

# Light Air

Newsletter of Lake Yosemite Sailing Association

March 2022



## Dressing up the Docks

Club volunteers begin much-needed repairs, maintenance



# Lake Yosemite Sailing Association

P.O. Box 3994, Merced, CA 95340

## Club Officers

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**Racing Captain: Rachel Hadley**

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**Submissions:**

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

**Submit with LYSA in the Subject Line**

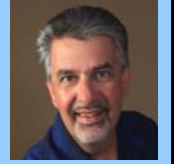
to Chris Martin:

chrissybea@comcast.net



**Commodore**

**Jay Sousa**



Docks, like boats, need maintenance and our LYSA docks at the lake are no exception. The last Saturday in February saw a great group of LYSA members working hard to insure our docks are safe and in as good of shape as possible for our 2022 sailing season.

If you missed the first workday our dock captain Kendall will be arranging a second work day this month, so watch for details.

Speaking of maintenance, it is the time of year to start thinking about boat projects. I have a list that I put together every winter with plans to spend a day or two, maybe even three getting our Catalina 22 ready for the season. Then as March rolls into April and then May and other things get in the way of my carefully made boat plans I suddenly realize that sailing season is here and I have not gotten one thing on my list done (does this sound familiar)?

Well this year is going to be different, or so I hope. Maybe this will be the spring that I really do a deep hull and deck cleaning, maybe even replace some of the old running rigging. Replacing the worn and cracked rub rail will most certainly get done this spring. I am going to spend some time getting all of the bright work scraped, sanded and re-finished.

I just ask one favor - don't judge me too harsh if I only get one or two of these items accomplished after all being Commodore is a time consuming job. Yes, this will be a good excuse if I don't get to these projects this year!

All kidding aside over the many years that Diane and I have owned boats I used to love keeping them ship-shape. Years ago we owned a beautiful Cal 34, Gypsy Soul, that we kept in Alameda. I think that I spend as many hours working on Gypsy Soul as we did sailing her on the Bay. Of course, now we don't go out on Lake Yosemite as much as we would like but we hope that this year will be different in our sparkling clean Catalina!

A big thanks to Craig and Megan Anderson for hosting our February meeting at their home. For our March 8<sup>th</sup>

*(Commodore, Continued on page 3)*



**Vice Commodore**  
**Thom Grimaldi**




**Port Captain**  
**Kendall Nightengale**




Just returned from my morning walk and the trees are blooming, spring is in the air and our sailing season will be upon us before we know it.

Now is the time to take care of needed repairs and or upgrades to your boats.


Speaking of repairs. By the time you read this we will have had a weekend of dock repairs. I was out looking them over yesterday and there's a lot to take care of. Kendall, our dock Captain, needs help so if you're able to show up for these work parties it's much appreciated. You may want to take care of any improvements to your own slip at this time.

Wow! What a great turn out at the dock workday, Saturday, February 26. There was well over 20 volunteers that came out to help perform critical repairs to the docks and clean up around the docks and house. I want to especially thank Dan (Lee McDonough's dad) for bringing his welding expertise and tools. We couldn't have done it without Dan and Lee's skilled work. I also want to thank a friend of mine, Gordon Giesbrecht, from Valley Wide Movers, for volunteering his expertise and equipment to crib up and replace the dock poles. If you ever need to move your house, he's the one to call. Thank you to Ron Stapp for making an impromptu run to buy supplies and for using his dump trailer to haul off the concrete waste. Thanks to the sledge swinging John Larson for bringing his dump trailer to haul off old metal for recycling (are you sore John?). Thanks to Thom Grimaldi and Jay Sousa for their dedication and sticking it out to the end. Hopefully, Jay didn't knock any sense out of his head thwacking it on a metal pole. If he acts off at the next meeting that might be the cause. The Sea Scouts came out in force and made their rounds on the dock screwing down loose boards and hammering escaping nails.

*(Continued on page 4)*



**Treasurer**  
**Diane Sousa**



Invoices were mailed for the 2022 club dues and slip fees. Club dues were due by January 31st. Slip fees were due by February 28th.

If you haven't, 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.

*(Commodore, Continued from page 2)*

meeting Matt and Bridgett Loeffler have offered their home. Watch for emails with their address and other details. Our April meeting will be back at our LYSA clubhouse.

Our Social Co-Captains Jerry and Norm are planning an awesome St Patrick's day feast at the club on Saturday March 12<sup>th</sup>. Look for more details to come via email.

