



SeaGate Yacht Club
Friendship & Boating Since 1976

The BURGEE

December 2024
(Ugly Sweater edition)

Published Bi-Monthly

IN THIS ISSUE:

From the Helm Officers' Statements, Past & Upcoming Events, Member News, On Board With..., Rally in the Galley, Talkin' Nauti, Trivial Pursuit, Great Shots Photos, Tidings of Comfort and Joy and Much MORE!



Grace Toy, Commodore

Grace Toy, Commodore

We had a wonderful time at this year's Commodore's Ball, affectionately called "prom"! The event took place at Meadowlark Golf Club, where we enjoyed an evening of dancing in the ballroom, with stunning views of the golf course and a beautiful sunset.

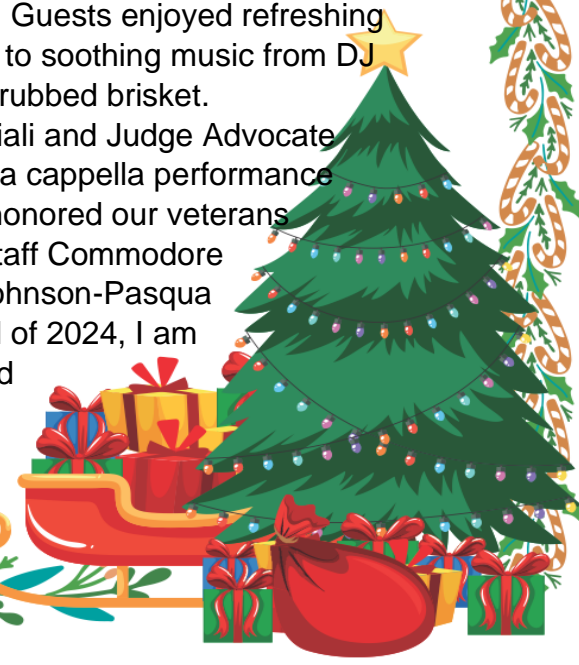
Guests were greeted by Joyce Zimmerman and 2025 Commodore Chris Johnson-Pasqua. We captured special moments with "prom" pictures taken by photographer Andrew Ficke. Guests enjoyed refreshing

lavender lemonade and delicious appetizers while listening to soothing music from DJ Raul. For dinner, we served tasty salmon and Kona coffee-rubbed brisket.

The ceremony began with Staff Commodore Dale Giali and Judge Advocate Sue Giali leading the Pledge of Allegiance, followed by an a cappella performance of the Star-Spangled Banner by Joyce Zimmerman. We honored our veterans

before installing the 2025 board members, led by Staff Commodore

Dale Giali, with Staff Commodore Melinda Johnson-Pasqua presenting the flags. As we approach the end of 2024, I am grateful to all the event hosts who put on fun and memorable events this year. I am especially thankful to all the board members who pulled double duty by hosting *and* fulfilling their board duties.





Chris has an exciting planned for 2025, and I wait to see what's in

We are still looking to fill two vacancies on the Rear Commodore and Port Captain. If you're interested, please contact Chris Johnson-Pasqua! I want to extend an extra special thanks to Michael Dix for doing a great job with the Burgee and Harbour Lights by creating interesting and clever issues all year round. Kind Regards, Grace



calendar can't store! board:

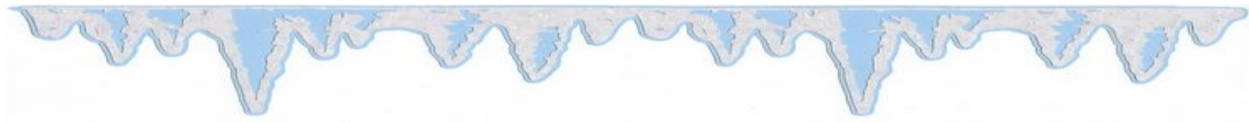


Chris Johnson-Pasqua, Vice Commodore

I thought it would be great to wrap up this year with something enjoyable! Since the dawn of (mari)time, both sailors and non-sailors have created superstitions that have been handed down through generations, many of which have transformed into TRADITIONS! Over time, these traditions have evolved, often shedding their original superstitious meanings while remaining part of various cultures. Some of these may sound familiar, but keep reading—some of them are truly fascinating!

