

# Light Air

Newsletter of Lake Yosemite Sailing Association

March 2023

## Happy St. Patrick's Day



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# Lake Yosemite Sailing Association

P.O. Box 3994, Merced, CA 95340

## Club Officers

**Commodore: Thom Grimaldi**

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**Secretary: Chris Martin**

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**Treasurer: Diane Sousa**

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dsousa@stappcpa.com

**Port Captain: Lee McDonough**

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**House Captain: Debbie Harden**

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debra-harden@comcast.net

**Cruise/Social Captain: Tami Davidson**

(209) 564-7290  
209diva@gmail.com

**Racing Captain: Tom Cooke**

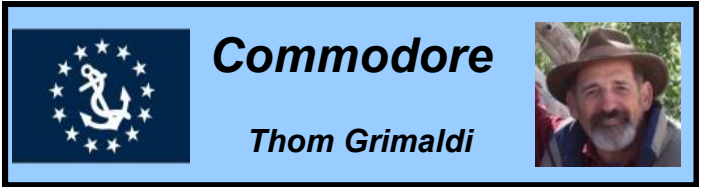
(209) 769-4163  
tcookeatty1@yahoo.com

**Submissions:**

**Deadline is the 22nd of each month**

**Submit with LYSA in the Subject Line**

to Chris Martin:  
chrissybea@comcast.net



Happy to see February's weather patterns continue with rain and snow. A nice change from the last few years of drought!

With all the rain and current snowpack in the mountains, we should have a full lake and consistent water levels. I believe March 1; water will once again be filling the lake.

With the water levels we will be seeing this year, our Spring Regatta is slated for the weekend after Mother's Day. This has proven to be one of the best events around for racing and in previous years and has attracted sailors from all over Central California and coastal areas.

For those of you new to the Club, the racers start arriving for this event Friday eve and it will extend through both Saturday and Sunday. On Saturday eve, we barbecue a nice dinner that in the past has proven to be a huge success for racers and club members.

If you haven't raced in the past and thought about doing so, this would be a great opportunity for you to start. It's a lot of fun and if you're new to racing, it's a great learning experience. It will improve your sailing skills.

### **We will need your help!**

For the Regatta to be a success we will need people to help with registration, cooking / barbecuing, race committee and chase boats.


If you would like to help with any part of the event, please contact myself or any member of the board.

Another event that will return this year will be our annual shrimp feed. This event has also proven to be a popular one with large attendance. I believe we decided on September for this so more on this will be posted in the coming months.


Special thanks to those who were a part of last year's Board. You all did a great job!

We have a great team on the Board this year and some returning from last year's Board so we should expect to see a lot of fun events for this year!

Regards, Commodore Thom



**Vice Commodore**  
**Dan Aleman**



Hello to all... I must say that I am very excited that Daylight Saving Time is finally upon us. This time of year always brings me energy and joy.

I hope everyone enjoyed their Valentine's Day with a loved one or a friend.

To celebrate Valentine's Day and Janet's B-day, we took a drive to Morro Bay, Pismo and Santa Barba-

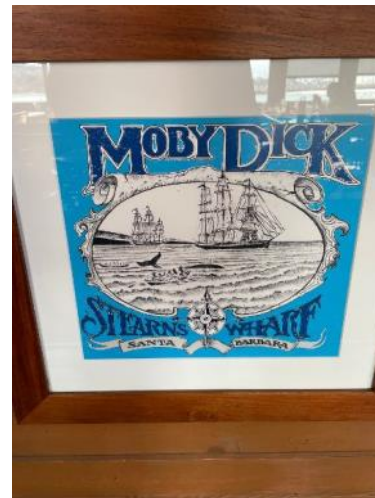



ra... It was beautiful and we got to see this cute sea lion hanging out sun bathing on the rocks in Morro Bay.


We visited Sterns Wharf in Santa Barbara for the first time and enjoyed walking around the surrounding areas

Visiting the coast and experiencing all the recent rainfall has made us very excited about the upcoming sailing season.

Looking forward to seeing everyone out at the lake and my new opportunities to help represent our wonderful Club.


**Port Captain**  
**Lee McDonough**



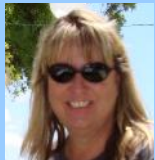
With February behind us, we have but a few months left before our usual season starts.

There is a new person in charge of the lake water and I am opening a dialogue with him about what we do.

Current report is we will have water for a regatta this season! Barring any unforeseen issues of course.



**Treasurer**  
**Diane Sousa**



Hi everyone, hope 2023 is treating you well.