Our Vice Commodore Thom Grimaldi is heading up our annual Regatta to be held on May 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup>. We could use a lot of help with this very fun event as we welcome racing sailors from all over Northern and Central California to our beautiful lake and clubhouse. Please reach out to Thom to see what you can do to make this regatta our best one yet!

**Membership Meeting**

**Join us in March!**

At the home of  
**Matt & Brigitte Bowers Loeffler**

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

*Observing COVID-19 safety guidelines*





*(Continued from page 3)*

Thanks, not only to those named, but to each one who showed up and made it possible. Diane put together sandwiches and Kara baked some cakes for lunch making for tasty lakeside meal.

We accomplished over seven of the work items on the work list. Six of those were considered critical and included replacing the support beam and a support pole under the main gate area. The main gate is no longer listing to port. We replaced or repaired poles on two fingers between slip 2 and 5. They were very unstable and are rock solid once again. Replaced a 9-foot-long support pole on the walkway near slip 42. The original pole was providing minimal support and had allowed the deck to sag about an inch. Replaced an 8-foot support pole at the corner of the race deck and the middle row of slips. Quite a

bit of debris and old concrete chunks were removed from under the dock area. This will help to ensure boats don't snag on it if the water is low and makes a safer sailing experience.

What is next? There are still over 20 items on the work list. But here are the most crucial items. Two fingers in the back row need poles replaced, including the finger that floated away from its anchorage last season. There are several areas that need fresh wood added to support aging timbers. Metal and wood bracing needs to be done, including welding of metal bracing for torsional support and there is still some debris to remove.

We plan to have a workday again Saturday, March 5<sup>th</sup> and probably again on March 19<sup>th</sup>. If you can help one of these workdays, please let me know. This will be discussed at the March membership meeting.



*Photo Courtesy: Deb Harden*



*Photo Courtesy: Deb Harden*

*Photos*

*Cover - Left to right: Rich Kleitman and Larry Thompson; Jay Sousa and Gordon Giesbrecht; Mike Allen*

*Page 4 - Clockwise: Lee McDonough; Dan, Lee's Dad; Thom Grimaldi*

*Page 5 - John Larson; Tommy Soto*





**Race Captain**  
**Rachel Hadley**




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



Ahoy Racers!

California now requires a “Boater Card” to operate a boat with a motor of more than 15 Horsepower. Each year a new age group is added to those who are required to possess a valid card. By 2025, all persons who operate on California waters will be required to have one. Once issued, the card is valid for a boat operator’s lifetime.

California Harbors and Navigation Code Section 678.11(b) contains the following phase-in schedule based on operator age:

- January 1, 2022 – Persons 45 years or less
- January 1, 2023 – Persons 50 years or less
- January 1, 2024 – Persons 60 years or less
- January 1, 2025 – All, regardless of age

To obtain a California Boater Card visit the DBW Website: <https://californiaboatercard.com/> Submit your application - \$10.00 Fee, **make note of the Application ID.** Participate in one of the recommended/ listed Boating Courses (Free Home Study Course: [http://dbw.parks.ca.gov/?page\\_id=28734#homeStudy](http://dbw.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=28734#homeStudy), or <https://www.boatus.org/california/>) and **take the test.** The course and test will take about 4 hours to complete. The online courses allow you to stop and re-start, so you don’t have to do it all in one go.

As long as we are making note of valuable classes I encourage you to look at the North U website (<https://northu.com/types/seminars/>) and take advantage of their trainings.

I signed up for their “Rules as Tactical Tools” webinar, put on by Dave Perry, and it’s quite excellent. Although I cannot share the link to the recorded seminar, I will share the slides and recording of the 8 hour training on 4 consecutive Thursday Evenings – 2 hours each evening – live/ in-person at Steve’s house on Parsons Ave – 6:30 – 8:30 in March:  
 March 3 – Rules and Tactics on the Upwind Legs,  
 March 10 - Rules and Tactics on the Downwind Legs,  
 March 17 - Rules and Tactics at the Marks,  
 March 24 - Rules and Tactics at the start.  
 Bring a notebook and pen to take notes, your rule book (if you have it), and feel free to bring food and drinks.

Contact me at 209 384-2465 for more information/ directions. Be safe on the water!

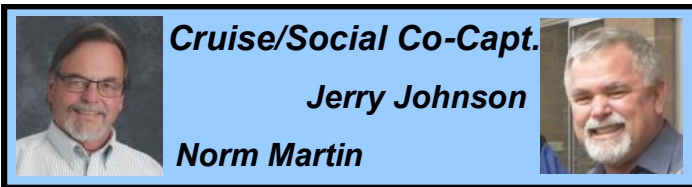
Each month gets us a little closer to Lake Time. The Clubhouse is ready and waiting for the return of its members. Please remember to clean up after yourself & your guests, to empty the trash cans & to lock the house and the dumpster. Also a reminder that we only recycle cans and plastic, not glass. Cans & plastic should be emptied prior to putting them in the recycle bins. Thank you for your help with this.