No Whistling on Board a boat because by whistling, you could “whistle up a storm. **Knocking on Wood:** It stems from ancient beliefs that spirits residing in trees could provide





protection. **Never Rename a Ship**, as it can bring bad luck to change the name of a boat. But this can be remedied with a renaming ceremony with LOTS of champagne. **Throwing Salt Over Your Shoulder**: The act of throwing salt over the left shoulder specifically is said to blind any lurking evil spirits, preventing them from causing harm. **Black Cats** on ships since all cats were considered good luck and believed to bring calm seas and protection. **Turning a boat clockwise** was considered unlucky – all turns should be made counter-clockwise. **Keep onions** because in some cultures, hanging onions on a ship was believed to repel evil spirits. **Stirring tea** with a knife or fork invites bad luck. **Turning a loaf of bread upside down** once it has been cut brings bad luck. **Never Say Goodbye** so instead of saying goodbye, sailors often prefer terms like farewell or until we meet again – saying goodbye was believed to mean you would never see that person again. **New Year's Eve Traditions**: Many customs associated with New Year's Eve, such as eating 12 grapes at midnight or making noise to scare away evil spirits, stem from superstitions aimed at ensuring good luck and prosperity in the coming year.

On that note, I would like to extend my holiday wishes and hope you have a fantastic New Year! I look forward to seeing everyone at this year's SeaGate annual New Year's Eve party.

Chris



Tricia Pratto,
Rear Commodore

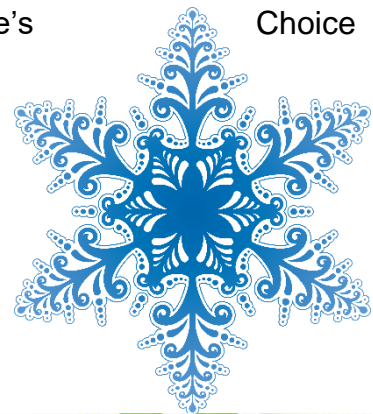
It's December. It's the Holidays!!

This year's HH Boat Parade theme is "Yacht Rockin' the Holidays". We have a great display, and are ready to execute and decorate Fin-Tastic. WE NEED YOUR HELP!! The date is Saturday, December 7th, 9:00 am at Robin Clark's home, 16601 Carousel Lane. I'll provide donuts, coffee and soft drinks.

The HH boat parade is December 14 and 15. We need your vote to win the People's Choice award for the boat: vote for the

SGYC entry by "Liking" the boat's displayed number seen during the parade on Facebook on Saturday, December 14. Voting ends at 8:00 am Sunday, December 15. Link: hhboatparade.org/#about.

Also, I'm happy to report that 50 SGYC members have signed up for the Newport Beach Christmas Boat Parade event!



Yours truly, Tricia



SGYC 2024 Annual Meeting

The SeaGate Yacht Club recently held its Annual Meeting, bringing together over 60 members for an evening of camaraderie, good food, and important discussions. One of the highlights of the evening was the introduction of this year's new members. We also recognized our hard-working board and elected new board members for next year. We still have a vacancy for the positions of Rear Commodore and Port Captain. We are hoping that someone will step up and fill these spots – it is a rewarding and fun opportunity.

2024 Annual Meeting

October 9, 6:30pm, Bonaire clubhouse

Pizza 6:30 to 7:00

Meeting Starts @ 7:00

- 1. Welcome**
- 2. Introduction of Staff Commodores**
- 3. Introduction of board members**
- 4. Burgee and name tag presentation**
- 5. Introduction of 2024 new members**
- 6. Introduction of candidates for elected board positions for 2025**
- 7. Any nominations from the floor for elected board positions**
- 8. Voting for elected board positions**
- 9. Counting votes**
- 10. Discussion and vote on proposed changes to the Bylaws**
- 11. Membership report**
- 12. Treasurer's report**
- 13. Announcement of election results**
- 14. Introduction of appointed board members**
- 15. Notable events from 2024**
- 16. Boat parade update**
- 17. Introduction of 2024 event hosts**
- 18. 2024 remaining events**
- 19. Tentative events for 2025, request for hosts**
- 20. Adjourn meeting**

The meeting also included a crucial segment dedicated to club governance. Members reviewed and approved a proposed change to the bylaws, ensuring that the club remains adaptable and responsive to the needs of its members.

