

Light Air

Newsletter of Lake Yosemite Sailing Association

February 2022



The water tower at Lake Yosemite was used to regulate the flow of Merced's drinking water before the City of Merced drilled its first well in 1917. This photo was taken in 1909. Photo from the Merced County Courthouse Museum Collection.

OUR LAKE YOSEMITE

"Lake Yosemite, despite its vast shores and native sands is entirely man-made, right down to the splendid beach you might call your summer home away from home.

The water, of course, rests in an artificial reservoir that once provided the city of Merced with its drinking water, but now serves as the lifeblood of this area's ag industry.

What might come as a surprise is the fact that the sand for the main beach at Lake Yosemite was hauled from the Merced River in Cressey by a team of Works Progress Administration workers.

The local WPA program also created restroom facilities, new

piers, diving boards, floats, outdoor barbecue pits and "the finest horseshoe court in the state," according to the May 25, 1939 edition of the Merced Express newspaper.

The work took nine months and cost an estimated \$64,748...

Nearly 3,000 people turned out to the grand opening of the lake on May 30, 1939. Local attorney H.K. Landram led an opening ceremony, according to the newspaper, and noted the 'spiritual uplift it will provide in offering a place to rest and relax after a day of hard work.'"

Retrieved 1/31/22 from <https://livingnewdeal.org/projects/lake-yosemite-merced-ca/>

**Lake Yosemite
Sailing Association**

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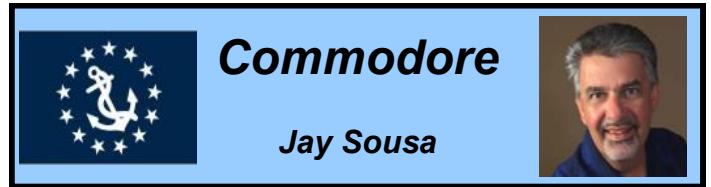
Submissions:

Deadline is the 22nd of each month

Submit with LYSA in the Subject Line

to Chris Martin:

chrissybea@comcast.net



I hope that the first month of 2022 was kind to you and your family and you all were able to stay a step ahead of the Covid virus!

As we head into February, and with the holidays behind us, the days are getting longer and we can begin to think about warm days at the lake and sailing. It is at this time of the year that I start thinking about all of the projects that I have to do on our Catalina 22. Let me tell you the list grows every spring! Maybe this will be the year that I get at least a few of them done! I am betting many of you can relate.

Out of fears of Covid we cancelled our January in person meeting and switched it to an online Zoom meeting. It actually went pretty well and we got a lot of things done.

We voted in two new club members, profiles of these new members will be in our March newsletter.

Thom Grimaldi is working on drawings of a stage/ deck area to be built in the yard that he is hoping to unveil during our February meeting.

Norm and Jerry have a lot of exciting club events planned. We discussed the possible return of the LYSA regatta in May and the open house/shrimp feed in June.

Kendall will be reaching out for help on some dock workdays.

We also had some discussion about our newsletter, LightAir. We, as a board will be working hard to get it out in a more timely manner. Another thing we talked about regarding the

(Commodore, Continued on page 3)



Vice Commodore
Thom Grimaldi




House Captain
Debbie Harden



Happy New Year Sailors! Hope the New year is treating you well and you're remaining healthy.

We have clubhouse improvements planned for the coming year that should make what is already a great place to enjoy even better. Providing approval, we will be building a small deck / stage for use during regattas or if we have live music like we have had in the past. We will also be adding a permanent fire pit to enjoy standing near on the cool nights.

We could use some help doing this so if it all works out, and you have any construction experience, it will be great to have you there.

Let's hope for a full lake all season and lots of fun activities.

Cya on the water!

Everything is going fine at the Clubhouse. The weather has been cold in the mornings and warm in the afternoons—perfect for hanging out at the Clubhouse patio.

Always thank you to Craig Anderson for the great job he does for our House & Yard.

Another month closer to Opening Day! Just counting down the days until our sailing season starts again.

