

# 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**

***Dominic Arcelin***



### **Hello Little Shippers...**

Happy New Year, and welcome to 2026.

I am honored to take the helm for the club as Commodore from Lara Arambula, and I appreciate all of you putting your confidence in me to do so. I know I have big shoes to fill as Lara did an excellent job of leading LSFYC through 2025.

We saw many new members, new events, and maintained our standing as the best shed based yacht club on the west coast, if not the country. I can't wait to carry on her legacy, as well as hopefully live up to the legacy of all of our past commodores. It's going to be a wonderful experience.

The best experience through all of my journey as a flag officer is getting to interact with you, the member! What better way to do so than at our 2026 Officer Installation Dinner this Sunday January 18th at 4pm at Boathouse on the Bay. We will kick things off at 4pm with social hour and drinks.

The invitation to RSVP will be sent through email, so keep an eye out, and please pay by check or Zelle ([lsfyclb@gmail.com](mailto:lsfyclb@gmail.com)) when you RSVP.

This is just the first of many wonderful events to come and I hope to see you all there. As always, please reach out to me with any and all suggestions or ideas you have for the club. I look forward to the year ahead, and I look forward to hearing from you.

Again, this newsletter is for you and we would like for you take this opportunity to send in and share your tales and stories for the members to enjoy.

***Dominic Arcelin***

*Commodore, LSFYC*



## **Vice Commodore's Report**

***Ruth DeRaddo***



### **Hello Little Shippers!**

**Happy New Year!** As we welcome 2026, I'm incredibly honored and excited to step into the role of **Vice Commodore**. At the stroke of midnight on New Year's Eve, our new Flag Officers, staff and Board of Directors will officially be in place — energized, united, and ready to move forward together.

Our 2026 leadership team:

- Commodore: **Dom Arcelin**
- Vice Commodore: **Ruth DeRaddo**
- Rear Commodore: **Bob Bond**
- Port Captain: **Brigitte Bigham**
- Secretary: **Erica Hickey**
- Membership Directors: **Gabby & Dave Bierman**
- Treasurer: **Robert Hughes**
- Fleet Captain: **Chris Layne**
- Jr. Staff Commodore: **Lara Arambula**

Please join me in welcoming and congratulating this outstanding group. With this team, I'm confident that 2026 will be a year of growth, camaraderie, and memorable moments on the water.



**Membership Reminder** 2026 membership dues of **\$150** may be paid via **Zelle, cash, or check (LSFYC)**. Thank you for keeping your membership current — it truly supports everything we do as a club.



**Get Involved This Year** As we begin a new year, please remember to sign up for a committee or volunteer to help with upcoming events. Our club thrives because of the time, energy, and heart our members contribute. When we all pitch in, we keep LSFYC strong, active, and full of life.



**Officer Installation Dinner** Our Installation Dinner is just around the corner: *Boathouse on the Bay Sunday, January 18th 4pm (see page 11.)*

Once again, I am honored to be your **2026 Vice Commodore**, and I look forward to an incredible year ahead for all of us.

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

***Ruth DeRaddo***  
*Vice Commodore LSFYC*



## **Rear Commodore's Report**

***Bob Bond***



### **Welcome to a new year...**

I am looking forward to the role of your Rear Commodore and to be a part of planning some great times ahead for the club. I will see you at the LSFYC Officer Installation Dinner Jan. 18 at the Boathouse on the Bay in Long Beach.

As we begin this new year 2026, I'm very excited to share that we have a new Membership Director Team that has already sponsored several new members in 2025, and will continue to bring in new members and grow the club. So please welcome **Gabby & Dave Bierman** as our new 2026 LSFYC Membership Directors!

We expect to have another fantastic year at LSFYC, so please be sure to send your \$150 annual dues payment for 2026 via Zelle to **lsfyclb@gmail.com** at your earliest opportunity. All LSFYC renewing members (non marina boat owners) will receive a Long Beach Marine parking permit for 2026.

