

Three Sheets in the Wind

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE LITTLE SHIPS FLEET YACHT CLUB
(ESTABLISHED IN 1937)
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November, 2025



Commodore's Report

Lara Arambula



Ahoy Little Shippers...

It was such a pleasure to meet some of our newest members—**Larry Himmel**, and **Tom & Debra Zelenski** at our Halloween themed October potluck! The evening was full of fun, laughter, and some seriously creative costumes. Special congratulations to our costume contest winners: **Ruth De Raddo & Michael Denzinger** for *Most Creative*, and newcomers **Tom and Debra** for *Funniest*! (See photos p. 6.) And let's not forget our ball toss game champion, **Gina Geiger**—well played! Many thanks to Ruth for organizing this potluck and providing the customized game that kept everyone entertained. We also enjoyed some cheerful mingling with the **Navy Yacht Club**, who were gathering next door. With the football game on their big screen and a cold keg of beer to share, a few of our crew stayed late into the night making new friends and having a good time.

Looking ahead, mark your calendars for our **Friendsgiving Potluck** at the shed on **Saturday, November 15, starting at 5 PM**. It's the perfect opportunity to share food, laughter, a game or two and gratitude with fellow members—the more, the merrier! We hope to see you there.

Don't forget—the **Annual Holiday Brunch** at **Acapulco Restaurant** is coming up on **Sunday, December 7, starting at 9:30 AM**. The white elephant gift exchange is always hilarious and spirited! An email invitation has already gone out, so RSVP soon to secure your spot—space is very limited! Payment via Zelle or by check to LSFYC. \$30 per member/guest. No payments at the door accepted.

Place on your calendar for Sunday, January 18, 2026—Annual LSFYC Officer Installation Dinner 4-7pm At The Boathouse on the Bay, Long Beach.

Thank you all for making our club a warm, welcoming, and lively community. Whether you're cruising, mingling, or just enjoying the camaraderie, it's your participation that keeps our club successful and fun to be a part of.

Get Involved – Join the board!

Do you have a special interest, talent, or fresh ideas to share? We're looking for members interested in joining the **LSFYC Board of Directors for 2026! Whether your passion is social activities, social media, newsletters, or giving back to the community, we'd love to have you on board!** It's a wonderful way to get more involved, meet members, and keep our club thriving! We need you! If you're curious or want to learn more, reach out to any one of us – we'd love to chat.

Wishing you fair winds, smooth seas, and plenty of sunshine as we sail into September.

Lara Arambula

Commodore, LSFYC



Vice Commodore's Report

Dominic Arcelin



Hello Little Shippers!

October's warm weather and favorable conditions brought with it fall racing. LSFYC has been very well represented out on the water and I wanted to take the opportunity to highlight some of their achievements.

October 1st saw hard work rewarded with the LBYC awards ceremony for their summer racing series. Members **Damon Ciarelli** and Boo brought home some hardware from their victories in the LBYC Catalina Island Series on their trimaran *WindRanger*. Member **Allie Tsai** brought home a number of trophies for 2nd place in all three Wet Wednesday series, as well as 2nd place overall in the Wet Wednesday series (see photos p.7)..

Mid-October saw the return of the Linda Elias Memorial One Design Challenge and Allie Tsai's team, with member **Sunny Santos** at the helm, took 3rd overall after two days of hard racing (see photo p.11).

Finally, the month came to a close with match racing in the Butler Cup. FC **Chris Layne** and myself sailed with the Parrot Fever team and battled it out for an unfortunate last place, but fun was had by all. LSFYC was still represented on the podium though as members **Nick Santos** and **Mark Ryan** sailed with skipper Shane Young and narrowly missed out on first place, taking home silver medals.

It brings me immense pride to know that the love of sailing and racing is still alive and well in our club. I hope that even more of you want to get involved with our summer racing next year. Be it on the water, cheering on sailors from the Committee boat, or just hanging out with us at the post race party's, let's do our best to make sure the sailing and racing history of our club lives on!

As the year is coming to a close, there will be open seats on the LSFYC Board of Directors for next year. Want to get involved? Want to have a say in the direction of the club? Want a free pizza dinner every other month? If so, please reach out to myself or any of the flag officers. It's a small amount of commitment for a large amount of return that helps our little club thrive.

As always, feel free to reach out with questions, ideas, concerns, or just to say hello! I hope to see all of you soon on the water or down at The Shed.

Once again, I encourage you to submit any stories, tales or travel adventures to publish in upcoming issues of this newsletter for member enjoyment. Get your creative writing juices flowing!

