

# Three Sheets in the Wind

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE LITTLE SHIPS FLEET YACHT CLUB  
(ESTABLISHED IN 1937)  
233 N. MARINA DRIVE, LONG BEACH, CALIF 90803

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## **Commodore's Report** **Moti Cohen-Doron**



### Hello Little Shippers...

As fast as March came in and gone so quickly, we managed to squeeze in a second gathering on the 20th of the month. The City's program, responsible for cleaning the beaches, would not allow us to go ahead with our planned **Clean The Bay Day**. VC **Cindy Ramirez** started moving the wheels and with the help of **RC Al Bordallo**, **Elena Yuasa** and Commodoreable **Jill Cohen-Doron**, we got ourselves a March 20 Picnic By The Bay (see photos next page). The weather was fantastic and everyone had a great time. **SC Frank Franco** brought his boat, **CANTAMAR** and took some members on a harbor cruise.

Normally at this time of the year, all yacht clubs, near and far, would be celebrating their Opening Days. Flag Officers from all the clubs would be traveling every weekend to two, three or even four different yacht clubs to take part in their celebrations, ceremonies and of course lots of food, drinks and desserts. Since NORMALLY is not here yet, those scheduled Opening Days have been canceled, postponed or pushed forward to later in the summer or fall. Some yacht clubs are also modifying the concept altogether and not opening the event for outside guests, but only to their own members.

Unfortunately we are all in the same boat and our April 25th, Opening Day became questionable not only because of the situation in general but also because Navy YC grounds could potentially be under construction during that time. A decision was made to postpone our Opening Day to later in the year. A date is to be determined.

On a more positive note we're still going to participate in **Navy YC's Friday Night Potluck on April 9th at 5:30pm**. It's not a traditional potluck this time with food to share but a Bring Your Own Food without the sharing. Drinks will be available for purchase from their honor bar. Their potlucks are always fun and a good opportunity to meet and mingle with our fellow neighbors at Navy YC. Looking forward to seeing you there.

Another gathering, this time more educational, a "chalk talk" about sailing, will be conducted by our own **Fleet Captain, Nate Tucker** on **April 17th at 10am** on the grounds of Navy YC. Donuts and coffee will be provided. Please read the Fleet Captain report for more details. This is an opportunity for non sailors to dip their toes into the sailing world.

If construction will take place in May at Navy YC, we'll have to postpone the Taco Mambo event planned for May 15th. Check your emails for any updates from us.

I want to thank VC **Cindy Ramirez** and **Elena Yuasa** for keeping our Shed open for Happy Hours on **Thursdays 4-6pm** and **Sundays 1-3pm** for the enjoyment of LSFYC members. I encourage you all to come out and enjoy the view from our beautiful location.

Last week I had a guest, Joseph, visiting from San Pedro who sailed down to Alamitos Bay on his beautiful 24' Samori sailboat, a French boat with a French sailor. He needed a slip for the weekend so I called Kimmarie at the Marina office and arranged for him a two nights stay at the Long Dock near Navy YC. This is a first in a long time for LSFYC to have a guest boat visiting from out of town. This is a benefit we are able to offer for other reciprocal yacht club visitors.

**Moti Cohen-Doron**  
LSFYC Commodore



***Photos from Sun. March 20 "Picnic by the Bay"...***



Comm Moti, Cindy, Lara, Elena, Jill and Al



Little Shippers enjoying a great meal



Larry Rizzo, Delores Grunigen, Frank Franco



Al Bordallo serving the drinks



## ***More Photos...***



After the picnic cruise on the bay..



Visiting yachtsman Joseph on the long dock



## **Vice Commodore's Report**

***Cindy Ramirez***



### **Welcome to Spring Little Shippers...**

We were overjoyed to see so many members at our 3/6 "Open House" and 3/20 "Picnic On The Bay." Great opportunities to meet new members.

We would like to send Birthday wishes to all those celebrating this month. We hope to see you this **Friday 4/9 at NYCLB / LSFYC Potluck at 5pm**. Please bring your own meal and join in the fun and enjoy the beautiful sunset.

Also, remember The Shed is open:  
Thursday 4-6 Happy Hour and Sat. & Sunday's 1-3  
Please remember to utilize the Honor Bar. See posted information re: The Shed

Always look for updated LSFYC emails for future events. We are continually working with some restrictions: COVID, future renovations at NYCLB.

Please remember to share your talents , ideas and interests with our Board Members regarding events and leadership positions, and always invite new members to join in the fun. We are excited to have you all "on board." Thank you from our dedicated LSFYC Leadership.

