

Three Sheets in the Wind

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE LITTLE SHIPS FLEET YACHT CLUB
(ESTABLISHED IN 1937)
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email: lsfyclb@gmail.com

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Commodore's Report

Dominic Arcelin



Hello Little Shippers...

I want to say thank you right off the bat to all of you who attended last month's Officer Installation Dinner. It was a great turnout, and I believe that fun was had by all. It was a wonderful experience to feel so welcomed into my new role.

It is also exciting to see how strong we are starting off 2026. VC **Ruth** is hosting a pre superbowl bash and chili cook off (Feb 7) that is shaping up to be an incredible event. I am so excited to see the tradition of the chili cook off returning to Little Ships. If you get a chance to take a look in our club history books you will see that they are chock full of chili cook offs. LSFYC members used to sail over to two harbors a few times a year and have a big competition to see just who had the best beans. What better way to show off your skills with chili and honor the LSFYC legacy than to compete in our first competition of 2026!

February is also the perfect time for renewing your dues if you haven't already done so. As usual, you get your parking pass after you renew. A new caveat this year is the shed access code was updated and only current members will get the code. Don't wait, renew now so you don't lose out on any time down at the shed!

Lastly, I have been working on a plan to get some new LSFYC merch for all of us to represent the club. Please let me know if there is anything in particular outside of hats, stickers, and t-shirts that you would be interested in seeing.

As always, send in your stories and tales to this newsletter and keep an eye on your email for upcoming events! Hope to see you all soon.

Dominic Arcelin
Commodore, LSFYC



Vice Commodore's Report

Ruth DeRaddo



Ahoy LSFYC Members...

What a fantastic start to 2026. The days are getting longer, the sunshine is returning, and it's the perfect time to gear up for a year filled with great events at the club.

Our 2026 Officer Installation Dinner was a highlight in January—an opportunity to welcome our new officers and staff, meet our newest members, and reconnect with longtime friends. It's the kind of evening that reminds us why this club is so special (see photos p. 6).

February 1st started out with dropping anchor at The Gaslamp and catching up with our very own **Dave Cunningham** blowing the roof off the place with his horn/jazz crew, The Derelicts. Thank you to the members who came out to support our fellow clubmate and enjoy a great afternoon of music.



FEBRUARY POTLUCK BASH!

Chili Cookoff + Pre-Super Bowl Festivities, Our first Potluck Celebration of 2026!

Get Ready for Food, Fun & Friendly Competition

CHILI COOKOFF SHOWDOWN

Bring your best chili—spicy, smoky, sweet, secret recipe magic, storebought, or semihome-made. We will have two judges to help crown the Chili Champion.

GAME ZONE

- Football Toss Challenge
- Portable Football Target Toss
- Mini competitions; bragging rights on the line

DATE: Saturday, February 7, 2026 TIME: 5:00 PM LOCATION: Little Ships Fleet Yacht Club Shed

WHAT TO BRING

- Chili, sides, snacks, or desserts
- Your pregame day spirit — wear your favorite team jersey, even if they didn't make it to the Super Bowl
- A hearty appetite

BONUS FUN

- Prizes for game winners
- PreSuper Bowl hype and team spirit

Looking forward to seeing everyone and kicking off another memorable year together. friendships, and seaworthy shenanigans together.

(see next page)

Vice Commodore's Report (con't)

Now for a little personal note — and yes, this one's just for laughs. I nautically celebrated my "21st birthday" this January (if only!) with a voyage out to Palm Springs. Along the way, we charted a course toward the Salton Sea, once the glamorous port of call for desert adventurers. Bombay Beach used to be all cocktails, waterskiing, and yacht club sparkle... now it's more "abandoned marina meets ghost ship harbor."

As we continued our expedition up toward the North Shore, we spotted their Yacht Club & Community Center — and believe it or not, the sign still proudly stands. But instead of boats bobbing at the docks, it was nothing, but calm water, quiet air, and sun bleached memories of a fleet long gone.



Membership Dues Reminder

It's that time again — LSFYC membership dues for 2026 are now due. \$150 may be paid by:
Check: LSFYC 233 Marina Dr. Long Beach, CA 90803
OR
Zelle: lsfyclub@gmail.com

Let's keep growing our Little Ships Fleet Yacht Club and continue making memories.