In addition to governance matters, the agenda included a review of the events schedule for the upcoming year. As always, there will be a variety of boating and land get togethers, traditional events, and we are bringing back a few favorites from previous years.

As we look forward to the upcoming year, the club remains committed to fostering a welcoming and engaging environment for all-

Chris Johnson-Pasqua



Dock Party



On Saturday, October 19, over 70 SGYC members and guests met up at the Bimini docks for a rousing good time. Powered by Sue's Famous Mai Tais and other libations, the party got started at 1 pm and went past 4 pm. The weather cooperated perfectly, as we had sunny skies all day. Members continue to outdo their appetizer and dessert selections from prior years, as the tables were bountifully filled with delicious treats. The Dock Party is always a fan favorite, and members really enjoy chatting it up with many others, moving from docks to boat decks to Floyd & Mira's generous use of their back patio. The spirit of Aloha was quite evident!

Sue Westover-Giali, Judge Advocate

Dia de los Muertos



Seagaters even tried to Liven things up at a Day of the Dead party! The evening included a Toy Drive sponsored by the US Marines for the benefit of underprivileged children. How do you think It went?

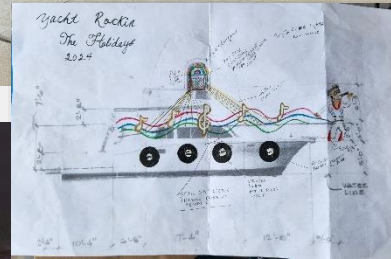


Upcoming Events:

SEAGATE YACHT CLUB SETS SAIL FOR HUNTINGTON HARBOR'S HOLIDAY BOAT PARADE

by Rear Commodore Chris Johnson Pasqua

Once again, we say a hearty Thank You to Robin Clark and the Clark family for lending their boat, the "Fin-Tastic," to the club for this festive occasion. A special crew of Seagate elves has been working feverishly to decorate the boat for the 2024 theme "Yacht Rockin' the Harbour". Festivities will take place on December 14th and



15th this year, so watch for our entry in the parade, and remember to "Like" the boat on Facebook for the People's Choice award.

Our 2023 Entry

New Year's Eve Party

Mark your calendars, our New Year celebration is on December 31 this year!



NEW YEAR'S EVE SPEAKEASY



Open bar. Delicious buffet dinner
provided by Tiscarenos Catering.

Dancing. Champagne.

Dress like it's the roaring 20's!

DECEMBER

31

6:00-9:00PM

Bonaire Clubhouse Speakeasy

\$85 per person (non-members \$100)

RSVP before 12/20, to Melinda at
mjohnsonpasqua@gmail.com

Checks payable to SGYC, mail to 3485 Windspun Dr, 92649
or Zelle: Seagateyachtclub@gmail.com

Ship Store News

The annual Ship Store Boutique is right around the corner! Margee Lennard, Santa's top SS elf, has been hustling and bustling to make the 2024 event the best one yet! Stop by Saturday, December 7 from 1:00 to 3:00 pm (After helping to decorate the club's parade entry!) for some Holiday sips, nibbles, chuckles & giggles, and buy some merch for yourself or gifts while you're there!