Also, we want to share the fun with other great people in our community. Please think about any friends and/or family members that you can invite to join the club, and send them the link to our LSFYC Membership page on our LSFYC website [lsfyc.org](http://lsfyc.org). You can also reach out to Gabby at [gabbierman@gmail.com](mailto:gabbierman@gmail.com) or Dave at [davebierman@gmail.com](mailto:davebierman@gmail.com) to get help with any membership information and/or onboarding.

I'm also pleased to share another bio of one of our newest LSFYC members:

**Larry Himmel** – I am retired after a career in information technology, from which I exited at Cal State Long Beach. My wife Kathy and I live in Buena Park, and love being on the water.

I grew up lake fishing in small boats in the Midwest and always had a longing to sail. In 2005 I got the opportunity to sail when I joined the sailing association at Cal State Long Beach. We sailed Capris, Lasers and Shields in Alamitos Bay.

In 2015 I bought my first sailboat, a West Wight Potter 19. Since 2018, I've owned an Islander Bahama 30 that I've been sailing locally. In addition to boating, I enjoy music, roller skating, and softball. I'm excited to be a member of LSFYC and look forward to meeting folks and sharing good times on land and sea.

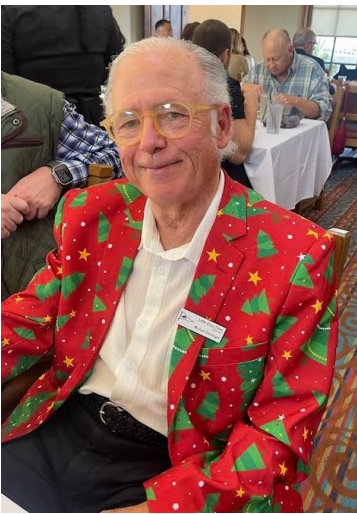


**Bob Bond**

*Rear Commodore LSFYC*

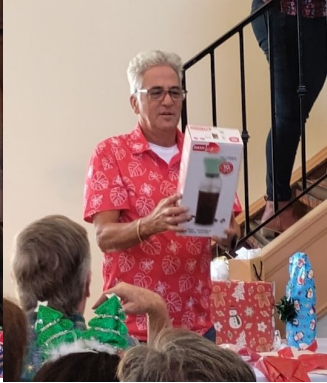


## LSFYC Holiday Brunch Photos





## More Holiday Brunch /Gift Exchange Photos





## **Treasurer's Report**

*Robert Hughes*



### **Dues for 2026...**

It is that time again...the **LSFYC MEMBERSHIP DUES** are due for 2026. Your past membership has been greatly appreciated and will certainly be so for this coming new year. To ensure that you will be listed on the **2026 LSFYC Membership Roster**, please send your check for **\$150.00** to:

**LSFYC, 233 Marina Dr. , Long Beach, Cal 90803**

**-OR-**

**Pay via Zelle at: [lsfyclb@gmail.com](mailto:lsfyclb@gmail.com)**

To be sure the Roster will list your current information, please indicate current address, E-mail address, phone numbers, spouse name, boat type and name, slip location, and indicate if you are looking for crew or want to crew.

