corner

Lisa Bickford, Commodore lisabickford@gmail.com

April is upon us and Spring is definitely here! The roses in my front yard are happily blooming along with the ones Gill and I planted near the flagpole at the clubhouse. March was a busy month around the clubhouse. We did some weeding in the storage yard, some cleanup in the barn, some spring cleaning around the clubhouse and there is always more to do.



On March 7, I attended the PICYA Leadership Conference where club officers from across PICYA met to discuss yacht club business, ways to increase membership, and how to keep our members involved and engaged.

That was the same day as the First Saturday Kayak Crew, so I missed that event, but I saw some photos and I know everyone had a great time!



We also had a fun **St. Patrick's Day Party** complete with Irish dance and music, and last Saturday we had our newly **Annual Chili Cookoff and Art Show**. These are opportunities for you to come out and spend time with other club members, bring some guests and have fun at our club. My personal goal this year is to see every club member at the clubhouse at least twice. Please help me reach that goal by stopping by for an upcoming event!

This Saturday, April 4, we plan another fun boating day for our club. Come out and boat with us if you feel so inclined...we'll have motorboats and kayaks, first-come-first-served. Please do RSVP so we know you're coming! Earl Jensen will host **Burgers and Bingo on Sat, April 11**. Come try your luck before Tax Day!

One of our members recently asked me about Club Committees. Our club runs on the volunteer efforts of our members. By joining one of our Committees and volunteering your time, talent or treasure, you help our club thrive. Please consider what you can do to help.

Lastly, I have **one ticket left for the PICYA Opening Day on the Bay Committee Boat!** This is a \$120 value, free to the first taker. You can also buy more tickets or just drive up to San Francisco and enjoy the Boat Parade from the waterfront near Chrissy Field or join one of the local yacht clubs using our PICYA reciprocity.

Don't forget to check our website at southbayyachtclub.org/events for upcoming events and activities. Invite a friend if it's an event that you enjoy and let's see if we can bring in some more great members to our club!

Club Calendar – What’s Ahead

Every month:

- **Saturday Kayaks & Boating** 1st Saturday 9am -12pm
- **Sea Scouts** 2nd & 4th Saturdays 9:30am – 1pm
- **Thirsty Thursday** 3rd Thursday 6pm - 9pm
- **Final Friday Family Fun** Last Friday 5pm - 9pm
- **Work Parties** Every Wednesday 9:30am – 12:30pm and on other days as needed



See the full calendar on the Club website. Watch for emails with event details and registration links.

April

9/Thurs	Board Meeting 6pm Members Meeting 7pm
11/Sat	Burgers & Bingo, 5-9pm
26/Sun	Opening Day on the Bay PICYA-hosted event 8:30am – 3:30pm, Alameda

May

2/Sat	Cinco de Mayo Party 5pm – 10pm
9/Sat	Tapas & Flamenco 5pm – 9pm
14/Thurs	Board Meeting 6pm Members Meeting 7pm

June

11/Thurs	Board Meeting 6pm Members Meeting 7pm
13/Sat	Opening Day on the South Bay, 9am – 1pm
20/Sat	SBYC Work Party

MARGARITAS & MICHELADAS

Come ring in Cinco de Mayo at SBYC with a night of Margaritas and Micheladas

Saturday, May 2nd 5pm - 10pm

Micheladas: \$5 ea
Margaritas: \$5 or \$7 ea (Price based on tequila requested)

~ We will be featuring a variety of flavored margaritas
~ Sorry, no blended margaritas this time
~ The bar will be serving all other drink requests as well

> Please bring your favorite Mexican food or snacks to share <
- Chips and Salsa will be provided -

This event is open to all South Bay Yacht Club members and their invited guests

South Bay Yacht Club - 1491 Hope St = Alviso, CA 95002

Members: Keep updated on club bookings and general availability by checking the club calendar. It’s a good idea to take a peek before heading over!



Sea Scouts

Shirley Reekie - Skipper, Ship 300 and SBYC Board Member



300

Sea Scout Ship 300, a charter of the SBYC

We had two nautical outings this month: first, a small group went to McCovey Cove to row 26' Whaleboats that weigh 2000 lbs. (And yes, it was also FanFest Day with the Giants, but the Sea Scouts got there and parked first) Technically, whaleboats are derived from Monomoy surfboats (Cape Cod, Massachusetts) and the Bay Area has the largest concentration of these boats anywhere. They hold 8 rowers, one coxswain, and one "bowhook." Our Ship was paired with the Vikings, an all-girls San Francisco Ship, for the races in the afternoon. We won our heat and came second (of three) in the final 😊 These pics show that a good time was had by all.



The following weekend, we had two Sunfish sailed by Sea Scouts, out on Alviso Slough in some good afternoon winds. Check out the speed of the Sea Scout on the water—great technique.



