



The South Bay Yacht Club

Since 1896

Slough News

www.southbayyachtclub.org

June 2025

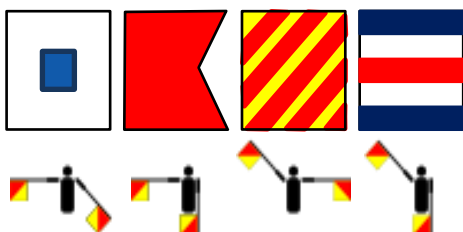
Opening Day on the South Bay

Saturday, May 24 High Tide at 11:10am 7.09 ft



"Opening Day at the South Bay Yacht Club in Alviso was an incredible celebration of one of the most unique and special places in San José! Families enjoyed games, a petting zoo, live music, a thrilling rubber duck race, and a festive boat parade. I had the honor of judging the race and even got to take part in the one-of-a-kind parade myself! It was a reminder of the rich history and vibrant spirit that makes Alviso such a hidden gem in our city. Here's to another great season on the water!"

~ David Cohen, District 4 City Council



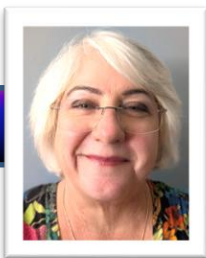
Thursday, June 12, 2025

6pm Board Meeting

7pm Member Meeting

Please join us!

**No Board and Member Meetings in
July and August**



Commodore's Corner

Lisa Bickford, Commodore lisabickford@gmail.com

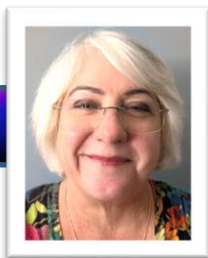
Can you believe it's June already?! The highlight of May for me was Opening Day on the South Bay on Sat, May 24. We started with a Flag Ceremony to honor our Veterans and ended with a Boat Parade with 11 boats of all types. I hope you were able to attend the event, but if you were not, the photos of the day can be found at this link: <https://photos.app.goo.gl/KHEN9iQW4kstmdAJ7>

I'm especially proud that our club pulled things together as a team, with everyone taking on an activity that they enjoy and wanted to share with others.



Speak with a Board member if you are interested in helping with club events and activities!

Join us on June 14 for a Chili Cook-Off and Art Show. Enjoy your Summer!
~ Commodore Lisa



Commodore's Corner

Lisa Bickford, Commodore lisabickford@gmail.com

Thank you for making Saturday's Annual Opening Day on the South Bay a resounding success for our club! It was truly a team effort, with members doing the things they enjoy to help make the day a success! This event was my personal vision of stone soup, creating a fun, friendly, and fantastic Opening Day on the South Bay!

I think I counted 11 boats for the Parade! The largest one I've seen in my time in the club!

Special thanks to all these folks for the Parade, in no particular order:

- Roy & Pam Hays who graciously took our D4 Councilman David Cohen and his Chief of Staff, Lam Nguyen, for the Duckie Race - motor boat
- Vice Commodore Earl Jensen and Sea Scout Mate Lexi - motor boat
- Mo Alam and Ani - motor boat
- Sea Scout Skipper Shirley Reekie - Sailboat
- Sea Scout Jason - Sailboat
- Sheila Tost - Kayak
- Sea Scout Gavin - Kayak
- Bernie Comeau - inflatable motor boat
- Stephen and Cynthia Kesinger - motor boat
- Nathan McCully and Jamie Taylor and Anya Nazarova - Potter Sailboat



Thanks to Leah Rondeau, Jenny Karp, and David Karp for help decorating all the boats! Thanks, Ship 300!



Many thanks to John Liepelt and his pal, Wanda, for the Pancake Team, a delicious breakfast catered by Golden Harvest and our appreciation to Carita Rosheuvel for support and clean up throughout the day!

Here is a link to all the photos I've gathered so far, including some aerial shots from Jim Reid's drone.
<https://photos.app.goo.gl/KHEN9iQW4kstmdAJ7> If you took any photos, please feel free to upload them here or email them to me and I can add them.

