

## 2006 Upcoming Events

**Sunday, December 31st**  
NEW YEARS EVE CELEBRATION

## 2007 Upcoming Events

**Sunday, January 14**  
EVENTS HOST BRUNCH

**Sunday, February 4**  
SUPER BOWL PARTY

**Sunday, February 25**  
NEW MEMBER BRUNCH

**HOPE TO SEE YOU AT THESE  
GREAT EVENTS!**



## Your 2006 Crew

Michael Courtway, *Commodore*  
Bob Axel, *Vice Commodore*  
Cleve Sproule, *Rear Commodore*  
Mary Shebell, Jr. *Staff Commodore*  
Marty Lipman, *Treasurer*  
Susan Lipman, *Secretary*  
Maryann Boryszewski, *Membership*  
Jerry Cassidy, *House Chair*  
Pam Jackson, *Ship's Store*  
Tom Worden, *Webmaster*

Many thanks to those of you who have helped with these Newsletters. And special recognition to our Webmaster Tom Worden for use of some photos from the SGYC Website at [www.seagateyachtclub.com](http://www.seagateyachtclub.com).

SeaGate Yacht Club  
PO Box 1863  
Huntington Beach CA 92647



2006 Commodore Mike Courtway & wife Sharon



# SeaGate Yacht Club THE BURGEE

PUBLISHED BI-MONTHLY  
SEAGATE YACHT CLUB  
PO Box 1863, Huntington Beach, CA 92647

*A Member of the Southern California Yachting Association*

*November/December 2006*



## COMMODORE'S CORNER

by MICHAEL COURTWAY

Ahoy fellow SGYC members!

Thank you, one and all. You gave me good reason to celebrate a successful year at my Commodores Ball recently held at the Meadowlark Golf Clubhouse. I had a wonderful evening, as did many of you. It was capped off with a lot of dance music supplied by the Bobby Mustol band.

My year began a little rough when, unexpectedly, my mother, Pauline, passed away in January. It certainly had an impact, on me. Thanks to a strong, understanding Board and excellent event hosts, SGYC didn't miss a beat.

In planning the 2006 events, I tried to think of ways to improve the reoccurring events to make them better and more appealing. That's why we played miniature golf over in Catalina during the Avalon Cruise. That's why we brought the outdoor ceremony back to the Opening Day event. The weather was spectacular, wasn't it? My thanks to Jr. Staff Commodore Mary Shebell for spearheading this event while her husband, Merle McCormick, was busy giving our bar a new 'look'.

I also introduced events that were new and timely. And, your reaction was excellent. I was honored to have resided over SGYC in its thirtieth year. When I ask Josef & Kim Davydovits to host an anniversary event commemorating this milestone, they [and their committee] stepped up with original ideas. The event was a huge success. It brought together many staff commodores with a lot of past photographs and a lot of happy and funny memories. All those in attendance came away with a better understanding and appreciation of what has inspired SGYC over the years.

While planning events for 2006, I realized we have a lot of electric boats in our club. So, why not have an event in which these boats are featured. Bea and David Swanson gave us their interpretation: a water event with electric (mostly Duffy's) boats filled with guests and nibbles and lots of liquids to keep us from dehydrating. Following this, it was back to the clubhouse for some country western dancing with the help of Doug Houston. Highlights of the event: Me, successfully backing an electric boat into a slip (on the first try). Low point of the evening: #1) Me, trying to dance with a bad knee, and #2) Me, trying to line dance - period.

During the summer, I instigated Tuesday Cruzin'. The event was designed to give us a water event with no advance planning, except for the date and the location. Everyone was free to come to Pelican Isle at Peter's Landing - as their schedule permitted - for cocktails, appetizers and/or dinner. It was scheduled twice monthly. Most came by boat - the Mitchell's and Cohen's always brought a loaded Duffy to this event. Others walked - as in the Siegel's! And, occasionally some came by auto, just to be there. Many brought guest, as Robin & Jean Clark did, consistently. I enjoyed the time spent at this event. It gave us a relaxed opportunity to just sit and chat. Or, watch someone try to dock. Or, watch Jan McKnew as she expertly skippered her electric boat away from the dock. I admit, I used it as an excuse to be on the water, get together with friends, and watch a beautiful sunset in Huntington Harbour.