***Thank you for your continued support...***

***Robert Hughes***

*Treasurer, LSFYC*



## Steve Dunlap & Meghan Fabulous...the adventure begins!

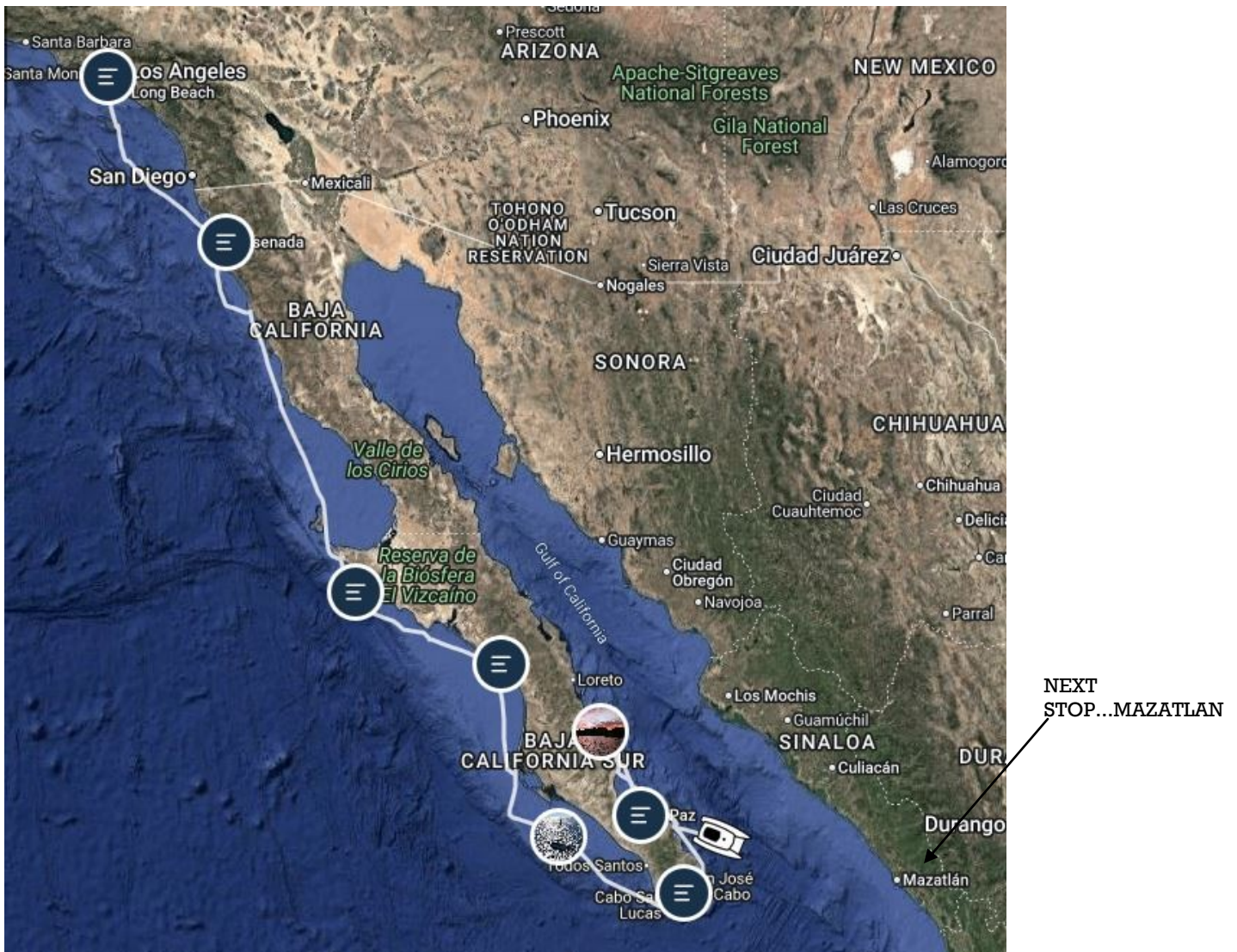
Already 30 days into their 5 year trans oceanic cruise thru the world, LSFYC's **Steve Dunlap**, **Meghan** and the 2 pugs, have traveled on the Lagoon 450S catamaran *Some Tuesday* from Marina del Rey down the coast of Baja California, around the tip at Cabo San Lucas, back up into the Gulf of California to La Paz. The journey has been a dream come true as they have gunkholed from coves and bays along the coast enjoying the superb weather condition of fair winds and following seas.

Click on links below to follow the adventure...

<https://www.youtube.com/@SailingSomeTuesday>

<https://www.instagram.com/SailingSomeTuesday>

<https://www.predictwind.com/tracking/SV-SomeTuesday>



## Frank & Lara Franco's Rhine River Cruise

Some time ago, Lara and I had just returned from a 2 1/2 week cruise down the **Rhine & Mosel** rivers in northern Europe.

Although the weather was chilly, we had packed accordingly which allowed us to be in some comfort outdoors. The boat interior, of course, was warm and toasty.