It has been brought to my attention that we are still having issues with the back door (the one closest to the lake). I will get out there to take a look.

If you notice anything else that needs attention, please text Debbie @209.777.4655

(Commodore, Continued from page 2)

newsletter is to make sure members know that you are encouraged to submit any sailing related content (stories and photos) that relate to our club. The deadline is the 22nd of the month for the next month. Email submissions to Chris at chrisbea@comcast.net

All in all it was a very Collegial meeting which I suspect would be the norm throughout the year.

Our February meeting is scheduled for Tuesday February 8th. Hopefully we can meet in person. Craig and Megan Anderson have graciously offered their home as a meeting spot. I will be sending out some emails with address, times etc.



Membership Meeting

Join us in February!

At Craig & Megan Anderson's home
3362 E. Olive Avenue, Merced

Tuesday, February 8th
6:30 pm Social, 7 pm Membership Meeting
Board Meeting to follow

Observing COVID-19 safety guidelines





Race Captain

Rachel Hadley



Ahoy Sailors!

Given that I have nothing else to talk about, I thought I'd share some interesting thoughts... At least I found them interesting, and hope you'll find them interesting as well:

We all know that the moon waxes to the East (the less round side faces East) and wanes to the West (the less round side faces West), but do y'all know that besides the 4 main phases of the moon (New, First Quarter, Full and Last Quarter) there's also the Gibbous (which describes the moon when it is more than 1/2 full, and the Crescent (when it's less than 1/2 full) phases? When we look at the moon and see whether it is facing East or West (day or night) we can tell whether it is waxing or waning, gibbous or crescent.

There's also the Blue Moon, which is recently considered the 2nd Full Moon in a calendar month, but the older reference is when there are more than 3 Full Moons in a Season (Winter, Spring, Summer and Fall). It gets a bit complicated because the 4th moon cannot be the 'Blue Moon' because the moons closest to the Equinox / Solstice (which signal the change of seasons) already have common names/ references, so the 3rd moon in a season with 4 moons is referred to as a Blue Moon – and they are much less common than a second moon in a calendar month - hence, "once in a Blue Moon" is a very uncommon occurrence (our next seasonal Blue Moon will be the 3rd full moon the summer of 2024, on August 19th).

And the last moon I'm going to talk about is the Supermoon - a Full Moon when the moon is at its closest point (perigee) to earth in its monthly orbit. There will be 2 Supermoons this year: June 14th and July 13th. An 'almost' Supermoon on May 15th will undergo a full lunar eclipse about 9:00 P.M. The biggest supermoon in the 21st Century will occur on December 6, 2052. Set your calendars now so you don't miss it!

I thought I'd also share some Racing Rules:

One of the most basic Rules: Starboard has right of way....

How do you know if you're on a Starboard Tack?

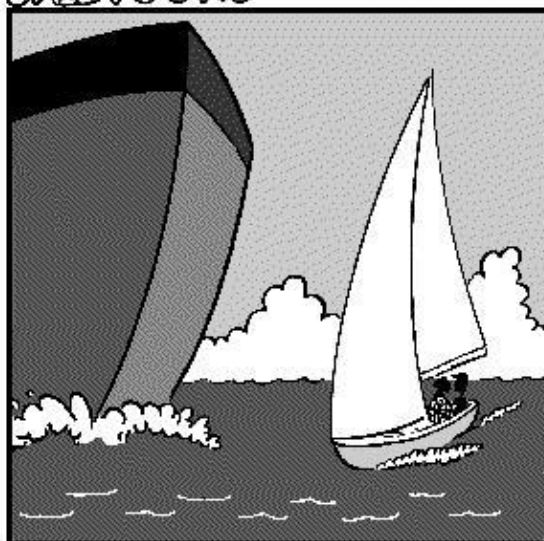
The rules define Tack, Starboard or Port: **"A boat is on the tack, starboard or port, corresponding to her windward side."** Generally, this means that if the sail is on the port side of the boat, then the boat is on a Starboard Tack... However, if the boat is sailing very close hauled and the crew holds their sail over on the port side, even though it would normally have flopped over??? That boat is on a PORT TACK because, the definition is about the **windward side**, and not about the side the sail is on.