Looking forward to seeing you all at the next event.

Dominic Arcelin

Vice Commodore LSFYC



Rear Commodore's Report

Ruth De Raddo



Hi LSFYC Shippers...

October's Halloween-themed potluck was a hit! The spooky decorations — from skeletons and a carved pumpkin to glowing eyes and floating ghosts — set the perfect tone for an evening filled with laughter and games.

We were excited to welcome our newest members, **Larry Himmel** and **Tom & Debra Zelenski**, who joined in the fun with some delicious homemade goodies. Larry's deviled eggs quickly disappeared! And Tom & Debra's homemade bis-

cotti were a big hit.

The eyeball toss game was a crowd favorite, and a few of us couldn't resist keeping it going even after the prizes were handed out. Dominic and Matt Pellarin faced off as fierce competitors, making for a hilarious and spirited finale to the evening.

A big thank-you to everyone who helped make the night such a spooky success!

After the spooky fun of October's Halloween Potluck, we're keeping the good times (and good food) going with our **November Friendsgiving Potluck!**

NOVEMBER FRIENDSGIVING POTLUCK:

DATE: Saturday, November 15, 2025

TIME: 5:00 PM – 8:00 PM

LOCATION: AT THE SHED

Let's gather to celebrate friendship, laughter, and all the moments that made this year so special. It's a time to be thankful for **new connections**, cherish **renewed friendships**, and reflect on all the joy we've shared along the way.

Bring your favorite dish to share — whether it's a cozy comfort food, a family favorite, or something sweet to finish the night and your grateful hearts-because together, we make the best kind of feast!

To make this Friendsgiving even more fun, we'll have **Thanksgiving-themed games and activities**- think Turkeys, gratitude, and plenty of laughter.

Pin the Feather on the Turkey

A Thanksgiving twist on "Pin the Tail on the Donkey."

Inflatable Turkey Hat Toss Game

Get ready for some gobbling good fun! One brave guest (or a few!) will wear an inflatable turkey hat while others try to toss inflatable rings on it. Each successful toss earns points-or maybe bragging rights as the **Turkey Toss Champion!**

Thanksgiving Dart Board with Sticky Turkey Balls

Step right up and test your aim! It's lighthearted, safe and sure to bring out everyone's playful side.

Thanksgiving Bean Bag Toss Game

Grab a bean bag and get ready to aim for the win! Toss your bean bags through the Turkey or

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Rear Commodore's Report

pumpkin cutouts to score points-it's simple, fun, and full of laughs.

So, bring your competitive spirit (and maybe your best turkey impression)-it's going to be a night full of fun, food and friendship! A separate flyer will be sent out soon as a reminder for November's Friendsgiving Potluck. I look forward to seeing all of you turkeys, Saturday, November 15, 2025.

As the year comes to a close, we're looking forward to wrapping it up with our **Annual Holiday Brunch** — an event you won't want to miss! The morning will be filled with great food, cheerful company, and our always-entertaining **White Elephant Gift Exchange**, which promises plenty of laughs and surprises as usual. **As Lara has stated, RSVP soon to secure your spot-space is very limited!**

REMINDER: This is YOUR club!

We love seeing everyone involved-whether it's helping plan, setting up, cleaning the shed or just throwing out great ideas. Your input and energy make this a better, more fun space for everyone. This why YOU joined...Let's keep it going strong!

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

Ruth De Raddo
Rear Commodore LSFYC



Membership Report

Bob Bond

We added two new members in October, and we plan to add a couple more before the end of 2025. Thank you again to Dave & Gabby Bierman for sponsoring one of our newest members, and we're pleased that our website was key to recruiting another new member. Please think about any friends and/or family members that you can invite to join the club, and send them this [link to our Membership page](#) on our LSFYC website.

It's great to have new members, but it's even better when we get to interact with the new members, so please come to one of our upcoming activities and let's have fun together:

- November 22 – Friendsgiving at LSFYC Shed from 5-8pm
 - December 7 – LSFYC Holiday Brunch at Acapulco's in Long Beach from 9:30am-noon
- January 18, 2026 – New LSFYC Installation Dinner at The Boathouse from 4-8pm

A reminder to please introduce yourself and extend a hearty welcome to any of the new folks who may join us for an event at the shed.

I'm very excited to introduce another of our newest members:

Dallas Downing – Hello LSFYC, we are Dallas and Hannah Downing and look forward to meeting you all! Hannah is the third generation of her family to enjoy Alamitos Bay, with time in Sea Scouts and on her family's boat. Dallas started boating in Marine Stadium as a teen and has been hooked ever since.