As always, a huge thanks to Craig for keeping the outside of the house & the yard in shipshape condition. Can’t wait to see those new trees growing! Recently I took a short trip with Tom Cooke to Camarillo to see my son, Jacob and his wife, Patricia. We had the



opportunity to visit the Pacific Corinthian Yacht Club on Harbor Boulevard in Oxnard. They were very welcoming, and the meal was excellent. As you can see the view & the weather were perfect.



*It's time to celebrate the Irish!*

Here's a short quiz to test your knowledge of St. Paddy and the Emerald Isle.

- **Question:** Where was St. Patrick born?
- **Question:** Where and when was the first St. Paddy's Day parade in the United States?
- **Question:** According to Irish lore, what did Saint Patrick drive out of Ireland?
- **Question:** Why are green shamrocks introduced around St. Patrick's Day?
- **Question:** What are the odds of finding a four-leaf clover?
- **Question:** What does the circle at the very center of a Celtic cross represent?
- **Question:** What is a boxty?  
(Answers are at the end of this column.)

Join us for a Saint Patrick's Day celebration at the clubhouse on Saturday, March 12, from 3 to 6 p.m. Enjoy some corned beef and cabbage. We will be serving at 4:30. Cost is \$10. Invite a friend!



We introduced our new response form in a group email sent out this weekend as part of our invitation/notification process. You received this email inviting you to respond and share your intentions to attend (or not). Please take a minute to reply. If you no longer have access to that email, here is a link to the form: <https://bit.ly/3poHzaG>

Please respond ASAP. Do not reply to the email. Please click the link to fill out the Google form. Your response will be captured in a separate document. Email replies will not be captured, and we are using the Form to monitor who is coming.

We plan to use this document as an part of the RSVP process for future LYSA events. If you have trouble responding, please notify Norm or Jerry via phone or email and we will help you get started.

**Answers:** Wales; Boston in 1737; Snakes; St. Patrick was said to have used the three-leaf clover to demonstrate the Holy Trinity (Father, Son, and Holy Ghost) to potential converts; 1 in 10,000; The sun; An Irish potato cake.

## 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

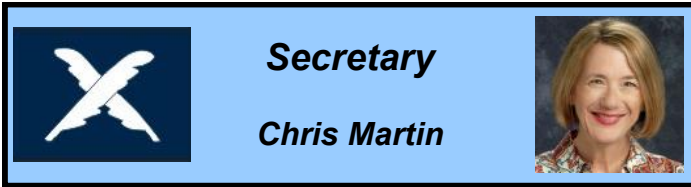
### January, 2023

- 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.**



**LYSA Membership Meeting Call to Order:** A meeting of the LYSA Membership was held on February 8, 2022 at the Anderson home on Olive Avenue. The meeting convened at 7:00 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. Discussion: Deb asked to clarify meeting times. General meeting will be at 7 pm. Rachel: new member Mitch's name is misspelled. The proper spelling is Mitch Vanagten. **Motion:** Moved by Rachel Hadley to approve minutes with corrections, **Second** by Deb Harden. **Motion carried.**

**Commodore, Jay Sousa:** Jay welcomed some guests. Darrell brought Mr. & Mrs. Dewese. Mike Boykin present.

**Vice Commodore, Thom Grimaldi:** Not present.

**Treasurer, Diane Sousa:** The Treasurer's report was shared. Two new members: Mike and Susan Boykin, Kim Garner & Mitch Vanagten. Some Club dues have been received. Slip fee cutoff March 15<sup>th</sup>.

**Dock Captain, Kendall Nightengale:** Proposed February 19<sup>th</sup> as a work day. The Club may provide lunch. Asked if any member can weld. Suggested Mike Bloed, reach out to club members to ask. Jacks and cribbing are needed to lift up the structure to replace the crossbeam.

**House Captain, Deb Harden:** Craig fixed the leak in front of the Clubhouse, concrete replaced. Back door would not latch, a handyman added shims so now the door closes properly. The metal door and garage door locks need some graphite. If Members have a problem with the locks, try wiggling the keys a bit. The dumpsters were not locked. They MUST be locked. Diane will call to ensure that Waste Management is locking the dumpsters. Deb asked about the date to switch from Winter to Summer storage.