P.S. The club is now looking to pass on the excitement of creating and publishing this newsletter. If you are interested, please email: lsfyclub@gmail.com

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

Ruth DeRaddo
Vice Commodore LSFYC



Rear Commodore's Report

Bob Bond



Let the good times keep rolling!...

Thank you so much to everyone at LSFYC, and especially to Jr. Staff Commodore **Lara Arambula** for an amazing 2025!

In 2023, then Rear Commodore Lara Arambula invited and sponsored Alyssa and I to join LSFYC. We enjoyed participating in a few events each of our first two years. When I sold my business at the end of 2024, Lara encouraged me to get more involved with LSFYC...what great advice. In 2025, I became Membership Director, participated in most LSFYC events, and had a fantastic year.

I was extremely honored at the recent LSFYC Officer Installation Dinner to receive the Commodore's Award for 2025 from Lara Arambula, our 2025 Commodore. I am very grateful to Lara for inviting me to the club, and encouraging me to get more involved. I have had tons of fun, made lots of great new friends, and I'm certainly not bored in retirement.

Thank you Lara, for all your brilliant wisdom, and for being an amazing Commodore!

I also appreciate earning and receiving the 2025 Goof Trophy. While the process of earning the award was pretty typical for me (be sure to ask me about it), Lara's presentation and epic poem about it was incredible and quite funny.



I'm also very thankful to **Dave & Gabby Bierman** for stepping up as Membership Co-Chairs this year. They are already off to a great start with 2 new members in our first month of 2026...way to go Dave & Gabby!

I'm still a little clueless as to what my new role as Rear Commodore entails this year, but that will soon change. On February 7, I will participate in a Rear Commodore Seminar sponsored by the Southern California Yachting Association (SCYA). This will be a great introduction to the role of Rear Commodore, as well as provide an opportunity to meet Rear Commodores from many other So Cal yacht clubs. I'm looking forward to learning, and sharing what I learn with the club throughout 2026.

I also look forward to seeing many of you at the February Potluck Bash on February 7 at the LSFYC Shed.

Cheers!

Bob Bond

Rear Commodore LSFYC



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: lsfy CLB@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



Membership Report, Dave Bierman

Hello Little Shippers,

My wife, Gabby Bierman, and I are excited to take on the role of Membership Directors for LSFYC this year, and we're truly honored by the opportunity to serve the club. We look forward to building strong connections with both new and longtime members and supporting the welcoming spirit that makes LSFYC so special.

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 this link to our LSFYC Membership page on our LSFYC website. Please reach out to Gabby at gabbieman@gmail.com or Dave at davebierman@gmail.com to get help with any membership information and/or onboarding.

We are pleased to share bios of two of our newest LSFYC members:

Anne Weaver – Ahoy Mateys! My husband, Steve, and I are thrilled to join LSFYC, thanks to our friends, Bob & Allyssa. We are blessed to have 3 grown sons and one grandson, so far. We have lived in Park Estates for 30 years and enjoy so many recreational activities on the water and off. We are fortunate to share interests in water skiing, snow skiing, tennis, biking, hiking, and pickleball to name a few. Steve is a retired Project Manager/Mechanical Engineer, about to embark on some consulting work, while I work in HR (for one more year). We look forward to sharing in some Club activities and making some memories with all of you.



Gordy Cox – I was introduced to the club by Steve Dunlap, with whom I have sailed the Newport to Ensenada (N2E) race many times.



By way of introduction, I am an Intriguing Bohemian, Nomadic Helicopter Pilot, Sailor, Dudeist Priest, random comedian & all round good egg. I was born in Ghana, and have travelled the world, with many a story I would be happy to share over a sundowner—and began my flying career in 1982 with the British Royal Air Force flying anti-submarine missions. I emigrated to the US in 1990 and transitioned to helicopters, flying initially in the SF bay area for 8 years, Hawaii for 7, and then nomadically on fires all over the country for the last 20 years. During that time, I also flew for IEX Helicopters out of the Queen Mary in Long Beach. I have a grown daughter and Son-in-Law who live in Utah.

Currently, I am a full-time helicopter pilot based in Redding, California. I fly on fire contracts with the US Forest Service, Cal-Fire, and other agencies, as well as power line contracts for PG&E. When I am not in the air, I am a passionate ASA and NauticEd instructor, however, I am relatively new to sailing. I enjoy organizing multi-boat flotillas worldwide, (Bahamas, Greece, Croatia, Thailand, BVI, SoC), and plan to eventually transition to full-time sailing on my Beneteau 42 CC, which I keep in San Pedro.