Together we have cruised portions of Pacific [Mexico](#), and regularly visit Catalina. We have owned and cruised on many boats over the years, finally settling on our beautiful Grand Banks 36 which is berthed on dock 9, a short walk from LSFYC. We have a very silly and sweet [3 year old](#) Long Haired Weimaraner named Tule who you're sure to meet.



Halloweenie Potluck photos



Race photos



Damon Ciarelli a winner!



Allie Tsai a winner!



Allie and Elijah Layne



Notice to LSFYC Flag Officers/Board of Directors/Members

To Little Shippers,



It has been my honor and pleasure to serve as Secretary of Little Ships Fleet Yacht Club for the past four years.

It has been an opportunity to see how things work "behind the scenes" and to be a part of organizing events including Opening Day ceremonies.

As part one of the officers and Board Member, it has also given me a unique view of how decisions are made that affect all of our club members.

I cherish these memories and the time spent with all of the members in our club.

But It is now time to pass on the pen!

If someone would like more exposure to the inner workings of the club and be a part of the decision making in the future, now is your opportunity.

Contact Commodore Lara Arambula and inquire about the Secretary position.

Sharmone La Rose
LSFYC Secretary

Another LSFYC adventure story

By S/C Frank Franco

*In putting together this newsletter issue, I was recalling the first time experience taken by myself and fellow Little Shipper S/C **Roy Queen** aboard the Hunter 43 Excalibur during the 1998 N2E race. The following is the story of how it all played out.*

LSFYC had a relatively new member, **Dr. Nan Wang**, a heart surgeon who owned the Hunter 43 *Excalibur*. Dr. Wang, when he wasn't busy replacing hearts and stuff at Loma Linda Medical Center, loved to jump on the Hunter for racing or just cruising the area with his friends. Some time after much sailing with him, Roy and myself had established a relationship with Nan that allowed us to prepare the boat for him when he was planning to take the boat out. He would call me and Roy and I would get the boat ready. Nan would sometimes just show up with suit and tie right from the hospital, change into sailing gear and with his eager friends aboard, we would take off.

One day Nan tells me that he wants to enter the 150 mile Newport Ensenada Race. So I filled out the Entry forms and got things started. The boat, at the time was berthed in the Shoreline Marina fishbowl and managed by a charter outfit who took charge of providing the required safety gear and equipment.

The Hunter Mooring 43 was a former Caribbean charter cruiser berthed to handle 2 couples and crew. With a 16 ft beam, the boat was a floating condominium...very spacious...and fast! Nan was anxious to launch the spinnaker at first opportunity during a race. He loved that spinnaker...he would launch it right out from the slip if he thought he could!

In the planning of the trip, I asked Nan *"Who is coming?"* He gave me a few names...friends and coworkers. On the day of the Race, 10 people showed up (including Roy and myself)...a full house! We had more than enough food on board...not really knowing the duration of the trip or if we would be chowing down every five minutes. We gassed up at the Alamitos Bay gas dock and with smiling faces headed out to Newport for the start line (*photo next page*).

With myself, Roy, Nan and another LSFYC member with the only sailing experience, the rest of the "crew" were just passengers. I was the navigator and "safety officer" making sure all understood the emergency procedures in the event of a major mishap. The rest of the folks didn't really know what to expect other than an exciting cruise. We didn't expect to be competing against the other racers, but we would make a valiant attempt to maximize the speed of the boat.

The plan was to get to the start line off of Newport Beach, wait the for class (CRUZ-SPIN) gun and take off....launching the chute at first opportunity. The gun boomed and we're off to Mexico! Now, this year was the ***El Nino*** condition...stiff constant winds...pretty exciting stuff for all. As the fleet begin to scatter, and the chutes blossoming left, right and behind us, we followed suit and hung on!

Thirty minutes into the race and this was great stuff! The big boat was roaring toward our destination, a sunny day, the winds were blowing hard and the fleet was all around us...until...a few chutes behind us began to blow out, rips and tears and eventually collapse. We were thinking maybe we should lower the chute until conditions lessened when ***BANG*** the spin halyard let loose at the top of the mast! There was chaffing of the halyard at the mast top exit box causing the line to eventually break. We scrambled to wrestle the chute in the bag to stow below and then hauled up the genoa.

(see next page)

Another LSFYC adventure story (con't)

With the big genoa jib up and still making good speed, we all settled down to enjoy the rest of the uneventful journey. As navigator, all I had were charts, parallel rules and a handheld GPS. The GPS provided only coordinates, so I just plotted them on the charts to see where we were at any given time. We pretty much followed the rhumb line leading almost straight to Ensenada.