**Cruise / Social Committee, Jerry Johnson / Norm Martin:** Planning for St. Patrick's day the Saturday before – March 12th. 3 to 6 pm, dinner at dinner at 4:30. Jerry asked Members to bring a guest. RSVP to Jerry. Bring an appetizer or dessert. Regatta will be discussed later. Discussed Jerry's email address. The address is correct in the Gmail contact list.

**Race Captain, Rachel Hadley:** North Sails puts on seminars, Dave Perry is quite good. Encouraged Members to check out the North Sails website to see if any trainings are of interest. Kendall can post links on the LYSA Website.

**Junior Sailing, Matt Loeffler:** Brigitte and Matt are passing on Admin of the program to Bridget Farmer. They will run a full Sail Camp program this year but will transition next year to Bridget. She has been with Junior Sailing since she was 8 and was one of Jay's first sailors. Brigitte will meet with Ken-

dall to work on updating the program information on the LYSA website.

**Need:** One main and one jib and that will wipe out the Junior Sailing budget for the Capris. The cost is \$1400.

Thanked Jerry Rokes and Darrell Sorensen for all the work they do to support Junior Sailing.

**Sea Scouts:** Not present.

**Old Business:**

Card for Mike Strealay's Mom passed, Chris will send card. Regatta: Jay - Members need to pitch in to help with the Regatta. 8-9 people can not do it alone. Income from this event goes to the Improvement Fund. Encouraged Club Members to race or camp out at the Lake during the event. Jerry spoke to Rebecca, will send the County our information. Jerry: t-shirt contest years ago. Jerry shared proposed t-shirt design to Members. Submit other design ideas to Jerry or Norm, to be voted on during the March meeting. John Derby suggested shirts with no date.

**Open House / Shrimp Feed:** This event is a lot of work. Jay stated that we need a massive buy-in from the Membership. It's a long day and it's a lot of work. We need more helpers. We will discuss this again in March.

**Yard / Deck project:** Thom Grimaldi is spearheading this. He has a nice drawing of the proposed construction. Defer to March when we can have some cost estimates and we can vote on it. Regatta and Open House monies from the Club Improvement fund will be used for this project. Deb asked we refer to it as a deck.

**New Business: Burgees:** Jay would like to see Club Members using burgees. Diane will call to get a cost from the manufacturer and will work out the cost to Members.

**John Derby:** Discussed importance of publicity to our Club. Getting people involved. Would like to work with someone in the Club to promote Club activities. One example: Sailors who need crew or crew who don't have boats. Jay: logistically a nightmare to publish. Discussion: publish afterward to avoid. Kendall: news crew to film racing. Jay: community – if they have an interest, proceed cautiously, but ensure new members have an interest in the Club. Norm suggested Cruise / Social can work to submit articles to the County Times or contact news outlets to inform the public about events held at LYSA.

**Craig:** Merced Integrated Water Management Association – we need to do dredging near the docks. Craig informed the person we have budgeted monies for docks repair. The person wants to demolish the docks and put in new state-of-the-art docks. There is money from Build America and the County has money. Under consideration at the moment. Garth Peccinino is a member of that organization. California Waterways has been absorbed by California Parks and they have other projects in the works.

Jay: concern about cost, concerned about relationship between MID and the County. Let's proceed cautiously.

**Good of the order:** Talked to Dennis, he's talked to Marvin Hendricks – he's doing well. Living in Kansas.



Diane: gave Craig tags for Committee boat and Rich Kleitman's two Sea Scouts boats.

**Adjournment:**

**Motion:** Moved by Rachel Hadley to adjourn, second by John Derby. **Motion carried.** Board meeting was adjourned at 8:15. 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 February 8, 2022. The meeting convened at 8:30 pm, Commodore Jay Sousa presiding.

**Members in attendance:** Members of the Board in attendance: Commodore: Jay Sousa, 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.

Not present: Vice Commodore: Thom Grimaldi.

New Members: None

Discussion items:

Junior Sailing: Jay - More involvement between Junior Sailing and the Club. Brigitte keeps careful records during sail camp season. Insurance payment was due, also – low checking balance resulted in monthly charge to the sail camp account. Jay suggested a Parent Advisory Committee meet once a month, to send a Junior Sailing representative to Membership meetings.

Jay: ensure counselors are CPR certified. Important Counselors and Junior Counselors are current and LYSA has a copy of their certification.

Jerry offered to host an auction at the Regatta to help underwrite the cost of the needed sails. Kendall knows a place: Bacon Sails in Annapolis, Maryland that sells used sails. Jerry

suggested Minney's Yacht Surplus in Newport Beach. Discussed sails in the garage.