However, this distinction is immaterial when a boat is sailing downwind 'on the lee' (the wind is coming from the same side of the boat as the sail is on) **if** the boat is successfully maintaining the sail on the Port side (on Starboard Tack) **without** the external force of a crewmember holding it there (or a preventer holding it there). Under those circumstances, they are considered to be on a STARBOARD TACK. Of course it's pretty scary (and sometimes disastrous) when the wind nabs that sail and violently flings it over to the windward side... JIBING!!!!


Fair winds, my friends!

SAILTOONS



by Michael Malzone



Don't worry... according to the rules they have to give way to us.



Cruise/Social Capt.
Jerry Johnson

Cruise/Social Capt.
Norm Martin



“May your heart be light and happy, may your smile be big and wide, and may your pockets always have a coin or two inside!” – *Proverb*

The Irish do have a way with words.

We will celebrate St. Patrick’s Day Saturday, March 12, at the clubhouse. The event will be from 3-6 p.m., with corned beef and cabbage served at 4:30 p.m. Start thinking about an appetizer or side dish you would like to bring. Proverbs, limericks and stories are encouraged.

As the date draws near, we will ask for RSVPs.

We also are planning some other exciting events. Here is a tentative list:

- April - Opening Day Seafood Boil
- May - Regatta
- June - Breakfast and Shrimp Feed
- July - Breakfast
- August - Breakfast
- December - Christmas dinner and party
- Ongoing - Thursday evening dinners following race activities, May-August.
- In discussion - Portuguese sopas dinner

Like last month, we remain mindful of providing opportunities for safe gatherings during this time of covid, thus our “events calendar” remains fluid.

Share your ideas with us and think about volunteering to help us.

We encourage you to bring guests to events. Let’s share our love of sailing and fellowship.

Upcoming Events

(Proposed—Subject to change due to Covid restrictions.)

For information on events, check Latitude 38’s racing guide.

Monthly LYSA Member/Board Meetings: 2nd Tuesday of each month
6 pm Social, 6:30 pm Meeting

March, 2022

- 8 LYSA Member/Board Meeting
- 12 St. Patrick’s Day at the Lake—3 to 6 pm, dinner at 4:30 pm
- 12-13 RYC Big Daddy Regatta
- 26 OYC Rites of Spring Regatta

April, 2022

- 12 LYSA Member/Board Meeting
- LYSA Opening Day—Seafood Boil
- 55th FLYC Camellia Cup Regatta
- Make A Wish Event
- Livingston Kite Festival—8:30 to 4
- Strictly Sail Pacific, Richmond

May, 2022

- 10 LYSA Member/Board Meeting
- 12 LYSA Thursday Night Summer Racing begins, Dinner to follow
- LYSA Spring Regatta

June, 2022

- 14 LYSA Member/Board Meeting
- LYSA Thursday Night Summer Racing Series, Dinner to follow
- GCYC—Go for the Gold
- SSC Delta Ditch Run
- LYSA Dick Gardner Memorial, 1st Day of Summer
- Open House/Shrimp Feed

July, 2022

- LYSA Thursday Night Summer Racing Series, Dinner to follow
- Junior Sailing
- Special Needs Sailing Day

August, 2022

- Junior Sailing
- 25 LYSA Summer Series, Final Race / Awards TBD
- Junior Regatta

September, 2022

- Labor Day: Take a worker sailing
- Sea Scouts Appreciation

October, 2022

- Fleet Week SF Bay
- OYC Oktoberfest Regatta
- End of Year Party - Awards / Election
- RYC Great Pumpkin Regatta

November, 2022

- LYSA Member/Board Budget Meeting

December, 2022

- Christmas Party

January, 2023

- Merced Running Club’s Fog Jog / Annual Meeting

February, 2023

- LYSA Member/Board Meeting
- Super Bowl—Event TBD
- Slip Fees due

Dates are To Be Determined. Subject to change.