Thank you to everyone that came out for the event, to enjoy the Flag Ceremony honoring our Veterans, breakfast with friends, a drink at the bar, music provided by the 5150 Band, the Boat Parade, the petting zoo compliments of Homesteaders 4H club, the Climate Carnival compliments of andrewtheartist.com and Samuel Leyva, and a beautiful day on the Alviso Slough!

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**. Last Friday 5pm - 9pm
- **Work Parties**: Every Wednesday 9:30am – 12:30pm and monthly on the Fourth Saturday 9am - 12pm

June

12/Thurs SBYC Monthly Meeting
Board 6pm, Club 7pm

14/Sat Alviso Chili Cook-Off
& Art Show
12pm – 5pm

July

No Monthly Meeting in July or August

26/Sat Hoedown 3pm – 7pm

August

No Monthly Meeting in August

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



Alviso Chili Cook-Off & Art Show

@ The South Bay Yacht Club
1491 Hope St, San Jose

Noon-
5pm

Saturday
June 14



\$15 Adult **ADMISSION**
Youth under 18 **FREE!**



Got Chili?

Sign up to enter your chili
concoction. Your ticket is free,
and you could win a prize!"

Got Art to Display?

Booth Space Free for Yacht Club
Members, \$15 for Non Members

Tickets Online

Or to enter chili or to display art:

www.southbayyachtclub.org/events



Thank You!

Thank you for participating in National River Cleanup Day 2025!

More than 770 volunteers worked together to remove 17,181 pounds of litter from over 70 miles of Santa Clara County waterways and adjacent areas!

This event would not have been successful without the support of volunteers like you. Thank you for taking an active role in protecting Santa Clara County's waterways.

Many thanks to Samuel Levy for coordinating!



Welcome, New Members!



Inducted at the May Board Meeting

Left to Right: Anesh Madapoosi, Dr. Arthur Jue, and Commodore Lisa Blickford

We look forward to getting to know you!

Bar & Rentals Updates

- Bar closes at 11pm.
- Bar will be open for no more than 6 hours for any event.
- Hours of operation will be documented on all rental contracts.
- Prices are immediately increased by \$1 for all drinks
- Non-member rentals will continue to off-set ongoing and increasing costs of operation.

More bartenders are needed to keep the libations flowing! No experience required! Contact Evan von Kugelgen (408) 221-8132 vonkugelgen@gmail.com



Sea Scouts

Shirley Reekie - Skipper, Ship 300 and SBYC Board Member



Sea Scout Ship 300, a charter of the SBYC

Our spring quiz fundraiser earned the Ship \$220, to be put towards a small RIB (Rigid Inflatable Boat) and engine, for safety on the slough. No one correctly answered all 100 questions, but Kathleen Hall had 91 correct, Matthew Blum had 93 correct, and Elliot Snethin had 95 correct. Among the answers that stumped many was the name of the ship that hit the bridge in Baltimore in 1980, the “Blue Nagoya” (not “Dali,” which was much more recent), and the action that a dinghy can do but a yacht cannot, and leads to the definition of a dinghy, is having a retractable centerboard. Intriguing answers included “being used as a tender,” “being launched from a beach,” and my favorite answer: “being paid for in installments.” Thank you to all who contributed and played.

Our first outing of the month was to History Park in San Jose for the annual Scout-o-Rama event. This brings together all levels/branches of scouting: Cub Scouts, Scouts, Venturers, Explorers, and Sea Scouts from the Silicon Valley Monterey Bay Council area, which covers Palo Alto to Parkfield. There were, literally, hundreds of Scouts and families. The program started with a parade of flags. Notice which group led the parade by clever maneuvering. Yes, Ship 300!



Our booth included a sailing yacht (Lisa's new West Wight Potter), a kayak, and a magnet fishing game, which proved very popular. All booths were judged, and our booth was one of 10 finalists but not the ultimate winner. A lot of great connections were made and thanks to all Sea Scouts, parents, and adult leaders who made it through the 90° heat.



More on the next page!