See you soon,

***Cindy Ramirez***

*LSFYC Vice Commodore*



## **Rear Commodore's Report**

***Al Bordallo***



### **Hello fellow members...**

It was certainly a great day at the LSFYC Picnic on the Bay Saturday March 20. A super turnout of members and a sunny day to enjoy. Thanks to Navy YCLB (and NYCLB Comm **Becky Martinez**) for the use of the grass area to spread out the tables and the great meal (by Food Captain **Luis Santana**) for all.

We are planning more activities such as this type of event and as the Covid restrictions begin to diminish in the coming weeks, such plans will come to life for LSFYC as well as the rest of LB yachting community.

One effort in mind is the presence of on-the-water activities...after all we are a boating club. I have been preparing my Catalina 34 for this season and plan to take it out as much as possible...and I would like for you to join me! But it is not only just me and my boat, but also other LSFYC members with boats. We now have newer members without boats, but some who are looking to buy a boat.

We would like to see your boats participating in future activities as plans develop...stay tuned for that.

Happy Easter to all,

***Al Bordallo***

***LSFYC Rear Commodore***





## **Signals from the Fleet Captain**

***Nate Tucker***



### **ATTENTION NEW & NEWER members.**

Please reserve the date of **Saturday, April 17, 2021 - 10:00 a.m.** No, it's not a date that will live in infamy, but it will be interesting and of value to those new (and any) member of our club not familiar with sail boats or not too experienced with sailing. I've looked through many of the new applications for membership and found that none of the new members own a sailboat. Owning a sailboat is NOT a requirement for membership. Several of our members do not own their own boat but do rent them and enjoy the sailing experience.

In fact, Commodore Moti is one person in that category, and he's a pretty darn good sailor. I know this from first hand knowledge. Aside from renting a boat, participating as a race-crew member is an excellent way of learning the ropes, especially if you have some sailing experience under your belt. If you want to crew but have not yet met any of our racers, let me know and I'll put the info in our newsletter.

For most people though, volunteering to crew on a racing boat is not a leap of faith they're willing to take without a little more in the way of preparation. To that end, on April 17, I plan to do a chalk-talk either at our shed or using the lawn area of Navy YC on this subject, and my purpose is two-fold: First, to pique interest in sailing. Sailing is an experience like no other and should not be missed. A lot can be said on this subject. Second, with a basic explanation of a couple of key concepts, allay the apprehension non-sailors naturally have. I realize fear of the unknown is a powerful thing. Participating in the operation of the boat and knowing what's going on and why goes a long way in building confidence and allows a person to relax, enjoy and get the most out of the experience. Personally, I never wanted anybody on my boat who wasn't having fun or wasn't into it. I've got some stories I might share in that regard.

I would like to see a lot of our new folks turn out for this talk. You don't have to be a new member. Everybody who's interested is invited, of course. I hope people come loaded with questions. Questions provide invaluable feedback and lets me know what's on your mind and what your concerns are. RSVP is not strictly required but if you want to contact me here's my email: [tuckernathan98@gmail.com](mailto:tuckernathan98@gmail.com)

Be safe everyone and smooth sailing.

***Nate Tucker***  
***LSFYC Fleet Captain***



## **Jr. Staff Commodore's Report**

**Frank Franco**



As always, I'm looking for personal tales, adventures, stories of your boating experiences. Although I appreciate internet facts and such, I would like to see what you have to share with the members.

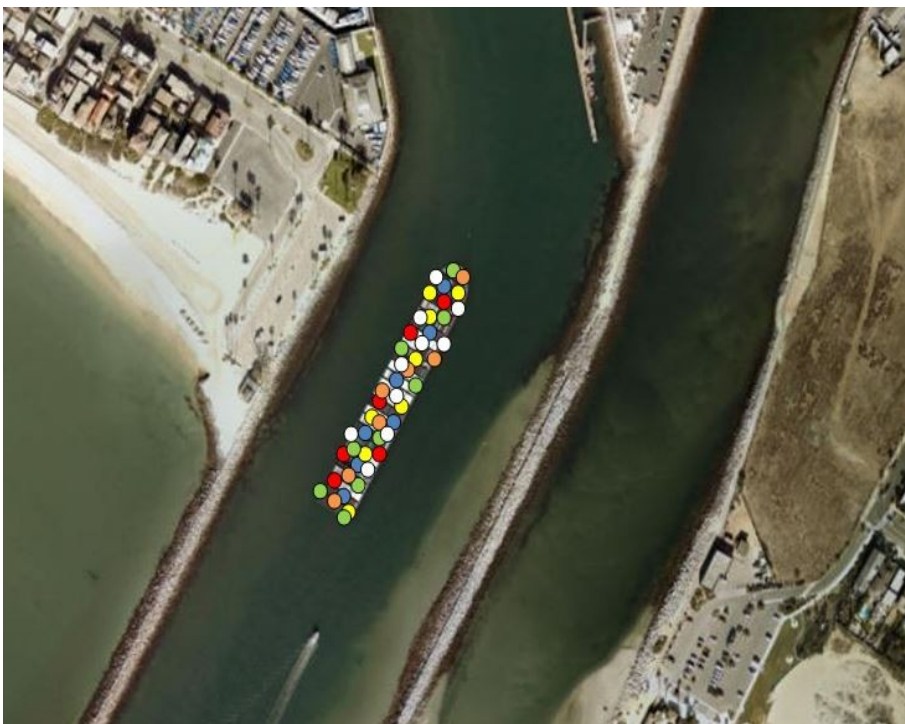
And now for the news:



Oh no...not here!

One (although a small one) of the many, many seemingly abandoned and outcast freighters anchored outside the L. A. harbor, had broken free of its anchorage, drifted down the into the harbor, entered the Alamos Bay channel and became tightly wedged between the channel sides, effectively plugging up movement of all inbound/outbound vessels!

The situation had the LB Marine department in a frenzy as to how to free the 200,000 ton container ship after many unsuccessful attempts of pushing and pulling with only the LB marina patrol boats available.



But after consultation with salvage experts and yacht owners eager to get their boats back into the harbor, the strategy determined was to simply lighten the ship's heavy load.

Unable to get access for the massive cranes and equipment necessary to offload the ship, an emergency meeting was held by members of the local yacht clubs to brainstorm as to what to do. After much heated discussion (and many, many drinks later), a solution was finally hammered out:

Completion of many trips to PARTY CITY stores, and thru a huge collective effort, 453,945 helium filled multi colored party balloons were attached to the hull of the ship effectively allowing the lightened ship to float free and head back to the anchorage area!

Problem solved!



## **What's up little shippers!**

**By Chris Layne**

Its finally spring in Long Beach! Let's grab some wind and go racing! There are some great opportunities in Long Beach to get out and put your skills to the test. One of which is Wet Wednesday Series hosted by the Long Beach Yacht Club. The LONG BEACH SAILING FOUNDATION offers their fleet of Catalina 37' sailboats to local teams to race in a 6-week series. There are 3 series raced throughout the summer. Having been involved with several teams over the past 5 years, I have truly grown a passion for harnessing the power of the wind.

### **Calling All Sailors**

I'm looking to put a LSFYC team together. Am I looking to win the lot and hold up the trophy? NO. But that doesn't mean we can't go give them a run for their money! If you're an experienced sailor and you want to sharpen your skills. Perfect!!! If you're a novice sailor and you want to learn more. Perfect!!!!

I'm a novice sailor with lots to learn. Especially with all the old salts in our club. If you're just interested or simply curious about it. Perfect!!! Let's have a chat over a Saturday afternoon beer at the shed.

### **Race details**

In years past we've had boat call between 4 and 4:30 Wednesday afternoons. Boats need to be rigged and we cut the dock lines around 5 o'clock, which gives you a chance to get out and get a game plan together before the 6:05-ish start. Normally we will start somewhere south east of Chaffee Island, then run up to the leeward mark, round the can and back again the race finishes on the corner at the LBYC.

The Wet Wednesday Racing Seminar is held at the Long Beach Yacht Club, April 28 th . It's a great way to familiarize yourself with what's happening and why.

First series starts May 5 th.

Second series starts June 16 th.

### **The Cold Hard Truth**

The race isn't free. There is a \$1,200 bill attached to each series. So that means that our team, if ready and willing, would need to front the bill. That being said not only are race team members dues but also fundraising still all on the table. We will be discussing this in much more detail if and when the time comes to pony up.



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**From the Old Salts**  
**By S/C Bob Fickes**

Ahoy Little Shippers. My name is **Bob Fickes** and I was the 51<sup>st</sup> Commodore in 1988. I haven't been active in LSF for some time but thanks to the constant hounding of **Dick Martin**, I have maintained my membership over the years. It wasn't just Dick's hounding that kept me on the roster. In the late 1980's when I was very active we had several old time members that maintained their membership even though most no longer had boats, and sailing was only a memory. One such member was Morgan Embroden. Morgan was an architect by trade and had designed and built his 37' cutter rigged *Nekton* which was on my gangway. He would stop by my boat many times on weekend afternoons and as long as the beer was cold, and of course it always was, he would talk about the good old days when boats were made out of wood and sailors were made out of iron. I asked him once why he still paid his annual dues even though he rarely came to events. He said something that I have always remembered. I always think about it when it is renewal time. He said that LSF was so important to him when he had been active. LSF deserved to be supported. He would do that as long as he could. I now fully understand, appreciate, and totally agree with him.