Treasurer
Diane Sousa




Hello everyone, I hope the holidays treated everyone well. You will be receiving your invoices for the 2022 club dues and slip fees soon. Club dues were due by January 31st. Slip fees are due by February 28th.

Please mail your payment to LYSA, P O Box 3994, Merced CA 95344 and include any changes to your address, phone numbers and email to update our records.



Secretary
Chris Martin



LYSA Membership Meeting Call to Order: A meeting of the LYSA Membership was held on January 11, 2022 via Zoom. The meeting convened at 7:06 pm.

Reports - Actions - Discussions: Commodore, Jay Sousa: Jay welcomed members to the meeting. Invited Board Members to report.

Approval of Minutes: Minutes read by Chris Martin. **Motion:** Moved by Craig Anderson to approve minutes, **Second** by Thom. **Motion carried.**

Commodore, Jay Sousa: Offered to move introduction of New Members up in the agenda.

Mike Boykin, Sponsor Rachel Hadley. Mike would like to get back into sailing and racing. Interested in Thursday night races.

Kim Garner and Mitch Van Actin (sp), Sponsor Peg Larson. Kim was at the UC for many years, now at the El Capitan. Do not own a boat. Interested in learning to sail and in using Club kayaks.

Vice Commodore, Thom Grimaldi: Thom would like to work with Dennis to build a stage. Jay – there are Club Improvement monies available. To be discussed further at the Board Meeting.

Treasurer, Diane Sousa: No report. Membership fee notices are going out. Diane will reimburse George, Jerry and Rachel for expenses.

Dock Captain, Kendall Nightengale: Invited members to do a walk-through to see what needs to be done. Beam at front gate should be repaired, for example. Need a

plan, need to determine who will help. Need to complete the work by April, so that leaves February and March to complete any needed work. Suggested this Saturday to walk the docks. Rachel suggested Kendall make a FB post to invite people to come at a specific time and date.

Deb suggested reaching out to slip holders, and to work with Members who have expertise before we have a big crowd of volunteers show up at the dock.

House Captain, Deb Harden: No report. Everything is going well with the house.

Cruise / Social Committee, Jerry Johnson / Norm Martin: Jerry: would like to be involved with Regatta planning. Events: Portuguese sopas meal, brunch, St. Patrick's Day corned beef and cabbage. Opening Weekend in May Jerry would like to do a seafood boil. During the Board Meeting we will discuss the calendar / dates.

Race Captain: Rachel Hadley: Looking to start races on the Thursday (May 12th) after Mother's Day, the Regatta will be the following weekend (May 14-15th).

Will ask for help on Opening Day / Saturday to launch the buoys. Dates to be further discussed at the Board Meeting.

Junior Sailing, Matt Loeffler: Not present.

Sea Scouts: Not present.

Old Business: The Christmas Party was a great event. Santa Claus and Ms. Claus were a hit.

Craig will repair the Committee Boat, there is a chunk out of it. He will fill in the dings.

Deb asked about the leak under the front sidewalk, Craig and Thom are working on this.

New Business: None.

Good of the order: Mike Strealay's Mom passed away last week. A card will be sent.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned. After a brief break, the Board Meeting was convened.

LYSA Board Meeting Call to Order: A regular meeting of the LYSA Board was held on January 11, 2022.

The meeting convened at 8:00 pm, Commodore Jay Sousa presiding.

Members in attendance: Members of the Board in attendance: Commodore: Jay Sousa, Vice-Commodore: Thom Grimaldi, Secretary: Chris Martin, Treasurer: Diane Sousa, House Captain, Deb Harden, Dock Captain: Kendall Nightengale, Cruise/Social Captain: Jerry Johnson / Norm Martin, Racing Captain, Rachel Hadley.

New Members:

Mike Boykin—**Motion:** Moved by Jerry Johnson to approve membership, and **Second** by Rachel Hadley. **Motion carried.**

Kim Garner— **Motion:** Moved by Jerry Johnson to approve membership, and **Second** by Thom Grimaldi. **Motion carried.**

Discussion items:

Club Calendar – Events and Racing –

Sketch out the first part of the summer and push out dates to Club Members. Discussion: outreach should be across several channels (Facebook, email, WhatsApp,

Remind, etc.) Jerry suggested a FB post to remind Members to check their email / spam folders.