Sea Scouts

Shirley Reekie - Skipper, Ship 300 and SBYC Board Member



300

Sea Scout Ship 300, a charter of the SBYC

On Memorial Day, Saturday, our Ship joined SBYC members and friends in the club's Opening Day on the South Bay extravaganza. We started with a flag ceremony at the flagpole, ending with a fly past. Of 5 geese. On the livestock theme, Ship member Damian corralled a number of 4H animals for a fun petting zoo. On the water, we mustered 12 boats this year (up from last year's 6), consisting of 1 rowboat, 3 kayaks, 2 sailboats, 1 RIB, West Wight Potter "Harry," and 4 powerboats. Here we are, progressing up and back along the slough.



Winner of the best dressed overall boat was Jason, our Sea Scout Bosun, in the red/white/blue sail Sunfish dinghy.

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

Opening Day on the South Bay! South Bay Yacht Club Kicks Off Season





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 the SBYC...

PICYA (Pacific Inter Club Yachting Association)

The PICYA held its 2025 Delegates Meeting and Opening Day on the Bay Awards Dinner on May 12th at the Oyster Point Yacht Club. Our PICYA Delegate Gus Meyer attended, along with members JoAnn Barr, Sandy Ellenberger and Tim Ellenberger. It was a fun night with a lively agenda of awards presentations and expressions of appreciation.

Our own Gus Meyner won an award for event sponsorship and for the participation of the South Bay Yacht Club.

Sandy and Tim Ellenberger's boat, Hummingbird, won a third-place award in the decorated sailboat category.

Thanks again to all our members who were aboard the Committee Boat for the afternoon!



Look at the loot you get for a third-place finish!

Coming up on the PICYA's June Calendar is the June 1st Delegates Meeting at the Stockton Yacht Club. You are invited to attend in person or via Zoom. Registrations can be made on the PICYA website, PICYA.org.

more on next page ~



PICYA & Regional News

Tim Ellenberger t.ellenberger@sbcglobal.net

RBOC (Recreational Boaters of California)

The RBOC has been our primary legislative representative for many years. They were our representatives at the 2025 California Boater's Congress, held on May 27-28 in Sacramento. This event was co-sponsored by the RBOC and Boat US, in review of issues of importance to boaters and gathers input towards the formation of the RBOC's legislative agenda. Environmental issues regarding copper-containing bottom paints and invasive mussel protection protocols were on the agenda. Another hot button issue was the proposal to increase the ethanol component of marine fuels from the current 10% to 15%. The RBOC is in opposition to this proposal, as older engines may suffer damage from the hotter burning fuel.

COTY (Club of the Year Competition)

SBYC is cruising ahead into the 2025 boating year and the annual COTY interclub competition, which is well underway. We had members attend the PICYA Spring Leadership Conference in support of Bay Area boating. Also, we were represented at the PICYA's April Delegates Meeting at the Village West Yacht Club in Stockton. At April's Opening Day on the Bay weekend, we had a boat, the Ellenberger's Hummingbird, in the waterfront parade and members aboard the Committee boat. Add to that that we hosted our annual South Bay Opening Day event on May 24th. It, too, was a COTY event with interclub races in the channel. Our own Shirley Reekie helped organize the decorated boat parade, which included kayaks, powerboats and even 3 sailboats. It was a great day in celebration of shallow water boating in the Steamboat Slough!

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





Safety Officer's Report

Tim Ellenberger t.ellenberger@sbcglobal.net

Sailing Books to Own

By Lu Abel

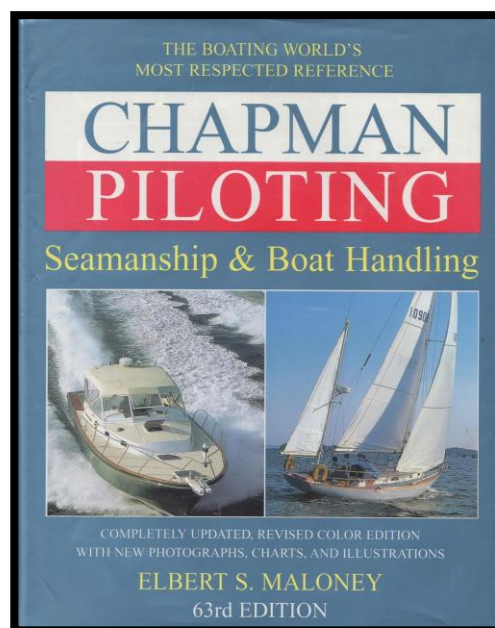
I walked past my bookcase the other day and realized that on it are the three books that recreational boaters (including sailors) should consider owning. At this point I'll note my distress at the attitude of many younger folks these days - "I don't need to be prepared ahead of time; I'll just look up a solution for the problem on my smartphone when I need it." Yeah, do that when your boat is sinking or is on fire or has become dismasted. Especially for our newer members coming aboard with the club, a little bit of forehand knowledge prevents many interesting situations from becoming a full-blown crisis.