Another stand out event: the Progressive Dinner. John & Margaret Humphreys did a wonderful job planning this Caribbean themed event. Soft steel drum music got everyone in the mood for a wonderful evening. We finished with dessert and exotic coffees under the stars at the waterfront home of Bob & Georgie Bromley on Humboldt Island.

For those of you who did not attend the Halloween Party event, it was fabulous. Such original costumes! And, singing pumpkins, no less. Visit

our website to see Thomasina Parkers' cemetery she constructed at the clubhouse entry, and her costume. It was beyond my description capability.

On the Southern California Yachting Association front, SGYC had the opportunity to host one of their board meetings on Dec. 2. In addition to Commodore Mary Bacon, thirty of their members attended, of which many were introduced to SGYC for the first time.

During the year, we lost long time member, Larry Beck, to cancer. Larry and I had been friends for many years and shared many experiences, together. Larry had a magic quality about him. It was reflected in the way he treated people. He was, in fact, an accomplished magician, also. He loved to perform his clever acts of deception, especially, in front of children. My children (Chuck, Laura and Mike) were some of his earliest admirers.

We also lost the Busbys, this year. Staff Commodore Gene and his lovely wife, JoAnn moved to Lacey, Washington. We'll miss their support at SGYC, but they give us a reason to visit Lacey, sometime in the future.

Were we a little surprised, this year, to find one of our members featured on the front page of the O. C. Register? Yep. None other than Carol Kirkwood was the subject of the feature story, recently, for her achievement as a librarian and her management ability in opening new libraries, from the bottom, up. Congratulations, Carol. We're proud of you.

For those who have joined SGYC this year, I welcome you. As you become more active, I expect you will find and enjoy many of the qualities that attracted my wife and me to SeaGate Yacht Club. Shared interests. Regularly scheduled events. A convenient setting for many activities. Friendly people, many of which are your neighbors.

And speaking of activities, we still have two events to enjoy, this year. Number one, the Huntington Harbour Boat Parade scheduled December 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup>. This year, we are decorating the 52 foot yacht owned by Robin & Jean Clark. This is a shared event spearheaded by Rear Commodore Cleve Sproule and construction manager Bob McCormick. (All you have to do is volunteer. And, it's fun!) We expect to win another trophy, this year. It's not too late for you to plan to ride on the boat during the parade- either Saturday or Sunday evening. I'll do the coordinating. Call me at 714-840-3777. I'm proud to mention, also, the Parade Grand Marshall this year is SGYC member Ron Nelson.

Next, we have our annual tribute to the new year. This years New Years Eve celebration at the clubhouse is being planned by Rear Commodore Bob Axel and his wife, Linda. I do hope you are planning to attend. There is no way you can celebrate this event in a more reasonable fashion while you enjoy all the perks. Our famous open bar (thank you Jerry Cassidy), a fine dinner, entertainment AND dancing AND a champagne toast at midnight. Plan to enjoy this event with friends, and stay close to home. Send in your RSVP, now.

I can't mention all you individually, by name. But thank you for your support in 2006. I have learned SeaGate Yacht Club means so much to so many of you. As it does for me! I am turning over the reins to Bob Axel (Commodore), Cleve Sproule (Vice Commodore) and Ray Nagele (newly elected Rear commodore), all individuals I trust to guide the club along in its fine, long standing tradition. I will be supporting them.

Lastly, I must thank my wife, Sharon, for all her support and help, this year.

Here's to Happy Boating and Friendship.  
Mike Courtway, 2006 Commodore



**Tom McKnew**

The following invocation was written and recited by Tom McKnew, SeaGate Yacht Club Staff Commodore (2002), at the Commodore's Ball. I was taken by it, and asked Tom if he would allow me to share with you, in print. Of course, he said yes. Here it is. Thank you, Tom.  
Mike Courtway, 2006 Commodore

**INVOCATION – November 18, 2006**

*Almighty God, we thank you for all of the blessings bestowed on our Yacht Club and for our newly elected and current flag officers, the Board and membership. We thank you for allowing us to live in a peaceful place where we have made wonderful friends.*

*When you created Earth, You blessed us with the oceans by which you provide us with food for nourishment, transportation of goods, and naval ships for the protection of our great nation and recreation activities.*

*We are most thankful to You because our Yacht Club is situated by a harbour in one of the most beautiful locations you have created.*

*We are grateful for this fun-filled evening and feast we are about to enjoy. We beseech you to watch over us and assist the leaders of our Club to make thoughtful, prudent decisions.*

*With humility we call on You to protect our troops who are in harms way. Please watch over all good people, especially the children, who live in fear and danger in our troubled world.*

*Although our gratitude and joy that You have given to us cannot be adequately expressed in this simple prayer, we pray for Your blessings in Your name. Amen*



**2006 Commodore's Ball**



**NAVIGATION COURSE**

An 8-week Basic Coastal Navigation Course presented by Shoreline Yacht Club begins Wednesday, January 24, 2007 from 7:00 PM to 9:15 PM.