LSFYC Officer Installation Dinner photos

By Lucy Arambula



More Officer Installation Dinner photos



Even More Officer Installation Dinner Photos



Steve Dunlap & Meghan Fabulous...the adventure continues!

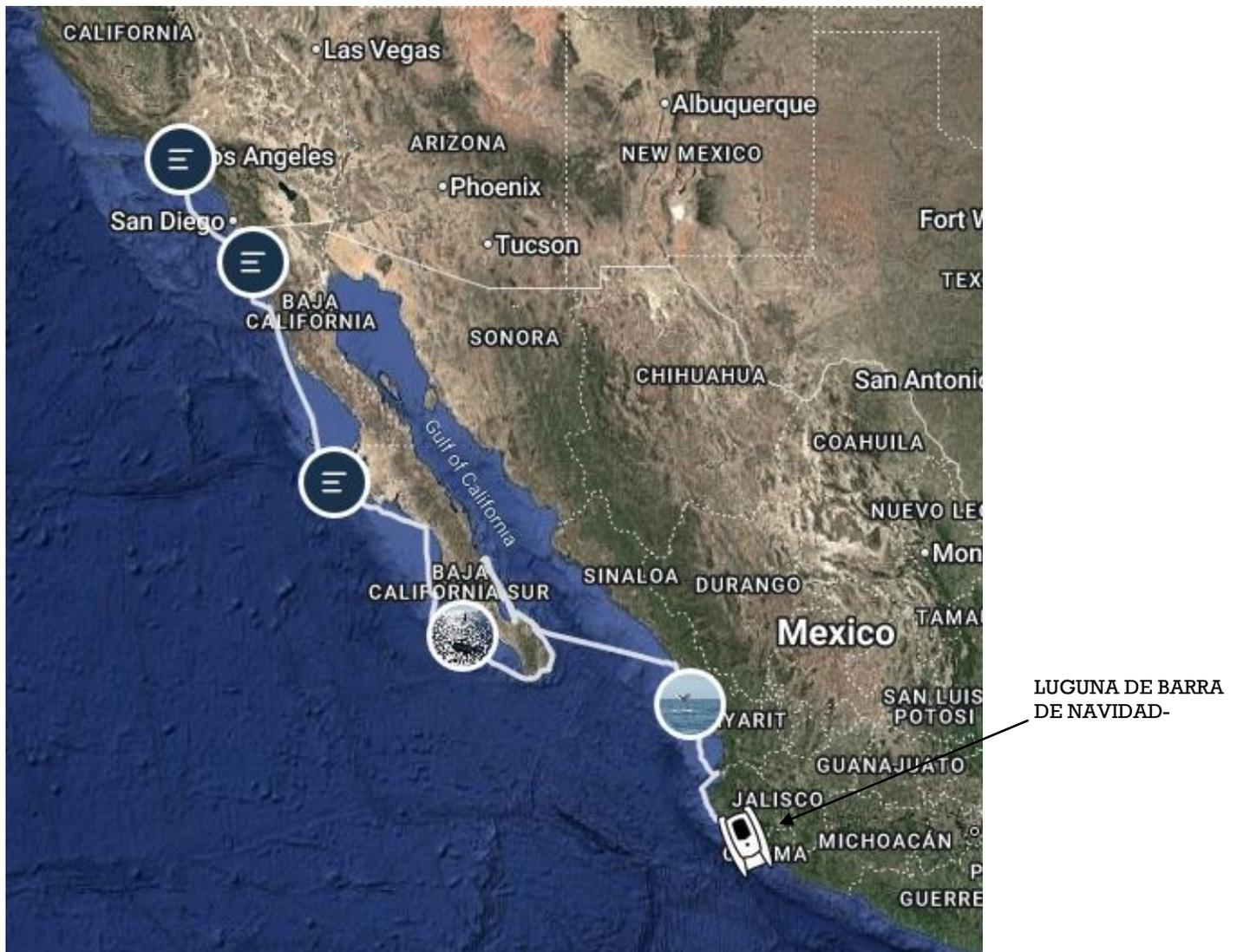
Already many days into their 5 year trans oceanic cruise thru the world, LSFYC's **Steve Dunlap, Meghan** and the 2 pugs, have traveled on the Lagoon 450S catamaran *Some Tuesday* from Marina del Rey down the coast of Baja California, around the tip at Cabo San Lucas, back up into the Gulf of California to La Paz and across the Gulf of Mexico back down the coast of Mexico. 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>