Club dues and slip fee invoices have been sent out. If you haven't received your invoices for the 2023 fees, please let me know. Please mail your payment to LYSA, P O Box 3994, Merced CA 95344. Make sure that you complete the contact info on the invoice if there have been any changes to your address, phone numbers and email. This will help us keep you aware of any upcoming events or water levels on the docks. If you are not renewing your membership or slip fee, please return the invoices with a note and your keys. -- See you at the lake.

**Membership Meeting**

**Join us in March!**

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

**Tuesday, March 14th**

6 pm *Dinner*, 7 pm *Membership Meeting*  
*Board Meeting to follow*





**House Captain**  
**Debbie Harden**




Spring is around the corner, but as I write this, the weather is cold and rainy! I don't have much to say because in all honesty, I haven't been out to the lake in months & I haven't received any alerts that we have a problem. Hooray!


I spent a month in warm Puerto Rico and then re-



turned home to have a back surgery from which I am now recovering, My sister from Texas is here taking care of me and I am doing well. Just no bending, lifting, twisting, driving, etc. for a bit. I have great excuses for not being at the lake since last year! All that said, if YOU are at the lake and notice something that



**Cruise/Social Capt.**  
**Tami Davidson**



Join is for The LYSA St. Patrick's Day Dinner Saturday March 18th from 4-8 pm.

We are excited that Craig Anderson and his crew will prepare a delicious meal of corned beef, cabbage, potatoes and carrots. Matt Loeffler will be baking fresh Irish soda bread. Bret DeShazer and Kori Smith will host shenanigans and games. And Clara Tresos will have Leprechaun Punch available for all.

Make sure to RSVP early for your friends and family at <https://bit.ly/3KOPny1>

Hope to see you there!!

needs my attention, please text or call 209.777.4655.

While in Puerto Rico, we went to the fort in Old San Juan. My son, Jacob and his beautiful wife, Patrice were with us for a week. He took this great shot of the cannon and sail boat.

See you at the lake, when the weather is warmer and drier!



**Annual  
St. Patty's Day Dinner!**

**March 18th  
4-8 pm**



**Corned Beef  
and  
Cabbage**



**Bring a side or  
dessert**



RSVP by March 10th at <https://bit.ly/3KOPny1>



**Race Captain**  
**Tom Cooke**



We've had plenty of rain this new year, and it bodes well for a full sailing season. We usually put our boats in around May 1st and begin racing the next week. Since May 1 is on a Sunday, I expect most of us will have our boats in on the next weekend of May 6. I would like to begin races on May 11 and run 18 races each Thursday at 6:30 pm through the summer until our last race on September 7.


As I have previously mentioned, the race courses for this year will be the same as last year's. The entry fee for racing will remain at \$20 dollars.

I am looking for volunteers to set the marks during the first week of May. Please call me if you're able help.

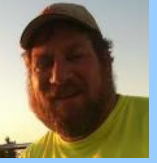
The Board is contemplating holding our Regatta on May 20 and 21st. I hope as many members as possible will step up and participate in our Regatta. Racing is a great way to hone your sailing skills.

During the Regatta we will need two (2) motorboats on the water during each race. If anyone has access to a motorboat, please let me know.

I look forward to a great racing season this year and hope to see you all at the lake.



**Guest Columnist**  
**Richard Kleitman**



Sea Scout Ship 99 is hosting a pre Easter, Pre Passover Bagel Brunch at the Clubhouse on Sunday April 2<sup>nd</sup> from 10 am to 1 pm. The cost is \$10.00 per person. We will serve brunch with juice and coffee. (If you want to have mimosas you welcome to bring your own Champagne. The Sea Scouts will not be serving any, this is a youth event after all). RSVP by email to [erkarkdad@gmail.com](mailto:erkarkdad@gmail.com) if you would like to attend.

Sea Scout Ship 99 has rechartered for another year. We have six Sea Scouts registered and are looking for more. Anyone aged 14-22 is invited.

We meet on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of the month and plan to race every Thursday during the LYSA race season.

Recently, we held a "Knot Christmas Party" for Merced Cub and Boy Scouts and are planning a Monday Mystery Movie, the Seafarer's Sea Scout Regatta in Martinez on April 1<sup>st</sup> and our Brunch the next morning. Congratulations to our new officers, Mikayla H is our new Boatswain, Tiffany C is our new Boatswains Mate. Fair Seas and Following winds to all LYSA sailors.