Jack Patterson, USCG Retired, an experienced boater and instructor is the primary instructor. Patterson states the course covers the Basics of Navigation, the Marine Magnetic Compass, Nautical Charts, Navigator's Tools and Instruments, Aids to Navigation, Dead Reckoning, Piloting, Distance by Vertical Angle, GPS, RADAR and much more.

The textbook "Piloting and Dead Reckoning" Fourth Edition by H. H. Shufeldt, is not supplied.

Fee is \$45.00 per person, if prepaid by January 18, 2007 and includes the 1210 training chart and handouts. Send check payable to Shoreline Yacht Club, c/o Marion Seaman, 386 Shoreline Drive South, Long Beach, CA 90802.

Payment at the door is \$55.00 per person.

Class size is limited, so call now for reservations or additional information:  
Phone: 310.632.4748 or Email: MarionSeaman1@aol.com

**SHIP'S STORE**



Visit the Ship's Store at the Bonaire Clubhouse events. There are many wonderful new Seagate Yacht Club articles for sale.

**Halloween Party**

by Marsha Hendler



On Saturday night, October 28th, we had our Halloween Party at Seagate Yacht Club. There were about 80 attendees; almost all in costumes. There were a few who came without, but that's OK, we were glad they came. Those who did come in costumes, went all out. Arlene Dixon and Carolyn Platt, my co-chairpersons and co-judges and I had a really hard time awarding prizes. We should have planned on more prizes. I hope everyone goes to the Club's website to see all the photos. There were men in dresses and one in a mini skirt, what a sight to see.

Diane Kaplan lent us some decorations and Tomasina Parker lent us a couple of car loads and helped us decorate. She did the cemetery all by herself. I don't know what we would have done without her. Thank you Thomasina and Thank You Diane. Thank you Gary Dixon, Conrad Platt, Mark Arizmendi and Sharon Courtway for helping us decorate. Mike Courtway came and watched.

We had the Yummiest food, Margaritas and lots of sweets for dessert. We had a terrific DJ; he played the best music to dance to. Tod taught us some country line dances and "The Hustle". We hope everyone had a Great Time????



**BIRTHDAYS**

Bea Swanson	12/5
David Snegg	12/7
Mona Jones	12/7
Susan Duncan	12/7
Loretta Hollenbeck	12/8
Pam Jackson	12/11
Sharon Smith	12/11
Dennis Kreil	12/12
Mary Kay Shelton	12/12
Jack Hayden	12/15
Georgette Davis	12/16
Susan LaPittus	12/16
Nat Pendleton	12/23
Jan Nagele	12/24
Dale Skerik	12/31
Marcelo Bernardo	
James Rusch	1/1
Larry Miller	1/2
Mary Ann Brinket	1/6
Keith Shelton	1/7
Rick Thomas	1/8
Tom Degnan	1/9
Cliff Meier	1/10
Georgie Bromley	1/12
Joanne McCormick	1/14
Linda Mitchell	1/15
James Atherton	1/16
Joe Siegel	1/18
Lisa Shoemaker	1/24
Sherrill Lander	1/27
Alan Olschwang	1/30

**ANNIVERSARIES**

John & Margaret Humphreys	12/6
Bill & Lucille Thornburg	12/20
Gene & JoAnn Busby	12/22
Jim & Lyn Senske	12/23
Bruce & Kathy Bayless	12/29
Conrad & Carolyn Platt	12/31
Dennis Huffman & Peggy Allison	
Helena Parada & Paul Brown	
Tom Degnan	1/10
Les & Cathy Kelly	1/10
Larry & Carol Miller	1/10
John & Lisa Shoemaker	1/19
James & Sandra Atherton	1/23
Michael & Kaylyn De Heus	1/25