These books are known by the names of their original authors, all deceased, with the books now updated by others. The magic names are Chapman, Dutton and Bowditch. **Chapman's Piloting and Seamanship; Dutton's Navigation and Piloting; Bowditch's American Practical Navigator.** Chapman is the most basic of the three, but the most relevant for a recreational sailor, especially one who is not planning a long offshore voyage. It goes all the way from "you call the pointy end of the boat the bow" to boat handling to how to read a chart and aids to navigation to emergencies afloat to ropes and knots (formally known as marlinspike) to electronics for boats. Even the customs of proper display of flags on your boat (ever wonder why when you visit a yacht club the American flag is often not the highest on the flagpole?).

Almost-current edition of Chapman

I suppose many reactions at this point are "how much for all this knowledge?" I just checked Amazon: less than \$35 for the old-fashioned print edition, \$27.99 for Kindle. Put simply, Chapman's is almost a thousand pages of "everything you wanted to know about boating and your boat." It absolutely should be on every sailor's bookshelf – including yours!

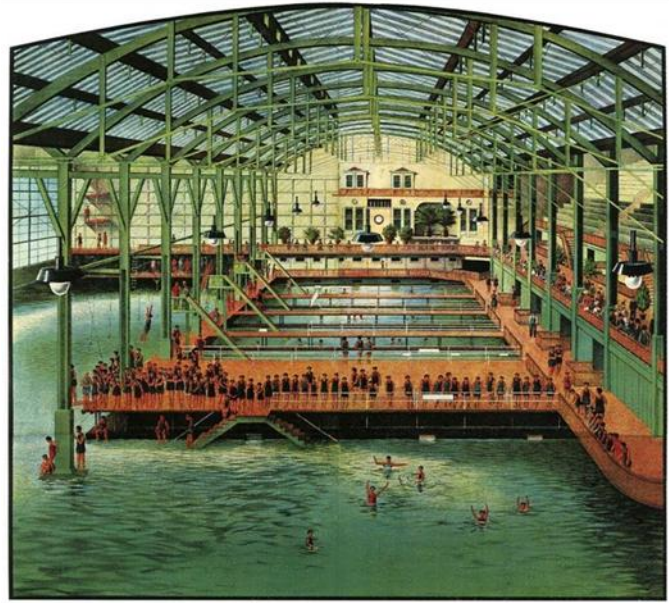
If you own just one book on sailing, Chapman's is the one!
If you own two, keep one Chapman's on your home bookshelf and one on your boat.



Naughty Cal Corner

By Wind Lass

The first ship-to-shore radio transmission was sent in 1899 from a lightship to the coast at San Francisco. The receiving station was located at the newly-rebuilt (second of three) Cliff House, which was by then owned by Adolph Sutro. The message was "Sherman is sighted," referring to the return of a troopship from the Spanish-American War. Does anyone remember swimming at the Sutro Baths, perhaps in a rented wool swimsuit?! The Sutro Baths was also the subject of an 1897 movie by Thomas Edison, one of the first moving pictures made.



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

Back on the Dock

Outboard Motor for Sale \$8000

75 hp Honda outboard with 690 hours. Included with this package deal is the steering linkage and wheel, 14-gallon fuel tank, tachometer fuel line and filter, and brand new 12-volt deep cycle marine battery. Interested parties please contact SBYC member Roy Hays via phone, text or email 408-502-2022 or roylhays@aol.com



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