



**The South Bay Yacht Club**

Since 1896

# Slough News

[www.southbayyachtclub.org](http://www.southbayyachtclub.org)

**May 2025**

## SOUTH BAY YACHT CLUB



## OPENING DAY ON THE SOUTH BAY

Memorial Weekend Saturday

9am-1pm

**MAY 24, 2025**

**1491 Hope St, San Jose**



**General Admission Free!**

**9am-11am Breakfast - \$15 adults, kids FREE**

**10am-12pm Boat Decoration @ the Marina**

**11am - The Great Alviso Duckie Race**

**12pm - Parade of Boats**

**Tickets:**

**[southbayyachtclub.org/events](http://southbayyachtclub.org/events)**

**Info: [dmccully@ix.netcom.com](mailto:dmccully@ix.netcom.com)**

**Meet the  
Sea Scouts  
Of Ship 300  
Alviso**



## Opening Day on the South Bay

Saturday, May 24

9am - 1pm

Opening Day on the South Bay celebrates the opening of sailing season for south San Francisco Bay.

Enjoy a buffet breakfast, boat decorating, a rubber duckie race, and our annual Parade of Boats.

Invite friends and spread the word! Bring a lawn chair and some shade to watch the boat parade from the levee.

Got a boat? Sign up for the boat parade. Contact Dean McCully

[dmccully@ix.netcom.com](mailto:dmccully@ix.netcom.com)

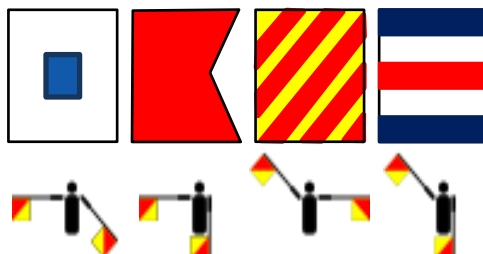
-- big awards for best decorated boat!

**Thursday  
May 8, 2025**

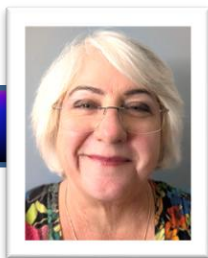
**6pm Board Meeting**

**7pm Member  
Meeting**

**Please join us!**







## Commodore's Corner

**Lisa Bickford, Commodore** [lisabickford@gmail.com](mailto:lisabickford@gmail.com)

Welcome to May at our yacht club! The biggest news for me personally is that I did something I never thought I would: I BOUGHT A SAILBOAT! Her name is Harry and she is a West Wight Potter 15. She's currently in Storage Space #1 along with one of Norm's boats being worked on by Kelly Moyers, in case you want to go check it out. We plan to sail her on Alviso Slough. Skipper Shirley has promised to teach us how to sail her, not just motor up and down the slough as we've done so far. My first love will always be kayaking, though..... too many fiddly bits on a sailboat and it takes soooo long to get everything ready to go. That said, Harry enables us to sail or motor out and even take a nap in the cabin and anchor out overnight if we want to. So many things we can do in boats at our club!



Shirley, Nathan,  
Jason and Harry



Sail Up!



First Launch at Alviso Slough.  
Note the mast is still down.



Captain Nathan

In April we had a great time with Saturday Kayaking and Burgers & Bingo! Thanks to Margaret and Earl and Caller Roy for a fun evening!

For May, we'd like to ask everyone to come out on Saturday, May 24, for Opening Day on the South Bay! We need volunteers to help with everything from kitchen to boat parade to the rubber duck race. We've invited all other yacht clubs in PICYA to join us, so we'd like a good showing from our own club!

I'm still 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 soon!  
Commodore Lisa



New Member Kelly Moyers  
working on repairs to Norm  
Frederickson's old boat in our  
Storage Yard in Space #1

Opening Day on the Bay 2025  
Commodores Photo



## Club Calendar – *What's Ahead*

### Every month:

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

### May

- 8/Thurs      SBYC Monthly Meeting  
Board 6pm, Club 7pm
- 17/Sat      National River Clean-up
- 24//Sat      Opening Day on the  
South Bay 10:30am

See the full  
calendar on the  
Club website.

Watch for emails  
with event details  
and registration  
links.



### June

- 12/Thurs      SBYC Monthly Meeting  
Board 6pm, Club 7pm
- 14/Sat      Renaissance Faire  
3pm – 7pm

### July

No Monthly Meeting in July or August

26/Sat      Hoedown 3pm – 7pm



## Coming Up!

### We are registered for this year's National River Clean Up Day Saturday, May 17 ~ 9am – 12pm

20 volunteers are needed to help keep our Guadalupe River clean for safe and pleasurable boating. Many hands make light work!