Old Business – None

Club Calendar – Events are sketched out.

Regatta and Open House – Regatta in May (\$35 / late \$45), Diane and Rachel do lunch (\$10); Dinner cost \$15 at minimum, Open House in June. Jerry asked Jay to check on camping ASAP. Jay said he would do that. Sailing instructions to be sent out with cost sheet. Deb contributed: These out-of-town racers are used to having things clearly organized and spelled out. Paperwork and forms must follow the race rules. Jerry and Norm will meet and will put together race packets. Needs sailing instructions and course sheet from Rachel.

Newsletter deadlines – Chris thanked Board for sending articles in a timely manner.

Club improvements – Thom not present.

Dock work – Not discussed.

Website – Kendall showed the Board the new website.

Board Members can edit their own pages within the website. Each Board Member could upload content or send it to Kendall and he can upload it to the page.

Membership Handbook: updates / corrections: Remove probationary period; Rentals: slip fees – small \$105, large \$125, extra wide \$135; Key replacement: \$10

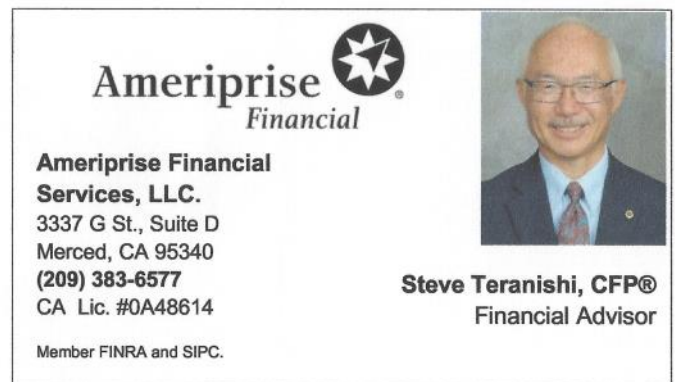
Kayak storage: \$60 for 6 months

Offer 1-2 choices, members pre-pay for caps, t-shirts, polos, sweatshirts, active wear. Small LYSA logo on the front, large art on the back. Recommend gray shirts with dark blue screen printing. Chris will contact Image Masters to sort out the details and begin the process.



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*Amie Marchini*  
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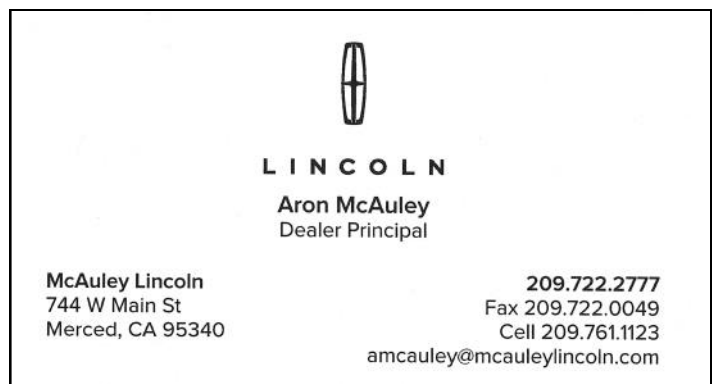
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New Business – Jerry asked about a membership list. Diane changes membership roster online. She can put a new one up. She will send Kendall a new roster.

Deb. We have talked for months about a New Member person. If Member information is not communicated... Thom Grimaldi is the Vice Commodore and is responsible. Deb: he needs the proper updated information in order to onboard new members. 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. Thom will be gone for 6 weeks.

Deb was asked for an ID card when she visited a yacht club. She asked Jay to follow up with the Membership Cards. As of cutoff date, new members won't get a card that will be ordered. Use last year's membership and add the new members. Jay requested from Diane an excel spreadsheet of Members. Jay needs a copy of the tower for the member cards.

Good of the Order – None. Thanks to the Andersons for hosting.

**Adjournment:** The next LYSA Board meeting will be held following the Membership meeting, Tuesday, March 8, 2022. Location Matt & Brigitte's house. 6:30 Social, General Meeting at 7:00 pm. Board Meeting to follow.

**Motion:** Moved by Deb Harden to adjourn, second by Diane Sousa. **Motion carried.** Board meeting was adjourned at 9:15.

**2002 Catalina 22 Mark 2 #15502 Stray Cat**  
 Wing Keel, 155 Headsail, CDI roller furler, toilet, pop up tent canvas, single person mast raising system, Raymarine ST40 speed/depth, Galvanized Trail-Rite trailer w/ newer tires.  
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