## 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, 7 pm Meeting, Board Meeting follows

### March, 2023

- 14 LYSA Member/Board Meeting
- 18 St. Patrick's Day at the Lake  
RYC Big Daddy Regatta  
OYC Rites of Spring Regatta

### April, 2023

- 2 Sea Scouts Bagel Brunch
- 11 LYSA Member/Board Meeting  
**LYSA Opening Day**  
55th FLYC Camellia Cup Regatta  
Make A Wish Event  
Livingston Kite Festival—8:30 to 4  
Strictly Sail Pacific, Richmond

### May, 2023

- LYSA Member/Board Meeting
- LYSA Thursday Night Summer Racing begins, Dinner to follow
- 19-21 LYSA Spring Regatta

### June, 2023

- LYSA Member/Board Meeting
- GCCY—Go for the Gold
- SSC Delta Ditch Run

### July, 2023

- 4 BBQ at the Clubhouse  
LYSA Thursday Night Summer Racing Series, Dinner to follow  
Junior Sailing  
Special Needs Sailing Day

### August, 2023

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

### September, 2023

- Labor Day: Take a worker sailing
- Sea Scouts Appreciation
- End of Season Dinner and Awards

### October, 2023

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

### November, 2023

- LYSA Member/Board Budget Meeting

### December, 2023

- Christmas Party

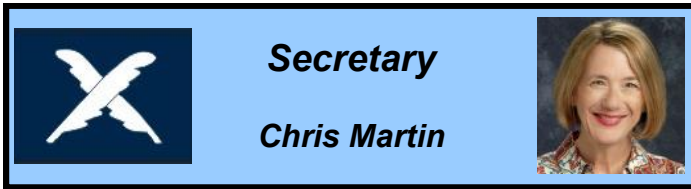
### January, 2024

- LYSA Member/Board Meeting

### February, 2024

- Super Bowl
- Slip Fees due

**Dates are To Be Determined. Subject to change.**



**LYSA Membership Meeting Call to Order:** A meeting of the LYSA Membership and Board was held on February 14, 2023 at Round Table Pizza on Olive Avenue in Merced. The meeting convened at 7:15 pm.

**Reports - Actions - Discussions: Commodore, Thom Grimaldi:** Welcomed members to the meeting. Invited Board Members to report.

**Approval of Minutes:** Minutes are published in the Newsletter, Members can read and review the minutes in advance of the meeting. No comments or corrections. Minutes approved by acclamation.

**Commodore, Thom Grimaldi:** Shared plans for next year: Work on the fence around yard, Deck / firepit area, Shrimp Feed, Regatta (may be later in the year, Board will discuss date. Tradition has been after Mother's Day)

**Vice Commodore, Dan Aleman:** Dan asked about the Regatta. Tom explained that there is support for Dan in planning this. Jerry suggested to keep it the weekend after Mother's Day. It will interfere with St. Francis. Dan – goal is to get more of our members involved in sailing. Maybe there is interest since we haven't had a Regatta for several years.

Chris mentioned that there is a binder for both the Shrimp Feed and the Regatta. Discussion on where the binders are and how helpful they are in planning these events.

Tami asked about a Regatta Open House. Discussed showcasing our Club. Thom discussed 1x/month events. Tom suggested Race Nights are good events that bring Members out.

**Treasurer, Diane Sousa:** Reviewed Treasurer's report.

**Dock Captain, Lee McDonough:** Water will be let in starting on March 1. Levels should be good this year. We should have water for the Regatta. Lee has given our Regatta dates to Mike and Jarrid (the new guy in charge of water) at MID. Mike has passed that along and Lee am awaiting a response from Jarrid. Lee will call. We should be good on that end, he will be sure to follow up a month, week and few days before hand to see how things are going.

Discussed dock work to be done: finger is slipping off the piling, structural pieces and tie-ins need to be replaced. Consulted with Kendall about portion near where the race team sits may be rotting. Will get an email out for a dock work weekend. Will try to complete some additional pressure washing. Tom Cooke asked about screws that are lifting. Lee said he would do it or ask Sea Scouts. Thom sug-

gested if Members see something like this, they take care of it.

**House Captain, Deb Harden:** Not present.

**Cruise / Social Committee, Tami Davidson:** Will have many amazing events. Hope everyone will invite friends and family. St. Patrick's dinner planned Saturday, March 18 from 4 to 8 pm.

Jerry shared in the past LYSA was active, for example, cruising from Moss Landing to Monterey, to Don Pedro, etc. Tami doesn't have to do it alone, be a cheerleader.

**Race Captain: Tom Cooke:** Courses same this year as last year. Looking for crew to place marks, 3-4 people, sometime in April. Asked for volunteers to step up. Marks will stay in all season.

Looking for people to call the Regatta. Asked for volunteers. Dates to be determined.

**Junior Sailing, Matt Loeffler:** Not present.

**Junior Sailing:** Not present.

**Sea Scouts:** Not present.

**Old Business:** None.

**New Business:** None.

**Good of the order:** Jay Sousa – mentioned he had to travel to Ventura, called the Ventura Yacht Club and asked about space in the parking lot where guests could stay. Reciprocal agreement between clubs. Swapped Burgees. Great view of the water. They were very accommodating, did not charge. Craig suggested Jay write a short blurb about this for the Newsletter.

