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

Lara Arambula

Ahoy Little Shippers:

What a way to kick off the season! Our Opening Day on April 19 was a smashing success!!—thank you to all the members who participated, attended, and volunteered! The sun was shining, flags were flying, and the taco cart did not disappoint. It was a joy to see so many family, friends, and visiting guests enjoying the day and our quaint shed, where the drinks were flowing and the conversations were lively (see photos p. 8). It was certainly a fun time for all!

One of the perks of being a flag officer is the opportunity to attend other yacht clubs' Opening Day festivities. Each club brings its own flavor and flair—some host elegant ceremonies, others boast lively boat parades (and yes, you're often invited aboard!). Lou and I have had the pleasure of experiencing a variety of these celebrations over the years, and we always come away with new friendships and stories to tell. LSFYC Opening Day is an opportunity to show the yachting community that we are certainly one of the best of them...thanks to you members and staff.

Last month, I took the plunge and enrolled in my first sailing class aboard a classic 26' Soling. It was a perfect day on the water, and sharing the experience with my daughter made it even more memorable.

I also had the opportunity to spend a weekend aboard the legendary *Queen Mary* in Long Beach. This Art Deco ocean liner, once the grandest of her era, now rests in stately splendor as a floating hotel and museum. Her maritime history is rich with stories of transatlantic voyages, wartime service, and Hollywood glamour. It was such a festive and unique venue for the reunion we were attending.

Looking ahead, mark your calendars for our **New Member/Birthday Potluck** on **Saturday, May 17 from 5–8 PM**. It's the perfect excuse to head down to the shed, share a meal, meet new members, and celebrate those who are tacking into another year around the sun. Bring a dish to share—this month's theme is **Memorial Day**, so feel free to wear your red, white, and blue! Hope to see you there!

"Live in the sunshine, swim the sea, drink the wild air."-Ralph Waldo Emerson

Lara Arambula
Commodore, LSFYC

Vice Commodore's Report

Dominic Arcelin

Hello Little Shippers!

April is always a busy month, and it is a reminder that summer is right around the corner. With our Opening Day behind us, racing season is about to begin! Hopefully the success of our Opening Day party will inspire all of you to come join us for more events throughout the year. If nothing else, come down for our monthly potluck and birthday celebrations! The next one is May 17th from 5-7pm.

Speaking of birthdays, I just celebrated mine a week ago. I bring this up because my family and I had a party down at The Shed. What better place for a birthday? I think sometimes it's easy to forget that as members we all have access to The Shed, regardless if there is a club event going on or not. Want to have a drink and watch the sunset? The honor bar is always open! Want to have a nice lunch by the water? There's plenty of seating and table space! Want to have a get together with friends? The Shed has everything you need!

For a larger event, like a birthday party, all you need to do is run it by the board. For a small gathering, it's open for your enjoyment. In the likelihood that some of the other members may want to stop by, then the more the merrier! People often ask me what the benefits of joining our little club are, and I always lead with The Shed. So in addition to all of our upcoming events, (keep an eye on your emails!), why not plan some of your own?

If not already aware, please remember that as of January 1, 2025, Calif boating law requires all boaters, regardless of age, to obtain a boater education certificate and carry a California Boater Card while operating a recreational motorized vessel on California waters.

Go online to register: https://californiaboatercard.com/applynow/, pay $10 fee, follow the instructions, and take the test required to get the card.

Dominic Arcelin
LSFYC Vice Commodore

Rear Commodore's Report

Ruth De Raddo

Hi LSFYC Shippers…

Goodbye, April and Welcome May:

April was a fun month being able to attend a few Opening Days at other Yacht Clubs. What a great way to meet fellow flag officers. LSFYC 88th Opening Day Saturday, April 19, 2025

Opening Day was a success! Lots of food, drinks and music. Fellow flag officers came from near and far to help us celebrate.

Wow! My first Opening Day as Rear Commodore. A lot of planning, coordinating, purchasing and setting up. Special thanks go out to our Commodore: **Lara Arambula** and a big thank you to all the behind-the scenes volunteers, cleaning, setting up, tearing down and so much more. We could not have done it without you.

Thanks to those members who helped out and attended:

Bob & Alyssa Bond, David Chi, Lucy Arambula, Ketty Cittereo, S/C Moti & Jill Cohen-Doron, S/C Tom Cornelius, Micheal Denzinger, Steve Dunlap *(see p. 5)***, S/C Bob & Ginny Fickes, S/C Frank & Lara Franco, Frank & Gina Geiger, Jim Howe, Robert Hughes & family, Sharmone La Rose, S/C Roy & Carolyn Queen, S/C Rob & Kelly Sonz, S/C Nate Tucker, Elena Yuasa, Dave Cunnigham, Dave & Gabby Bierman.**

Special thanks to S/C Chris Layne (with Ginger & baby Elijah) setting up & tending the super bar in then shed.

I am so happy to see our membership increase with new members. Welcome to LSFYC.

Looking forward to May's New Member/Birthday Potluck on Saturday, May 17th.