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



Sea Scouts

Shirley Reekie - Skipper, Ship 300 and SBYC Board Member



300

Sea Scout Ship 300, a charter of the SBYC

Continued from Page 4

At the end of the month, the Ship held a Boat Jumble Sale, or Nautical Flea Market, to raise funds for the Ship. Thanks to everyone who helped and those who bought things, we raised almost \$400.

We sold a couple of kayaks and lots of additional “stuff” but still have two 8’ rowboats (\$30), some 10’ kayaks (\$50, and includes paddle), Sunfish sailing dinghies (\$100) which includes all parts needed to sail) and assorted big boat anchors (\$50-\$75). If anyone knows of anyone interested, please send them my way.



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

Spotlight On

Board Positions and Committee Roles

Over the next few issues, we'll cover the very important volunteer board positions and committees that keep our club and assets operating smoothly. Ideally, every member will give back however best they can ~ it takes a lot of hands to help the club function.

People are *a/ways* needed to be on the board and on a committee.

Board committees are small groups of individuals who are selected annually by the Commodore with support from the Board.

Currently, Lisa Bickford, Commodore, is looking for three people to serve on the Nominating Committee. Please contact her or one of the other board members to contribute your time.

Commodore

Duties include:

- Commanding the squadron and presiding over meetings.
- Calling special meetings of the Board and membership if needed
- Appointing any committee necessary.
- Selecting members to committees and to be representatives of the club
- Is a member of all committees.

Vice Commodore

Duties include:

- Assisting the Commodore and presiding if the Commodore is absent.
- Overseeing all physical assets of the club, including the clubhouse, buildings, and grounds.
- Enforcing the rules and regulations regarding use of the same.
- Giving the Secretary and Treasurer the names of all people and groups using the facilities other than for club functions.

Nominating Committee

Chair and members: Needed!

Goals & Duties:

- a. Oversee board recruitment and succession planning.
- b. Seek out potential candidates for senior positions on the board.
- c. Evaluate the performance of board members.
- d. Select suitable candidates for board positions to ensure the right mix of skills, experience, and diversity.
- e. Responsible for corporate governance and shaping governance policies and practices.



Things to Know About Our Club

Housekeeping Requests ~ Thank You!

- We have Ring cameras with sound inside the clubhouse, but if you come in on a quiet day and see something amiss, please contact Earl Jensen (House & Grounds) or Lisa Bickford (Commodore) to let them know. A few members access the camera feed, but they can't catch everything.
- Please close the main bathroom doors during events, in the interest of privacy.
- After our potluck gatherings, please take a minute to help clean up. All borrowed items from the galley should be washed and stored. Garbage should be taken out. (Bartender will get the bar garbage.)

Garbage Pick Up and the Driveway Cable

(one of those details that doesn't always get explained!)

The club's garbage day is Thursday. If the driveway cable is across the drive, the truck won't come up to empty our dumpster. We need it empty and ready for weekend events.



We don't keep the dumpster at the curb, because then it gets used by the public – a lot to clean up and fees for excess trash.

The Wednesday work crew leaves the cable down when they leave. If you by chance come to the club after that, please make sure the driveway is open so the truck can empty the trash.

Naughty Cal Corner

By Wind Lass

What a scandal!

But did you know that “scandalizing” is a nautical term from the days of sailing ships? If the wind begins to overpower a sailboat, many can be reefed--meaning to have the crew partly furl the sail to reduce the sail area.

In gaff rigged boats, a quick way to reduce sail area is to lower the gaff and scandalize the sail instead. In strong winds, this makes the boat more manageable and less likely to capsize. However, in most boats, this assumes the presence of a line attached to the end of the boom, called a topping lift, to keep the boom supported. This is only a temporary (survival) measure if one is caught out in a squall because sailing like this for a prolonged period of time would distort the shape of the sail.



A similar effect was used occasionally in square rigged ships. If you look at the mainsail here (the lowest sail on the mainmast) you will see that one side is clewed up, sort of bunched up, to achieve the same result of reducing or shortening sail.



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)

It's Spring and time for getting out and having fun on the water! Coming right up is this year's Opening Day on the Bay Parade, which will be held on Sunday, April 26th. The theme for the Parade has been set as "Myths and Legends, 130 Years of Community Boating." As an event bonus, the **South Beach Yacht Club** is inviting all participants to join in for a barbecue after the parade. Additional details will be provided in an event flier.

The PICYA's March Delegates meeting and Spring Leadership Conference was held on March 7th at the Hunter's Point Yacht Club. With great appreciation, our Delegate Gus Meyer attended, along with JoAnn Barr. Amongst the topics discussed was the upcoming Opening Day on the Bay Parade and the April 13th Delegate's meeting which will be held at the Sacramento Yacht Club. RV parking is available at the Sacramento Yacht Club by request. Gus noted that he will be unable to attend that meeting and that the club would appreciate it if someone could represent us. Earl Jensen has volunteered to be our 2nd delegate.