Diane – box on invoice asking Members to update contact information. Jay asked Jerry and Norm to calendar some dates and get them out to Membership.

Discussed dates: Regatta 5/14, Jay will contact County Parks & Rec for the 13th-15th for camping. Discussed Opening Day (end of April, first of May) and water levels at the Lake. Jay and Jerry will coordinate and take care of contacting the County to make arrangements / planning.

Regatta and Open House – Discussion on shrimp feed. Jay - It is a lot of work but brings in income. Possibly move Open House out to June. One issue would be if the Health Department would issue a permit due to Covid. Jay's concern is holding two events within a month. We will revisit this in February.

Newsletter deadlines – The deadline is the 22nd of the month. Having articles sent in before or on the 22nd allows Chris to produce the newsletter over one or two weekends before the end of the month.

We are happy to receive guest articles. Deb suggested Board Members reach out to a specific Member to ask them to share their sailing related experiences.

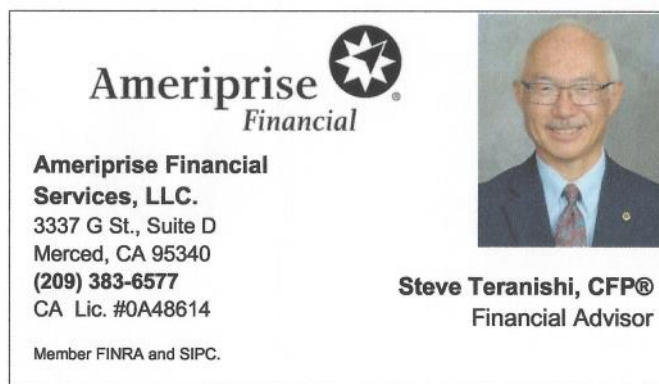
Club improvements – Thom had some ideas:

Work with Dennis Pellissier to build a stage with a roof in the corner where the kayaks are stored. Build a retaining wall where the dirt is to build a fire pit area.



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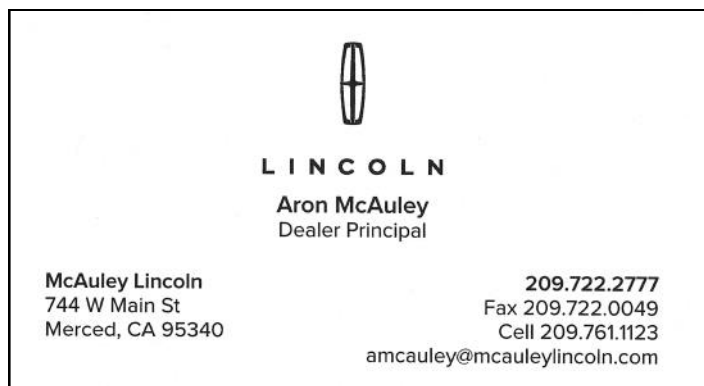
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Deb suggested Thom put together a proposal to be presented in February. Diane shared Dock balance.

Jerry made a motion to begin planning, second by Rachel. After some discussion the motion was withdrawn.

Thom will put a proposal together, the Board will discuss before the next meeting.

Dock work – Not discussed.

New Member procedures – Ensure that policy / New Member orientation carries over from year to year.

Jay suggested we revisit this topic next month. Jay will contact the new members and will set up a time to onboard the new members.

Old Business - None

New Business – Kendall to review website at our next meeting

Good of the Order - None

Adjournment: The next LYSA Board meeting will be held following the Membership meeting, Tuesday, February 8, 2022. Location Craig Anderson’s home. 6:00 Social, General Meeting at 6:30 pm. Board Meeting to follow.

Motion: Moved by Thom to adjourn, second by Diane.
Motion carried. Board meeting was adjourned at 9:10.

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