This year, 2025, is looking to be great year for the club, with much energy created by new members and fun activities planned for all members. We are hoping that you will extend your interest and join us on this journey.

"Friendship is not one big thing: it's a lot of little things"

Ruth De Raddo
LSFYC Rear Commodore

Membership Page

Membership Report, Bob Bond

We had a fantastic Opening Day for both fun and new member recruiting. We signed up 3 new members and had a few others indicate they will be submitting membership applications soon. I'm very excited to introduce a couple of our newest members since Opening Day on April 19, 2025:

Dave Bierman – My wife, Gabby, and I are excited to join the Little Ship Fleets Yacht Club. We've lived in Long Beach for over 30 years and have loved being part of this amazing community, both land and water. We have four wonderful kids—Brooke (30), Ryan (27), and our identical twins, Sean and Chad (22). Some of you might know Sean and Chad from their local rock band, *Familiar Faces*. They've been playing gigs around town for years and always keep things lively!

During the pandemic, we decided it was time to spend more time on the water and purchased a 38-foot SeaRay we named **6 Pack O Bier**. She's docked in Alamitos Bay (just a few slips away from Frank Franco's boat), and we've been enjoying every minute aboard. We're looking forward to meeting more of you, making new friends, and becoming active members of the club. Dave and Gabby Bierman

Brigitte Bigham – I am a Southern CA native and Long Beach resident for over 40 years, and I love it here! I have two adult daughters, Elizabeth resides in Virginia, and my younger daughter Angela is local. I have a great fondness for the outdoors, seeking hiking trails both local and abroad, more recently I have had the opportunity to explore the underwater world with a scuba certification.

My work is local, selling residential real estate in Long Beach and outlying areas. I find my work to be enjoyable and have developed lifelong client friendships along the way.

I learned of LSFYC from dear friends Bob & Alyssa Bond, and their excitement drew me in. I have found the members to be fun, kind and community oriented, and I'm glad to be part of this delightful group! Brigitte Bigham

Member's Page

LSFYC's **Steve and Meghan Dunlap** have been members since 2017 and have a 45 ft catamaran *Some Tuesday* berthed in Long Beach Rainbow Harbor. We were fortunate enough to finally meet them during LSFYC Opening Day. They have enjoyed many adventures on the boat and had entered the 2025 Newport to Ensenada Race last week. Following is the tale of their adventure...

"Here's a race update from the crew of Some Tuesday*, for the 2025 Newport to Ensenada race. For those of you who know us, you know this event is a social event as much as a race for us. It's the only race we do every year, and while we are very serious about sailing our best race and trying for the trophy (we've already won twice) we also are very serious about getting our hands on cold margaritas in Ensenada!!*

We shoved off in Long Beach at 8am on Friday morning and arrived in Newport in full uniform, and ready to race! (see photos p. 7)*. We are the only crew with our very own fashion designer on board! Our beloved First Mate Meg is also Meghan Fabulous (www.meghanfabulous.com) and every year she designs amazing, colorful and fun uniforms for the crew. She outdid herself this year with a custom-designed Aloha fabric print incorporating the Some Tuesday logo, a Dark n' Stormy with lime, and a bottle of "Captain Steve's IPA!!"*

We circled around the start line and found the press boat and the media boat and posed for photos to show off Meghan's handiwork! We got a pretty good start, not our best, but pretty good. I mean, at least we sailed across the correct inshore start line, unlike two other boats in our class that shall remain nameless!! Luckily, they avoided a collision with Wahoo, so I suppose all was well We were going uphill for the first few hours, flying our screecher and sailing nearly as close to the wind as we could (which for us, especially with that sail is a big, fat angle!)

Voyager *and we headed offshore, gambling on more wind overnight as we usually do. We ended up with an hours-long drag race with* Voyager*, where we were using my hunting binoculars with laser rangefinder to measure whether we were closing in. It made for hours of fun as we yelled out updates - 1300 yards! 1140 yards! 980 yards! 620 yards! (Yards or meters are the only option, since they're built for hunting, not sailing or golf….)*

Voyager *then got into trouble with their aso, and had to watch us scream by to their starboard. But alas, our gloating would turn out to be wildly premature. Around 8:30, we were losing speed on the screecher as the wind finally got behind us and we switched to aso. I had changed from a top-down furler to a sock this year, which made it MUCH easier to manage. Unlike past years, we avoided ripping the poor sail's head off this year. So that was good. We kept moving fairly well overnight, with variable light winds that would become consistent when above 5 kt or so, and the angle was good. A few dead spots found us spinning in circles, but not too often. As midnight approached, we began to worry about our offshore bet. To confirm our worst fears,* Voyager *had turned to an inside line and caught us, passed us, and was now miles ahead. That made it official - we were all alone offshore and our gamble was not looking good. We changed course and decided to sail closer to the Coronados, but it wasn't looking good.*

Aeolus *was screaming down the rhumb line sailing at speeds we could only dream of in that wind. We later learned that Tom and crew are all deadheads, so we kinda fell in love with them. (Look at the MeghanFabulous website, and you'll understand why!).* Kastor Pollux *closed the gap and was on a direct heading for the jibe point off Ensenada, sailing a great angle. Yup, damn, we're probably cooked!*

One of the benefits of racing my 33,000 pound boat is the comfort. We're pretty sure we eat better than any other racer! Breakfast was a bagel bar with sausage, bacon, cheese, and lox. Lunch was chili in a bread bowl. Chipotle omelets kept us going on Saturday morning, and on and on. Every meal was a spread, and every crew member is assigned specific meals and provisions to manage.