RBOC (Recreational Boaters of California)

The RBOC announced they will be co-sponsoring the April 28th and 29th California Boating Congress in Sacramento. Many exciting topics will be on the agenda, including an update on the controversial Delta Conveyance Project. Registrations to attend may be made on their website, www.rbo.org. As a note, the RBOC is continuing to negotiate with the state regarding the use of copper-based bottom paints. The state has discussed restricting their use and/or reducing the percentage of copper which bottom paints can contain.

COTY (Club of the Year Competition)

The PICYA Commodore's Ball, the February 2nd PICYA Delegates Meeting, the February 28th Treasure Island 360 Cruise and the March 7th Spring Leadership Conference were all events where COTY points could be earned for SBYC with YOUR participation. The next highlighted event is Opening Day on the Bay, April 26th along the San Francisco waterfront. Please come out and join the fun!

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

CALIFORNIA BOATING CONGRESS

The California Boating Congress is the must attend event to meet government officials who impact our industry every day.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS
YOU DO NOT WANT TO MISS THIS CONFERENCE!

APRIL 28 & 29, 2026
SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA

*Look for Location, Schedule and Hotel Information when
Registration opens in February*



Boating Safety

Tim Ellenberger t.ellenberger@sbcglobal.net

A Good Reason to Check Your Anchor Locker...

By Brent Reardon

Why do you have your anchor and chain in the back of your pickup, you may ask? That is a good question, and the answer is a sad and sordid tale which I will endeavor to explain.

For years there has been a bit of rust stain coming from the drain of my anchor locker. I thought nothing of it for a long time, until...

When I bought my boat, I was told there was a lot of chain in the locker, about 300 feet or so, I never used anywhere close to that much chain, except on the maiden voyage coming up the coast. We spent the night just below Point Conception and I conservatively put out 200ft.

When we went to pull it up, that's when the winch motor literally blew up, I have always blamed it on Mike since he was the last one to touch it, but in reality, it was just an old motor which had reached the end of its life. Mike and crew valiantly pulled up the 200 ft. of chain without too much complaining at 2 o'clock in the morning as we made our way north in the dark although calm weather, waiting for the sun to rise.



The slightly rusted anchor



Bucket of Almost Good Chain

After carrying all that chain around for many years, I had the genius idea to remove about 150 ft. to take a little weight out of the bow. Blue Eyes would sail better, and I would have all that chain as a spare, or sell it off at the Blue Pelican, or so I thought.

Earlier this year I took Blue Eyes down to Spaulding's to get a bottom job. And planned to anchor overnight in Richardson Bay. You now must anchor before #4 marker with the new rules protecting the bay seagrass from dragging anchors and live aboards.

It was blowing briskly and I started to drop anchor and got 65 ft out before my winch stopped. Oh no, here we go again. Where is Mike when you need him? So, up to the chain locker I go, in a brisk blow as the sun sets over Sausalito.

And what to my surprise do I find? The motor works quite well thank you, but there is a 6-inch ball of rusted chain fused together that for some reason will not go through the winch. To say this was depressing was an understatement.

~ Continued on next page ...



Boating Safety

Tim Ellenberger t.ellenberger@sbcglobal.net

A Good Reason to Check Your Anchor Locker... (continued)



One of Many Fine Examples

I tried beating on it with a winch handle, but the rusted ball refused to untangle. Just as well, since the links were so badly damaged, they probably would not have made it through the night. I, however, was up most the night worried I would drag anchor and end up in the rocks by Tiburon or worse, but the anchor held, the winds died down and I finally got some sleep. I did get the bottom done; Spaulding did an excellent job.

Back to the original question why the anchor and chain in the back of the truck? I bought a pair of bolt cutters if anyone needs to borrow them. After I removed the 65ft. of good chain, I started cutting the intermittent gremlins of rust out and putting them in a bucket to dispose of. I have been slowly putting the little chain beasts in plastic grocery bags and disposing of them one at a time, in the marina garbage bin.

The good chain, which has been sitting in a plastic bucket in my back yard, has now made its way to the back of my truck. I made a trip to the boat to pick up my CQR anchor, which of all the tasks in this adventure, was the easiest to move.

So, that is why I have the anchor and chain in the back of the Rivian.

I'm now off to Pac Galvanize to get them replated.

Stay tuned for Part 2: Return of the CQR (and trusty mate, chain).

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. 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

Jeff Barnes, Treasurer (503) 730-3508 jeffbarnes@gmail.com

Secretary

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

Clubhouse Rental

Sharon Coate (408) 888-1459 scoate@gmail.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:** Lisa Bickford (408) 398-8398 lisabickford@gmail.com
- **Membership & Newsletter:** Mallory von Kugelgen (408) 813-3677 malloryvk@gmail.com