Please meet at the Club, ready to go by 9am. Supplies are provided. Be sure to come prepared: closed toe shoes, layers, hat, sunglasses, and sunscreen.

RSVP ASAP please via the Eventbrite [link](#) or QR



Many thanks to Samuel Levya for coordinating!



## April's Paddle – Saturday Kayak Crew



It was a beautiful day to kayak together on the 5<sup>th</sup>! Thanks to Mohammed and Roy for Safety Boating, Dean for driving the boat trailer to the Marina for launch and recovery. We hope everyone had a great time!





## Sea Scouts

Shirley Reekie - Skipper, Ship 300 and SBYC Board Member



# 300

### Sea Scout Ship 300, a charter of the SBYC

Ship 300 had two on-the-water outings in April. Firstly, we sailed Sunfish dinghies in light air at Vasona Reservoir in Los Gatos, and nine of our Sea Scouts took turns helming and crewing. Some capsized, on purpose, more than once. It was great to see so many Sea Scouts turning into more confident sailors and we hope many will join us for the SBYC Opening Day on May 24.



More recently, the Ship plus SBYC members, friends, and families, were fortunate to have been given the opportunity by Santa Clara County Parks to cruise on the slough, and the catamaran was full. We saw a variety of birds including herons, egrets, and grebes. At the mouth of the south bay saw several groups of seals basking on shore. The Ranger gave us a lot of information on how the area has changed over the years and our Skipper talked a little about tides, currents, and navigation. We saw rain clouds to port and starboard but we stayed dry. Docking in wind proved a challenge for the Ranger captain but everyone landed safely. Thanks, SCC Parks!



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



## April was the winningest month!

### Burgers & Bingo



These folks could daub!

### Burgers & Bingo Winners

Brad Tost & Shirley Reekie, Charles Taylor, Dob Tabor, Bart Mills, Nathan McCully, Lisa Bickford, Mary Fojas, Kim Shiramiza, Leanne Fojas, and Bart Mills AGAIN!



Okay, well maybe not for everybody...

### Opening Day on the Bay

It was a gray day this year, but SBYC members are no fair-weather sailors! It was a great outing on the water ~ good company, stiff cocktails, the Coast Guard Commodore boarded without a hitch, there were whales off Aquatic Park, and we spied our own Tim and Sandy Ellenberger on their boat in the parade. To top it off, we CLEANED UP on the raffle, pirating away 5 of the 7 prizes. Whaaaaaat?!?





## PICYA & Regional News

Tim Ellenberger [t.ellenberger@sbcglobal.net](mailto: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)**

The PICYA held its 2025 Spring Leadership Conference at the Encinal Yacht Club on March 29th. Our PICYA Delegate Gus Meyer attended, along with JoAnn Barr, Sandy Ellenberger, Tim Ellenberger, and Lisa Bickford. It was a good day with many interesting presentations.

A reminder, the PICYA has changed the look of its website and a visit to [PICYA.org](http://PICYA.org) will introduce you to its friendly new interface. 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. One feature that is somewhat problematic is registering for events online. There are two options presented, Members or Non-Members. Please use the Non-Member choice for access.

Opening Day on the Bay celebration and parade along the San Francisco waterfront was on Sunday, April 27th and our South Bay companion club the San Jose Sailing Club, cruised into South Beach Harbor that weekend. They planned on 6 boats cruising in with 3 signed up to participate in the decorated boat parade. Non-boating club members were invited to join in the fun, including a Saturday evening dinner at the South Beach Yacht Club. This year, 14 SBYC members enjoyed the festivities aboard the PICYA Committee Boat and cheered the boat parade from the top deck. Winners of the boat decoration contest will be announced at the May 12th Opening Day Awards Dinner @ Oyster Point YC, South San Francisco, 5:00 PM. RSVP on the PICYA website if you wish to attend. [PICYA.org](http://PICYA.org)

### **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 is underway. Along with attending the PICYA Spring Leadership Conference, we were represented at the PICYA's April Delegates Meeting at the Village West Yacht Club in Stockton. Coming up is our own Opening Day on the South Bay at our club on May 24th. It is a COTY event with interclub races in the channel. Please do plan to attend! We are going to be out there on the water, which will be at high tide and we're going to go for it!