While we race dry, the margaritas and champagne (win or lose) comes out just before we cross the finish line! "

(con't next

Member's Page *(con't)*

"Saturday morning broke, and the wind was great, but coming…. directly from Ensenada? Huh? We stared forlornly at the YB app, seeing all the other ORCA-B boats several miles ahead of us and already starting to tack upwind. Voyager *sailed a nice arc around the point, and* Rev D'O *cut back and forth at seemingly crazy-tight angles for a big fat cat. Back and forth back and forth. It looked like hard work up there, and we had many miles to go.*

We tacked and sailed out several miles, than tacked again and sailed back toward the shore, making perhaps a half-mile in progress toward Ensenada. Ugh. It was at this point, I said to my crew that we come here to race, but we also come here for the social aspects and fun. Every other boat was within 60 minutes of the finish line when I asked them to consider whether they wanted to sail for 6-7 more hours and miss the party, or fire up the old iron sails and head for the marina. The vote was unanimous! Let's go get some DNF margaritas!

We crossed the finish line, much more shipshape than ever before. Sails were stowed, the saloon was clean, the dishes washed, etc. etc. Hey, maybe this DNF thing ain't so bad <shrug>. Within a couple hours, we were nestled into slip B10, hooked back up to shore power so we could sleep in heated comfort overnight, and ready to party. By the time we were up at the hotel enjoying the taco bar and margaritas, nobody had any regrets about our DNF.

We spread some additional cheer by handing out gifts to other racers. We had 100 custom "Some Tuesday" leis ready to go, and they were handed out with appropriate off-color jokes, and mostly to ladies. 99% of the ladies loved the lei and laughed at our dumb jokes. The few that didn't, well, they didn't deserve to get lei'd anyway. . We all smiled when the N2E staff on stage giving out awards was sporting the bright blue leis!

This will be Some Tuesday's *last N2E, sadly. This September, Meghan and I will shove off for a five year circumnavigation, starting in Latin America, then crossing the Pacific, spending a year exploring South Pacific islands, then on to Indonesia, then the Med and finally the Caribbean, before transiting the canal to come home in 2030. We would love to have you follow along if interested, and will past our socials below. (We just launched a dedicated YouTube channel to share the story.)*

Our YouTube channel was just launched, and we plan to post a lot of video content, sharing our preparation and our journey! https://www.youtube.com/@SailingSomeTuesday *"*

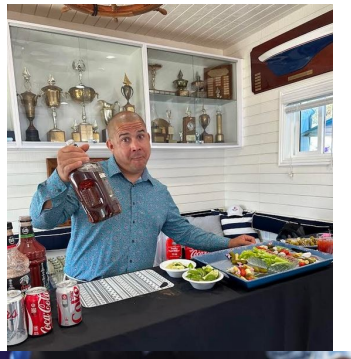
You can also follow along on Facebook and Instagram:

https://www.instagram.com/some_tuesday/

https://www.facebook.com/SomeTuesday

Member's Page *(con't)*

Photos...LSFYC Opening Day



TO SEE DANCING LOU, CLICK ON THE LINK P. 10 BOTTOM.

Photos...Opening Day

[Click for dancing LOU video]

LSFYC Burgee proudly waving after the ceremony of the Opening Day April 19

MAY, 2025

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1	2	3
4	5	**6 LSFYC BOD MEET**	7	8	9	**10 LSFYC OFFSHORE RACE #1**
11 MOTHERS DAY	12	13	14	15	16	**17 LSFYC POT LUCK AT SHED**
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	**26 MEMORIAL DAY**	27	28	29	30	**31 LSFYC REACH TO BEACH RACE**

This past Sunday May 4, Little Shippers had the opportunity to enjoy some great music courtesy of the band *The Jazz Derelicts*, a horn group playing various tunes such as from Chicago. The location was the *Gaslamp* on PCH and Loynes. LSFYC member **Dave Cunningham** is a keyboardist and joined the Little Shippers below for drinks and good times.

2025 LSFYC Bridge

OPERATIONS STAFF

Commodore: Lara Arambula
Vice Commodore: Dominic Arcelin
Rear Commodore: Ruth De Raddo
Treasurer: Robert Hughes
Fleet Captain: Chris Layne
Port Captain : Vacant
Secretary: Sharmone La Rose

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Director: S/C Moti Cohen-Doron
Director: S/C Rob Sonz
Director: S/C Frank Franco
Director: Bob Bond
Director: Elena Yuasa
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