After landing in **Brussels**, Belgium, we were bussed to the major port of **Antwerp** where we picked up the river boat *River Harmony*, a 140 passenger 300 ft. long narrow shallow draft vessel. After stowing away our bags in the compact but comfortable cabin, we mingled with some of the other passengers and then gathered with our guides for a short evening walk into the town.

The next morning was spent on a walking tour of **Antwerp** taking in the 13th century historic sights and buildings. The evening was spent during cocktail hour then followed by fine dining. During the night, the ship moved on to the next stop of **Willemstad, Netherlands**.

At this stop, some of us were bussed to tour the Delta Works, the massive and ingenious hydro-engineering project to control the flooding from the North Sea. The Dutch for centuries have battled the sea in order to reclaim precious lands for agriculture and livestock. The afternoon was spent touring the 19 windmills of the village of **Kinderdijk** (circa 1740). That evening, the ship moved on to the next stop.

The next morning we gathered for a walking tour of 2000 year old **Nijmegen**. Heavily damaged during WWII, it was rebuilt around the untouched Dutch town center resulting in a striking contrast of architectures. That evening, the ship again moved on to the next stop.

The next day found us in **Bonn, Germany**. Founded by the Romans, it was the provisional capital of West Germany until the reunification.

Much of the day was spent touring the city, although Lara and I later took off on our own and for a 30 minute train ride to **Cologne** (Koln) to visit the majestic Gothic Cathedral of St Peter &

Mary. Construction began in 1248 and with many stops and starts was completed in 1880.

The next stop was the village of **Cochem** on the Mosel River, where we toured the rocky hilltop Reichsburg Castle, built in the 11th century. Destroyed in 1689, the castle was purchased and rebuilt in 1868 by a Berlin entrepreneur for a family summer home. It is now under the care of the city and open for tours.

Once again, the ship moved on and brought us to **Bernkastel**, one of the prettiest towns in the Mosel Valley famous for the wineries and wine!. After touring the town, the afternoon was spent sedately cruising down the river admiring the hundreds (if not thousands) of vineyards covering the hillsides on both sides of the river.

At the end of the Mosel was the town of **Trier** founded by the Romans in 15 BC. We spent the day touring the many Roman ruins and the massive basilica built by Constantine in 310 AD.

The ship then did a U-turn and headed back up the Mosel to **Zell** (founded in the 1st century). Here, Lara and I took optional tour to The Grand Duchy of **Luxembourg**, land of much \$ and many banks. The highlight was a stirring tour of the [Battle of the Bulge](#) American Cemetery & Memorial home to 1000's of American troops lost in the bloodiest battle of WWII.

At the head of the plots lies the grave of the colorful and outspoken Gen George S. Patton Jr., Commander 3rd Army. That evening we set off for the town of **Boppard**.

While in Boppard we visited the beautiful hilltop 13th century Marksburg Castle. Unchanged by war or reconstruction. Later in the day, we cruised past the 440 ft rock, the Lorelei, where ancient Germanic legend claim it was the siren who enticed sailors to destruction on the reef below the rock.

(con't next page)



## ***Rhine River Cruise (con't)***

In the morning we awoke in **Speyer**, a town founded by the Romans in 50AD that flourished in the Middle Ages. After touring the town, we were in spilt into small groups and engaged in a *Kaffeeklatsch* with local German families to sample everyday German home life. This was a very enlightening experience as we had discussed many things including events occurring in Europe and their impressions and concerns of what is occurring in the USA.

Within the next 2 days we visited **Strasbourg**, France, where we toured the wine region of Alsace with beautiful vineyards and flower decked villages. Wee stopped at the Stock park, where the long legged bird is being repopulated into the area. It was curious to see the nests on roof tops of local homes as well. We also spent time in the quaint medieval town of **Riquewihr**. The following day was spent in the forested town **Baden-Baden**, Germany, home to thermal baths since Roman times.

The final two days on the ship were spent in **Basel**, Switzerland's 2nd largest city. Making use of the streetcars, we visited the market-place and much of the medieval architecture.