From the kitchen of
Jr Staff Commodore Tiffany Vlasek

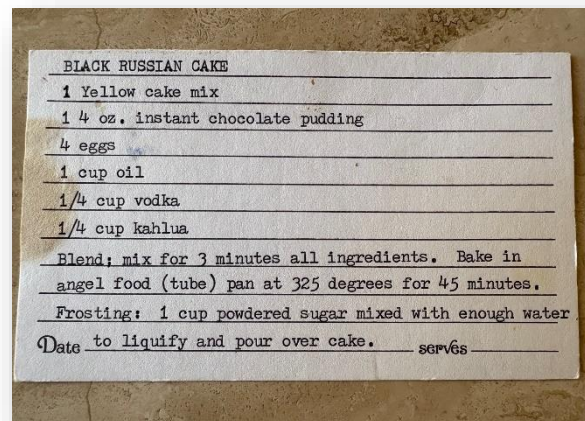
Happy holidays to my baking friends! As many of you know, during the pandemic, I baked about every two to three days to maintain my sanity. And I put those quick breads, cupcakes, muffins, cookies, cakes, bars etc into our little wagon and I delivered those items around the SeaGate and Trinidad neighborhoods to our friends.

I have always loved to bake, a lot more than actual cooking, and I've gotten pretty good at it. My favorite thing to do is doctor up a cake mix with additional ingredients, and I love to add booze the most. It probably started with this recipe.

Way back in the before times...the 1980's, I was attending West Valley Community College in Saratoga, California and I took a speech class. One of our assignments was to give a "demonstrative" speech. I have no idea what I did for that assignment but one of my classmates demonstrated making this cake. And then she had the finished product for us all to try. It was so flippin good, that I snagged the recipe, and I've been making this cake for almost 40 years. My mother even likes it, even though she is a teetotaler by nature. She had to buy the Kahlua and vodka at a little liquor store down the street and I think she was afraid some of her fellow church ladies would see her entering or exiting the liquor store and she'd lose her "church lady" high status. It's that good. And so simple.

My mother even typed up the recipe on the card pictured below (on a real typewriter, remember those?) and she put it, along with many other family favorites, in a recipe card file that she made me for my wedding. It's stained, wrinkled, faded, but frankly, I hardly need it since I've made this cake so many times, I practically have the recipe memorized.

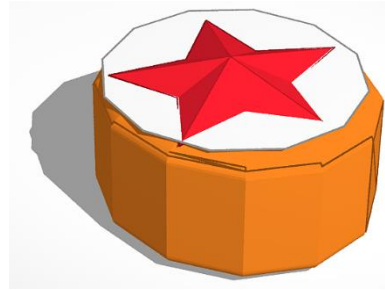
But here it is just for you to try. There are variations you can try, such as substituting vodka or water instead of the Kahlua to go with the powdered sugar for the icing. I think the Kahlua is the best though. The vodka is too strong...but you do you! Enjoy and happy baking!



Black Russian Cake

1 yellow cake mix
1 4oz instant chocolate pudding mix
4 eggs

1 cup oil
1/4 cup vodka
1/4 cup Kahlua



Blend all ingredients for 3 minutes with a mixer. Bake in a Bundt pan at 325 degrees for 45 minutes. Test with toothpick, your oven may vary.

Icing: 1 cup powdered sugar

Kahlua/vodka/water to liquify and pour over cake. (Poke holes in cake if you wish to allow frosting to settle in a bit, cuz why not?!)

Another variation: substitute orange juice / Cointreau instead of Kahlua for a Chocolate Wallbanger mod. Let me know what you think!!



Mister Tech Tip

Mr. Tech Tip attempts to answer your questions about boat mechanical maintenance and repair

Decking the Hulls! Aaron Dumont is the SE Regional Manager of Sportsman Boats, and has this to say about how to go about lighting a boat for a parade:

In the South, Christmas parades come in all forms—golf carts, ATVs, and my personal favorite, Christmas boat parades. For the past eight years, I've had the privilege of helping organize our local Christmas Boat Parade, and every year, I hear the same question: "How do I properly light and power my boat for the parade?" Well, you're in luck! In this blog, I'll share my tips for creating a show-stopping Christmas boat, covering three key areas: choosing the right colors, fastening your lights securely, and powering them efficiently.

1. Choosing the Right Colors

When decorating your boat, visibility and aesthetics go hand in hand. I usually go all out with over 4,000 LED mini lights in various colors and patterns, but placement is just as important as quantity. Here's what I've learned:

- **Keep your line of sight clear:** Think of it like car dashboard lights—illuminated enough to see but not glaring. Avoid using bright white lights above the rub rail and below the hardtop to prevent glare or blind spots.
- **Stick to nighttime-friendly colors around the console:** Green, blue, or red lights work well as they enhance visibility without being overpowering.
- **Strategic use of bright white lights:** Use white lights below the rub rail or above the hardtop to avoid direct visibility.
- **Plan your wiring:** Set up your lights so that you only need a few main power connections running back to your power source. This simplifies the setup and reduces the risk of tangled wiring.