The LSFYC Goof Trophy

Prior to the construction of the new shed and amongst many of the past presented trophies collecting dust in the old LSFYC Shed, was stored a trophy that had fallen into disuse and was either forgotten or deemed no longer applicable...like an abandoned orphan. This was the historically infamous and sometimes dreaded **Goof Trophy**.

Created some time ago in the distant past, this special and unique item was to recognize, honor and embarrass a Little Shipper who had experienced a mishap, an error in judgment or just suffered a forgettable moment during a club event in a past year.

Attached to the trophy are the individual items (now long forgotten why) that represented the goof by the honored individual for that year. As an example, an attached printed circuit board represented the time a LSFer, while aboard a Committee boat during the appointed time of a race start, had blindly raised the loaded shotgun, fired and promptly blew apart the radar antenna on the boat. Certainly, a worthy candidate for the Goof award!

Along with the trophy comes the *Goof Poem*, a literary expose of the deed performed. In past, this was the domain of S/C **Bob Fickes**, whose unique ability to focus on and capture the essence of the incident led to much enjoyment while being recited at the annual LSFYC Officer Installation Dinners. After which, the Trophy was then presented to the lucky recipient.

The trophy had been inactive for some years and was sitting on a upper shelf in the far corner of the shed....forlorn, neglected, lonely and waiting. Not all members (especially newer folks) are aware of this distinguished item. So when **Moti** and **Jill Cohen-Doron** were in a cleaning frenzy during a much needed and planned dusting out of the old shed one day, not knowing the significance of what they came across and considering it as junk, promptly tossed it out the door into a waiting trash can.

Fortunately, S/C Frank Franco had happened to stop by the shed not more than 60 minutes later and upon observing the continuous stream of objects flying out the door, the first thought that came to mind was...where is the Goof trophy? He knew it was there because he had put it there some time ago. Looking inside and not seeing it, when asked "...where is the goof trophy?" The reply of " *What trophy?...everything is in the trash!*" had Frank flinging items from the trash can until trapped deep within, he saw it...staring up at him in the light of day...waiting to be rescued like an earthquake survivor.

So since then the Goof trophy has been back in play and will be waiting for some lucky Little Shipper to take possession in the current year.

So, if during any current year, you know of or witness a qualifying incident or event, do not hesitate to relay this to the Commodore!

No one is immune...see the next page.



The Goof Poem –2025

By Lara Arambula

**Once upon a night on the water so bright,
A Duffy set sail for a bar-hopping night
From Cerritos Bahia we proudly did roam,
To Seal Beach, Alamitos, Navy YC then home.**

**At Little Ships' Shed, the final hooray,
We gathered our things and called it a day.
But later that night, a panic set in.
Bob reached for his phone... and found only thin air
and his chin.**

**He checked every pocket, his jacket, the car,
Called all of us asking, "Did I leave it at a bar?"
The next morning still puzzled, he biked down with
dread,
Searching couches and counters at Little Ships' Shed.**

**No phone to be found, he headed back home,
Then checked his location... and felt hope again
bloom.
It said, "I'm still here!" so back once more he sped to
the Shed
Looked everywhere again, until one thought popped in
his head.**

**One last look around, one final decision,
He swung the fridge door open with perfect precision.
And there it was resting, cool as could be,
His smartphone inside, safe as can be.**

**Yes friends, the phone had been chilled overnight,
Resting beside beverages, safe and tight.**

**So for promoting the club with unmatched devotion,
And refrigerating technology with such commotion,
We proudly present, with laughter and cheer,
The Goof Trophy to **Bob Bond**, Goof of the Year!**





FEBRUARY, 2026



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1	2	3	4	5	6	7 LSFYC POTLUCK
8	9	10	11	12	13	14 <i>Valentine's Day</i>
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28



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: Antonia Lavender

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

Membership: Gabby & Dave Bierman

Newsletter: S/C Frank Franco

Webmaster: S/C Ben Smith