Thruout the rest of the day and late afternoon, the winds blew steady and we marveled as to how much the fleet was scattered over the horizon. Our motley crew was either in the cockpit or down below resting or snacking....no one was allowed on the fore deck without a safety harness.

After the sun had set and we were in serene darkness with only the sound of the rushing water past the hull, the rise and fall of the waves and the close and distant mast head lights of the scattered fleet. We were still making some good speed.

As the night wore on and into the early am hours, most folks were already below asleep. The interior space was sufficient to allow all to find a spot to lay down and grab some zzz's. On deck were myself and a few others trading turns at the helm. Very little sail trim was necessary as the winds were constant and the course was steady. I would go below every hour to check our position and relay course changes to the helm if required. We could see the shadow of the Coronado Islands and decided to stay outside.

I finally had to get some sleep and went below to find a spot. It was amazing to feel and hear the sound of the water roaring under the hull at 3:00 am! During this time the on deck crew continued to keep the boat on course. I came to find after that a few hardy souls had turned green (even the good doctor) and were feeding the fish!

I knew that we would soon be closing in on the finish line, but after waking up and checking our position I discovered we had passed the committee boat by 1/2 mile! So we quickly turned around and soon spotted the committee boat, then checked in and mission accomplished!

As dawn was breaking, we headed into the harbor, dropped the hook next to the other boats and were picked up by a shuttle boat. Dr. Wang had arranged for the charter outfit to pick up and return *Excalibur* to the US. We wound up giving the rest of the excess food away to the locals...we really did not eat too much during the trip.

After arriving on shore we searched for and found a restaurant to grab some breakfast. Everyone had made their own plans as to where to stay and how to get back to the US of A. Roy and I had reservations at a local hotel and spend the rest of early morning sleeping. My father was to meet us at the hotel for the ride back home. So Roy, myself and Nan (who later met a friend for his drive home) threw all our gear in to the car and we headed back home...happy sailors!

Many records were set that year due to the *El Nino* winds. We checked in at about 22 hours from the start...even with the turnaround and lack of spinnaker....a great time was had by all!

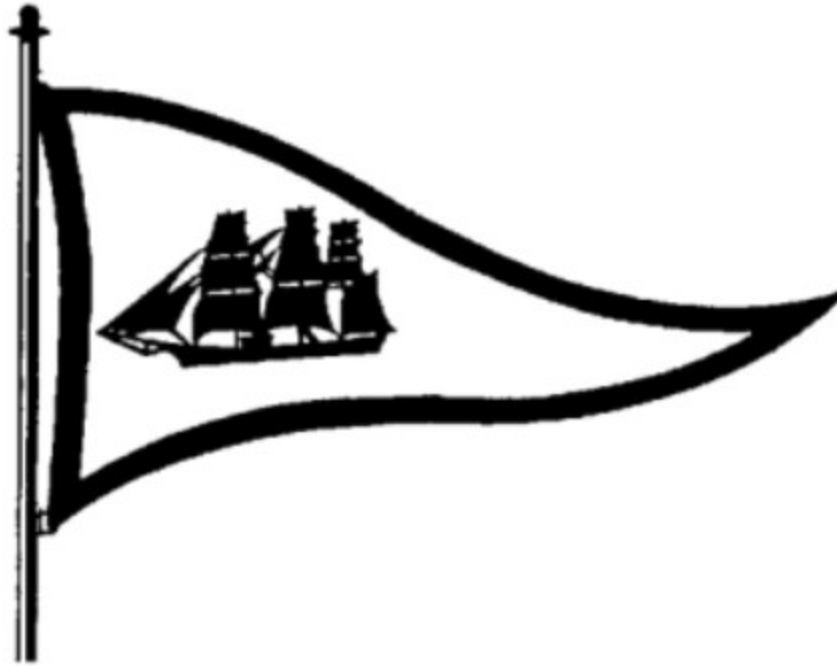




NOVEMBER, 2025



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						1
2 Time change 1 hr back	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11 LSFYC BOD MEET SHED 6:30 VETERNS DAY	12	13	14	15 LSFYC POTLUCK 5PM SHED
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27 TURKEY DAY	28	29
30						



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

Jr. S/C: Chris Layne

Director: S/C Moti Cohen-Doron

Director: S/C Rob Sonz

Director: S/C Frank Franco

Director: Bob Bond

Director: Elena Yuasa

Director: Frank Geiger

OTHER CONTACTS

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Membership: Bob Bond