2. Fastening Your Lights Securely

Securely attaching lights to your boat is critical, especially in windy or damp conditions. Here are the best methods:

- **White shrink wrap tape:** Available at most marine stores, this tape is sticky, long-lasting, and leaves no residue on your boat. Use it around the perimeter, on the hardtop, and in areas without fastening points.
- **Zip ties:** These are perfect for securing lights but don't overtighten them, making removal easier after the season. Opt for inexpensive zip ties for easy removal.
- **Cleat-to-cleat string lines:** For areas without fastening points, tie a string from one cleat to another and hang your lights on it. This technique allows you to decorate areas that are typically out of reach.

3. Powering Your Lights

Lighting up a boat requires significant power, and there are two reliable options:

- **Small gas generator:** Mount a small generator on your swim platform or transom (with the exhaust facing outward) and connect it to a surge protector. This method supports a large number of lights without draining your boat's battery.
- **Power inverter:** Choose a high-output inverter and connect it to the battery being charged by your motor. Be sure to track the wattage of your lights to avoid overloading the inverter. Inverters are widely available at hardware stores and typically come with gator clips for easy battery hookup.



Final Thoughts

Christmas boat parades are a magical experience for the entire family, and with these tips, your boat is sure to shine brightly. If you have any questions or need more advice, feel free to reach out to me at Aaron.Sportsmanboats@gmail.com. Happy decorating, and may your holidays be merry and bright!

Old World Village



For the first couple years of Seagate history there was no place where locals could go to get a new pair of lederhosen or a pretzel the size of a steering wheel, but then, in 1978, German immigrant Josef Bischof, inspired by Ports o' Call Village in San Pedro, put shovel to ground and developed one of only 14 of the world's historic villages you can actually live in! Yes, nearly 40 families live above and among the numerous shops, dining venues, chapel and hotel, in one of the few true live / work spaces in Orange County.



The winding pavers lead past so many beautiful murals that people often ask if Old

World was modeled after some particular German village, and the answer is yes, the Alpine town of Oberammergau. Oberammergau is known not only for its numerous murals, but also for its city-wide participation in a live passion play, performed every 10 years since 1634! In similar fashion, Old World also regularly hosts a play; their Live Nativity / International Celebration of Christmas will be on Sunday the 15th this year.



One of the best parts of having OVV nearby in December is the Holiday Boutique that takes over the German Deli for just a few weeks, an experience like a Christmas Markets European cruise, but without the jet lag!

Whether you're looking for a jolt of seasonal cheer, or just a place to race your Dachshund while holding a beer the size of a fish-tank, this is a great time to visit our nearby neighbors at Old World. While getting your Jingle on, keep an eye peeled for Cindy and Bernie; founder Josef's kids can still be found there sometimes!



Members Making Waves



It has recently come to our attention that one of our members is less than 10 years away from his 100th birthday. We asked his lovely bride how something so rare and beautiful could be happening right in our midst, and this is what she said:

Robert K. McCormick was born in Cleveland, Ohio October 26, 1934 to a family that already had two girls. When Bob was two, the family moved to California, settling in West Covina. Bob attended school there in a ranch house with a cafeteria in the barn along with about 18 others. After 8th grade Bob went to Covina High and graduated in 1953. He was on several sports teams, lettering in track.

He was hired by the Gas Company where he stayed his entire career, starting as a ditch digger and ending as a department head.

Bob met his wife of 65 years at work, living in West Covina, then moving to Glendora. Bob and Joanne raised three girls (now married with grown children themselves). After the girls were on their own, Bob and Joanne moved to



Seagate in Huntington Beach where they still enjoy life.

Bob has always been known as a happy, friendly guy ready to help out wherever and whenever needed and hopes to be able to do so for a long time to come.