Well now that the children are all grown up and left, and the dog has died, I find myself with the time and energy to think about all the wonderful times that I and my family had on the water, many of which were only made possible by LSF. If you live long enough your memories become history and I would like to share some of them with you.

I will start this off with the subject of Yacht Club Dues. LSF has always been a nitch Yacht Club. To be able to race you needed 2 things, PHRF membership along with membership in an accredited SCYA Yacht club. Peggy and Ed Gregory, both LSF Staff Commodores, ran the PHRF office. Together we would work to make that happen usually at the last minute. The rush to join LSF would usually happen right before the 2 major races on the calendar, Mid Winters and Ensenada. On many a race day I would spend the morning going from slip to slip handing out new membership cards. One year I even set up shop at a table at *Schooner Or Later* (fun fact, the name of that restaurant before Schooner was *Little Ships Cafe*) and ended up in the race that day myself. I believe that the membership exceeded 200 in those years.

LSF has always been a very cheap alternative for a Yacht Club. I'm not sure of the year, but I believe that it was in the 1950's when the club charged \$0.20/month and for that you got coffee and donuts at the monthly meetings. I read in the meeting minutes that someone stood up and said that \$0.20 was the cost of a pack of Chesterfields and that he would much greatly prefer that pack of cigarettes to a Yacht Club meeting!

In the mid 1980's there was a split in the club between many newer members who were pushing to get the club landed and those older members who wanted no change. The newer members eventually won out and with that win we were able to enter into an agreement with 4 Winds Yacht Club to share their facility at Marina Pacifica on the water for \$50/member per year. It was a win, win situation. We got the use of a great facility, and they got a nice infusion of money to extend their viable life. It lasted about 3 years until the shopping center nearly doubled the rent. We were back meeting at the Sea Scout base just after the local AA meeting. The irony of that was not lost on the membership.

Well that's about it. If any of you old salts that would like to share a memory from the past, feel free to join in. Send to: [lsfyclb@gmail.com](mailto:lsfyclb@gmail.com)



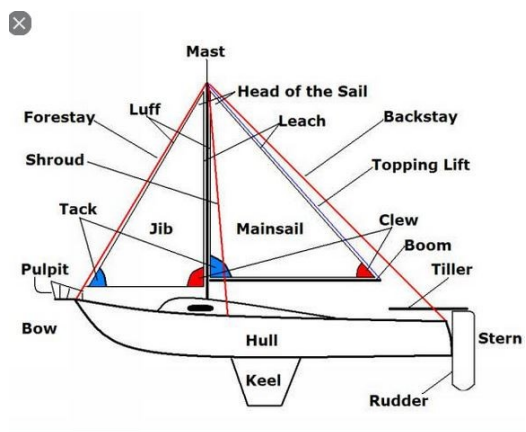


# April 2021



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1 LSFYC SHED 4:00 PM	2	3
4 EASTER	5	6	7	8 LSFYC SHED 4:00 PM	9 POT LUCK NYCLB	10
11 LSFYC SHED 1:00 PM	12	13	14	15 LSFYC SHED 4:00 PM	16	17 SAILING WORKSHOP AT THE SHED
18 LSFYC SHED 1:00 PM	19	20	21	22 LSFYC SHED 4:00 PM	23	24
25 LSFYC SHED 1:00 PM	26	27	28	29 LSFYC SHED 4:00 PM	30	

# ATTENTION LITTLE SHIPPERS LOOKING TO GET YOUR FEET WET IN THE WORLD OF SAILING!



Join Fleet Captain **NATE TUCKER** for an informative and fun session of what sailing is all about.

**SATURDAY APRIL 17, 10:00 AM at the LSFYC  
Shed (donuts and coffee too)**

For information: [tuckernathan98@gmail.com](mailto:tuckernathan98@gmail.com)

## 2021 LSFYC Bridge

### OPERATIONS STAFF

*Commodore: Moti Cohen-Doron  
Vice Commodore: Cindy Ramirez  
Rear Commodore: Al Bordallo  
Treasurer: Dick Martin  
Fleet Captain: Nate Tucker  
Port Captain : Larry Finley  
Secretary/Events: Cindy Ramirez*

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

*Jr. Staff Comm: Frank Franco  
Director: S/C Nate Tucker  
Director: S/C Rob Sonz  
Director: Chris Layne  
Director: Mary Pintarelli*

### OTHER CONTACTS

*Membership Chairman: Cindy Ramirez  
Newsletter: Frank Franco  
Webmaster: S/C Frank Franco  
S/C Ben Smith*