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







## Safety Officer's Report

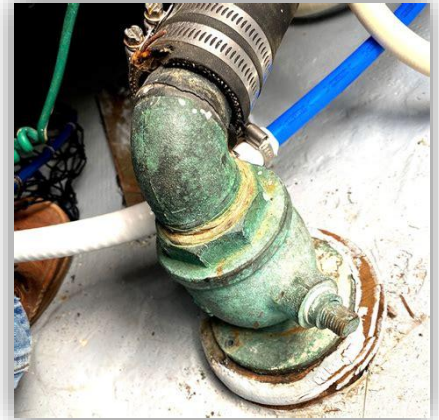
Tim Ellenberger [t.ellenberger@sbcglobal.net](mailto:t.ellenberger@sbcglobal.net)

### Spring Checkup

by Lu Abel

It's spring and it's time to go sailing! Well, yes. But maybe also a time to do a springtime check up on our boat. Close and reopen each one of your boat's seacocks to ensure each can be opened and closed properly. One of the most important seacocks is the one that admits raw seawater into your engine's cooling system. These days most engine cooling systems then pump the raw seawater through a heat exchanger with a fresh-water, antifreeze-laden cooling circuit that goes through your actual engine.

A water pump with a rubber, multi-finger impeller drives the seawater through the heat exchanger. The water pump has a plate on it; removing the screws holding the plate in place will expose the impeller and you can visually check it. If there's any sign of finger wear or fingers broken off, replace the impeller. Oh, and having a spare impeller on board is cheap insurance in case the impeller suddenly disintegrates while you're underway.



While you're at it, check all the engine belts, including the one driving that water pump. Visually inspect them for wear. Check them for proper tensioning not too tight, not too loose. A belt should deflect about 1/2 inch along its longest run. Check your boat's muffler, too. Typically, seawater exits the cooling water heat exchanger and goes into a muffler where engine exhaust is cooled and silenced by the water. That's the water you see surging out of your boat's exhaust fitting in your boat's transom. Since you're crawling around the back end of your boat anyway, check your cockpit drain hoses (the ones that run from a drain fitting in your boat's cockpit to a through hull) for signs of wear or deterioration.

Let's get our heads out of the engine compartment. Check your batteries. If they're the old fashioned type of lead-acid batteries, pull the caps on each battery and check the plates are covered with water. If not, top them off with distilled water. Check the gauge on your fire extinguishers to make sure it's still in the green zone. And make sure they're not beyond their expiration date...10 years from the date of manufacture. While you're checking dates, check your emergency flares. They expire 42 months from date of manufacture. Check your bilge pumps. The diaphragm in a manual pump can wear out or fail. Check the water level switch on the electric pump to make sure it comes on if there is water in the bilge and make sure the pump actually pumps water and there isn't a blockage in its line somewhere.

Last but not least, if you're at your boat some night, check that all your navigation lights work. Not too much fun to be late returning to your home port and to discover your nav lights don't illuminate! All these checks should only take an hour or two. Time well spent to ensure that you have a wonderful summer on the water!



## Naughty Cal Corner

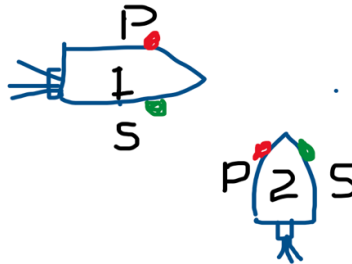
By Wind Lass

### Rights of Way – Power

Vessels at night must show a red light on the port side and a green light on the starboard side. Thus, it is possible to determine if a vessel is approaching or departing from your vantage point.

- More importantly, which light you can see determines who has right of way.
- the right of way vessel is called the “stand-on” vessel; the other is the “give-way” vessel
- with another power boat, going in opposite directions, pass port to port
- vessel ahead is the stand-on; overtaking is the give-way
- in crossing situations, the vessel that has the other to her starboard side shall give way

If you see their red light, give way. If you see their green light, stand-on with caution.  
(Boat 1 is the give-way vessel in this sketch..)



### 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!

[www.southbayyachtclub.org](http://www.southbayyachtclub.org)

## Contact & Rental Info

### South Bay Yacht Club

(408) 263-0100

[www.southbayyachtclub.org](http://www.southbayyachtclub.org)

[sbyc.alviso@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:lisabickford@gmail.com)

#### House & Grounds, Storage, Lockers

Earl Jensen, Vice Commodore

(408) 655-9548 [earl\\_jensen@comcast.net](mailto:earl_jensen@comcast.net)

#### Financial Questions

Jim Reid, Treasurer (408) 442-8158 [reidjc@sbcglobal.net](mailto:reidjc@sbcglobal.net)

#### Secretary

Sheila Tost (408) 218-9914 [bradandsheila@yahoo.com](mailto:bradandsheila@yahoo.com)

#### Clubhouse Rental

Roy Hays (408) 502-2022 [roylhays@aol.com](mailto:roylhays@aol.com)

#### Mooring and Docks

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

[bart.laine@gmail.com](mailto:bart.laine@gmail.com)

### Committees:

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