Thank you for this, Joanne. Few people are so universally loved and respected as you and Bob, and we are all so very honored to call you our friends. Happy Birthday, Bob, and Thank you for your excellent example. Now let's go celebrate! In-n-Out anyone?

New Member News

Sue and Bob Shalley

Sue and Bob Shalley and their furry child, Gracie recently moved to Seagate from Denver, and are very glad to be here enjoying the beach, community, and weather... no shoveling snow!

They love to travel, especially internationally. Bob loves golf, reading, and the Florida State Seminoles. He volunteers weekly at the Seal Beach Library.

Sue enjoys knitting, cooking and mediation. She is a member of the Assistance League, and a member of the boards of directors for schools in Haiti and Cambodia. She is bilingual in Spanish and knows some ASL.

They own and have operated a business for 25+ years that provides architectural field surveyors for Fortune 500 companies who open or remodel their brick and mortar facilities.



Welcome, Sue and Bob!

CELEBRATE!

Congratulations to all our members Celebrating Birthdays and Anniversaries in the months of December and January! May you have a Fantastic Day, a Wonderful Year, and Many Happy Times with your friends here at SGYC!





Replacing our traditional Trivia space this month is something a little more seasonal.

See how you do with the following:

- 1) Which Christmas Carol was originally written for Thanksgiving?
- 2) When was the first Christmas card sent?
- 3) Which country banned Christmas in 1647?
- 4) Which country first produced a Christmas stamp?



(Answers at the end of the Burgee)



TALKIN' NAUTI

Talkin' Nauti is one of our newer Burgee Bits, designed to help our members recognize the nautical roots of terms they use every day.

Today is different, however. Instead of investigating the nautical roots of an everyday word, we're going to look at a word that appears to be nautical, but is not!

YULETIDE has absolutely nothing to do with Tides! In fact, it originally had nothing to do with Christmas either, but was a feast practiced by Europeans to celebrate making it halfway through winter. Homes were decorated for the occasion, and food was cooked community style, usually over a log reserved for that purpose called, you guessed it, the Yule log.

This issue's Great Shots includes some bird photos submitted by members and some fun shots of (shhhh!) Santa in a boat!



ho ho ho
gotta
GO!





PHILHARMONIC SOCIETY presents

Huntington Harbour Philharmonic Committees

HUNTINGTON HARBOUR

62nd Annual

**BOAT PARADE
DECEMBER 14 & 15**

Paul Haase - Grand Marshal



PARADE BOATS WANTED

Join us for fun, prizes and to make the 2024 Parade the biggest ever!

Sign Up NOW!

Early Sign-Up Raffle - Deadline Dec 2: \$200 Cash

All Boat Entrants Receive: Simple Green Stuffed Bag,
Cape Marine Boat Mat, Wallet Card &
a chance to win a beautiful Crystal Trophy!

Also Raffles for: HB Auto Dealers BIG & LITTLE Contest with 2-Day Participation

BIG BOAT 45' and over: \$400 cash

LITTLE BOAT under 22' including Duffy's: \$400 cash

MIDSIZE 23' to 44': Beef Palace Whole Prime Rib

2024 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Monday, December 9

Tuesday, December 10

Wednesday, December 11

Thursday, December 12

Thursday, December 12

Friday, December 13

Saturday, December 14

Sunday, December 15

December 18-23

Due Date Home Decorating Entries, Include 1-3 Photos

Waterfront and Off Water Home Spotting

Judging Waterfront and Off Water Homes

Due Date Boat Decorating Entries

Boat Parade Skipper's Mandatory Meeting, 7 p.m. HHYC

Trophy Presentation for Waterfront and Off Water Home Winners

Boat Parade and Judging


Trophy Presentation 11:00 a.m. HHYC and Sunday's Boat Parade

Cruise of Lights® Boat Tour Fundraiser

WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT TO KEEP THIS TRADITION GOING!

For more information, to sign up, or to donate,

please visit our website: hhboatparade.org or email hhboatparade@gmail.com

 /huntingtonharbourboatparadehhpc
/cruiseoflightshhpc

 @hhboatparade
@cruiseoflights



Some Dates subject to Change

And that's a Wrap!