Upon disembarkation from the ship, Lara and I continued on with an extended tour to **Lucerne**. Arriving by bus and after settling in at our hotel, we (and our small guided group of 10) took an afternoon tour of the lovely city set on the shores of Lake Lucerne with the backdrop of the spectacular snow covered Alps.

We then spent the next three days visiting the many architectural sights of this medieval town, touring the resort town of Rig Kaltbad high in the Alps reachable only by cable car, touring a Swiss chocolate factory, and on the last day visiting the 7,000 ft Kleine Scheidegg located in the Swiss Alps with majestic views of the snow covered Eiger North face!

No other area of Switzerland offered so much -majestic mountains, waterfalls and lakes, plus scores of charming hillside farms and villages....just like in the pictures!

This article is the short version. There was so much more we experienced, but not possible to relate on these pages. However, of the 100's of photos we took, the following are some of the highlights:



RIVER BOAT HARMONY



THE FLOWER MARKET IN HOLLAND



ONE OF MANY CASTLES ALONG THE RHINE RIVER

(con't next page)





SAUSAGES & MORE SAUSAGES IN GERMANY



ONE OF MANY PICTURESQE TOWNS IN GERMANY



STUNNING VISTAS IN SWITZERLAND



OPERATING WINDMILLS IN HOLLAND



AMERICAN CEMETERY IN LUXEMBOURG



GRAVE OF GENERAL PATTON



*"The object of war is not to die for your country but to make the other bastard die for his."*

Gen. George S. Patton, Jr.  
Commander 3rd Army



# Little Ships Fleet Yacht Club

Invites you to attend the

## *2026 Officer Installation Dinner*

*and General Membership Meeting*

Sunday, January 18

## *Boathouse on the Bay*

*190 N. Marina Dr., Long Beach, 90803*

4:00 pm for cocktails

Dinner & Ceremony to follow

RSVP Lara Arambula with your entre choice : [tkt2fly@yahoo.com](mailto:tkt2fly@yahoo.com)

Cost: \$35 pp member/spouse, \$40 pp guest

Pay via Zelle: [lsfyclb@gmail.com](mailto:lsfyclb@gmail.com)

### **MENU:**

#### **SALAD:**

##### **Traditional Caesar Salad-**

Reggiano Parmesan & Crostini

**Entre: Please select your choice and number of entres and inform Lara of same.**

##### **Angel Hair Pasta with Chicken**

Tomato Checca, Sweet Garlic, Basil & Grilled Chicken Breast

##### **Roasted Cod Provencal**

Garlic Mashed Potatoes & Caramelized Brussels Sprouts

##### **Mediterranean Pasta**

Wild Mushrooms, Artichoke Hearts, Spinach, Tomato Checca, Pine Nuts & Garlic Olive Oil

##### **Grilled Flat Iron Steak**

Topped with Mushroom Demi Glaze, Garlic Mashed Potatoes & Caramelized Brussels Sprouts

#### **DESSERT:**

Brownies & Assorted Cookies - 45 pcs



# JANUARY, 2026



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1 HAPPY NEW YEAR!	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13 LSFYC BOD MEET SHED 6:30	14	15	16	17
18 LSFYC INSTALL DINNER	19	20	21		23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31





## **2026 LSFYC Bridge**

### **OPERATIONS STAFF**

*Commodore: Dominic Arcelin*  
*Vice Commodore: Ruth De Raddo*  
*Rear Commodore: Bob Bond*  
*Treasurer: Robert Hughes*  
*Fleet Captain: Chris Layne*  
*Port Captain : Brigitte Bigham*  
*Secretary: Erica Hickey*

### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

*Jr. S/C: Lara Arambula*  
*Director: S/C Moti Cohen-Doron*  
*Director: S/C Rob Sonz*  
*Director: S/C Frank Franco*  
*Director: S/C Chris Layne*  
*Director: Elena Yuasa*  
*Director: Frank Geiger*

### **OTHER CONTACTS**

*Newsletter: S/C Frank Franco*  
*Webmaster: S/C Ben Smith*  
*Membership: Gabby & Dave Bierman*