**Adjournment:** The next LYSA Membership meeting will be held Tuesday, March 14, location TBD. 6:00 Social, General Meeting at 7:00 pm. Board Meeting to follow.

**Motion:** Moved by Jerry to adjourn, second by Craig. **Motion carried.** Membership meeting was adjourned at 7:45.

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**LYSA Board Meeting Call to Order:** A regular meeting of the LYSA Board was held on February 14, 2023.

The meeting convened at 7:55 pm. Commodore Thom Grimaldi presiding.

**Members in attendance:** Members of the Board in attendance: Commodore: Thom Grimaldi; Vice-Commodore: Dan Aleman; Secretary: Chris Martin; Treasurer: Diane Sousa; Dock Captain: Lee McDonough; Cruise/Social Captain: Tami Davidson; Racing Captain, Tom Cooke. Not present: House Captain, Deb Harden.

**New Members:** Tami asked Thom to call Wayne and Robin McMillan, they've been interested in becoming members



for months. Diane has called and left a message. Sent a check in October, haven't come to a meeting. Tami and Diane spoke about this, we would deposit the check in January. Check is not cashed until they are voted in.

Tom Cooke suggested to invite them to the next meeting, and they can be voted in. He is retired, she is a medical biller. They have a Ranger 22 at Bullard's Bar Marina. No Sponsor. They were not invited to a meeting. There was a conversation about having them wait until January since it was so late in the year. Lee pointed out there was no meeting last month.

Lee asked about a check and application from Adam Stratton, a friend from Matt. Diane – they came in at the end of last year to her office and decided they would travel instead and wanted their check back.

**Discussion items:** Dates:

Regatta May 19, 20, 21; discussed food, continental breakfast, lunch, Saturday night is dinner; ordered on their entry fees documents. T-shirts – do we need to buy new ones? Mostly XL are there. They are undated. Thom will count the shirts. We will need a swag bag for participants.

Discussed dates for Open House. September.

Dan discussed – we want it to be a big event. 9/16, we still have water. Need to get the banner out and have the date changed. Diane will apply to have it hung on G Street, apply for insurance. Tickets discussed. Permits.

Chris will send Tom's planning document to Board.

Thom and Tom suggested trip to Huntington, if this is planned it needs to be reserved by 4/1.

Christmas Party: hold it at the Italo, Thom will reserve Friday December the 8<sup>th</sup>.

Discussed RSVP Google Form to tighten numbers / buy the proper amount of food for guests.

**Social:** Social ideas: Pirate's Day, dress boats like pirate ships, have judging. Floating boats out of recyclables and having a short regatta around the docks, ex: milk cartons. Human powered. Hot dog dinner afterward. Thom suggested to work around Regatta and Open House. Diane suggested Tami delegate to others.

Thom - Christmas party was good. Asked if we lost or made money, discussed expenses: Jerry hired music, the Italo was \$400, \$2600 to the Italo for food, decorations were purchased. Suggestions: Pictures with Santa took way too much time. Discussed the time involved with the pictures and gift exchange. Take pictures with Santa during Social Hour. Hire a DJ and playlist. Tami requested we omit the Ugly Christmas Sweater contest and suggested to make it a more formal evening, Commodore's Ball.



**Work:** Tom shared Docks / Fence work needs to be done this year. Dan asked about list of repairs Kendall outlined. Said work needs to be done in front of Dan's slip. Lee explained that part will need a stitch on the inside, don't have a piece big enough to replace it. Lee outlined work that should be completed. Dan is willing to get a group together to fix it. Kendall moved Dan because his assigned



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slip was unsafe. He does not like floating dock, they are wiggly. Lee and Kendall are working together to make repairs.

**Old Business:**

Newsletter deadlines – send articles to Chris (at chrisseybea@comcast.net) by the 22<sup>nd</sup> of each month.

Website and Email discussed. Form on Website sends emails to LYSA's inbox. Board Members should manage emails they send / receive. Be careful about Gmail account; some items find their way into LYSA's Google Drive. It is understandable that this is confusing, it is a known issue. Visit the Drive and make sure what is there belongs there. If not, please remove it.

Inventory remaining t-shirts.

**New Business:** – None.

**Good of the Order:** – None.

**Adjournment:** The next LYSA Board meeting will be held following the Membership meeting, Tuesday, March 14, location

**Motion:** Moved by Diane to adjourn, second by Tami. **Motion carried.** Board meeting was adjourned at 8:30.

For Sale:  
2 wooden youth sailboats.  
Built for my grandchildren, they have outgrown long ago.  
Opti Pram "Capt'n Kid, built in air tanks  
Pink boat, my own design, self bailing. Opti rig.  
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