Have a Great Harbor / Sunset / Seagate photo?
Please share it! Contact any of the people below,
and maybe you'll see it here in the next issue!

DID YOU KNOW?

You don't have to be a board member to suggest, host or assist at an event!
Have an idea you think the members would enjoy?
Contact any board member with your suggestions!

We are grateful to all who contributed to this issue.

To see all event pictures, go to

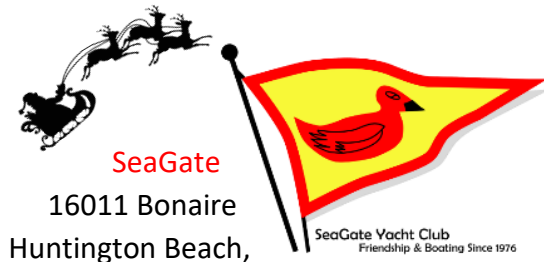
<http://sgyc2021files.seagateyachtclub.com/>.

View past Burgees here:

<http://www.seagateyachtclub.com/HTML%20Files/Burgees%20Past.html>.

Christmas Trivia Answers

- 1) Jingle Bells
- 2) 1643
- 3) England
- 4) Canada



The BURGEE

(Published Bi-Monthly)

Yacht Club

Circle

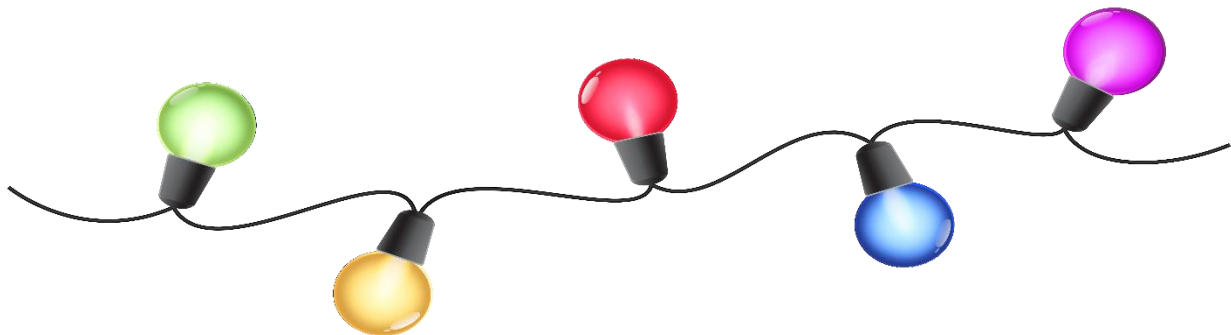
CA 92649

(714) 351-9959

<http://seagateyachtclub.com/>



A member of the Southern California Yachting Association



SeaGate Yacht Club

Your 2023 Elected Officers:

Commodore: Grace Toy
Vice Commodore: Chris Johnson-Pasqua
Rear Commodore: Tricia Pratto
Jr. Staff Commodore: Tiffany Tokar-Vlasek
Treasurer Robin Erickson
Secretary: Michele Murray



2023 Appointed Officers:

Membership: Craig & Kristi Whitacre
Port/House Captains: Kirk Zimmerman & Kevin Rew
Communications: Michael Dix
Fleet Surgeon: Dr. Mark Monroe, Staff Commodore
Webmaster: Josef Davydovits, Staff Commodore
Judge Advocate: Susan Westover-Giali
Roster: Robin Erickson
Ship Store: Margee Lennard

2025 Board Members

- Chris Johnson-Pasqua – Commodore
- Tricia Pratto – Vice Commodore
- [vacant] – Rear Commodore
- Robin Erikson – Treasurer & Roster
- Debbie Miller – Secretary
- [vacant] – Port Captain
- Sue Shalley – Membership
- Michael Dix – Communication
- Staff Commodore, Josef Davydovits – Web Developer
- Sue Westover–Giali – Judge Advocate
- Staff Commodore Dr. Mark Monroe – Fleet Surgeon
- Margee Lennard – Ship Store
- Grace Toy – Jr Staff Commodore