



SeaGate Yacht Club
Friendship & Boating Since 1976

The BRRRREEE

February 2025 // Published Bi-Monthly

COLD DUCK EDITION



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 and MORE!



Chris Johnson-Pasqua
Commodore

from the Commodore



Ahoy, Mateys!

Alright, let's talk about boating. Boats, they look kind of cool, don't they? All sleek and shiny, gliding effortlessly across the water. Plus, you get to wear those nifty little sailor hats, I sure like mine!

But here's the thing about boats.

First, the terminology. "Port" and "Starboard." Really? You couldn't come up with something simpler, like "Left" and "Right"? No? Okay, fine. So, I'm trying to steer, right? Melinda yells, "Hard to port!" And I'm thinking, "Port? Yea – It's time to drink!" And then we crash into the dock.

You're right, some boating terms can be downright baffling! Here are a few that often leave many folks scratching their heads:

- **Tacking and Jibing:** These maneuvers involve turning the boat in different directions, but the terms themselves sound like something you'd do in a sword fight.
- **Leeway:** This refers to how much the boat drifts sideways from its intended course. Why not just call it "drifting"?
- **Heaving To:** This means slowing the boat down by adjusting the sails. Sounds more like you're about to throw up than maneuver a vessel.
- **The Bitter End:** It refers to the very end of a rope. Why "bitter"? Does it taste bad?



Tricia Pratto
Vice Commodore



Joyce Zimmerman
Rear Commodore

Then there's the weather. You know how on land, you can generally predict the weather? "Oh, it's cloudy," you think, "I better bring an umbrella." On a boat? Forget about it. One minute you're basking in glorious sunshine, the next you're being pelted by a rogue wave that sends your lunch flying across the cabin.

I'm just having a bit of fun here. Boating terminology, while sometimes confusing, serves a purpose – it provides clear and concise communication on the water, where misinterpretations can have serious consequences.

This article is intended for humor purposes only. I quite enjoy the occasional leisurely cruise. (Mostly when someone else is driving.)

Chris Johnson-Pasqua, 2025 Commodore

from the Vice Commodore

Happy New Year SGYC!!

I am thrilled I survived my first year!! And JZ said it best, "I am beyond excited to be serving as your 2025 Vice Commodore".

As I'm reading the club bylaws and reminding myself what my duties for this year are, this one stands out: *Assists event chairperson(s) in planning and execution of social events.* If you stepped up and volunteered to chair an event, I am here to assist.

SGYC has an outstanding calendar of events coming your way. Next event is brunch at Acapulco by boat. I hope many of you are planning to attend this fun event. See you Sunday, February 16th. I'll be there!

Sheet Happens (a humorous phrase for when things go awry on a sailing trip)

Tricia Pratto, 2025 V/C



from the Rear Commodore

Ahoy SGYC members!

I am beyond excited to be serving as your 2025 Rear Commodore. As the weather warms up and the season begins, we have an exciting lineup of boating events that promise to bring our community together on the water!

Our first boating event takes us to Los Alamitos Bay on Feb 16th landing us at Acapulco Restaurant for a delicious brunch! Who doesn't love bottomless mimosas?! Next is Opening Day on April 26th and the "always anticipated" - Tuesday Crusin' nights from June-Sept. We have a Duffy event on July 12th, Newport Beach Cruise Sept 19th-21st and our annual Huntington Harbour Boat Parade Dec 13th & 14th. If you have any boating event ideas I'm all ears!

In case you weren't aware, as of January 1, 2025 all motorized vessel operators (you Captains!) are required to carry a California Boater Card. It's \$10 and requires a Boating Safety Education Certificate to be submitted with the application. Take a look at <https://californiaboatercard.com> for more information. And don't worry, we won't be checking to make sure you have one. Just wanted everyone to be aware of the new law.

Thank you to the captains who have already offered their boats to participate in these events. Please reach out if you'd like to as well!

I can't wait to see everyone out on the water this season- let's make it one to remember!

Carpe Diem,

Joyce Zimmerman, 2025 Rear Commodore





2024 Huntington Harbour Boat Parade

**BEST YACHT CLUB BEST YACHT CLUB BEST YACHT CLUB BEST YACHT CLUB
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The HH boat parade was held in perfect weather on December 14 and 15, and your yacht club did not disappoint! The many little SGYC designers and elves put together an elegant design that perfectly matched the year's theme AND brought home an award for Best Yacht Club. Hat's off to coordinator Rear Commodore Tricia Pratto and, as always, Many Thanks to the Clark family for the use of their boat Fin-Tastic, which was indeed Fantastic as an operating platform for our annual entry.

If you'd like to know more about our entry and award, please keep an eye peeled for the next issue of Harbour Light Magazine, who will be publishing a photo and article in their next issue, and if you'd like to participate in the construction or design of our 2025 issue, please let 2025 Rear Commodore Joyce Zimmerman know of your interest.





New Year's Eve

By Melinda Johnson-Pasqua,
Staff Commodore

The secret password??

Only our members who attended the New Year's Eve Speakeasy know for sure.

Zoot suits, flapper dresses, feathers and fringe. Add Old Fashioned's and Gin Rickey's, chandeliers and fairy lights, and you have an event that SPARKLED. The evening continued with a delicious dinner and dancing until dawn (okay, we celebrated

a New York New Year's Eve, so we danced until 9:00) completed the scene.

Happy 2025!



Speakeasy

A speakeasy, also called a beer flat or blind pig or blind tiger, was an illicit establishment that sold alcoholic beverages. The term may also refer to a retro style bar that replicates aspects of historical speakeasies. [Wikipedia](#)



Happy Hour

SGYC's first Happy Hour of 2025 was held on January 10, and was a rousing success. How could you miss, with Free Food and Drinks! This was the club's gift to all members who paid their dues on-or-before January 10, and over 60 of you were there to celebrate. (Think of it as a Seagate Happy Hour Special!) An assortment of chips decorated each table, and a variety of sandwiches and desserts rounded out the meal. It was Bob Shalley's first time managing the bar and his wife Sue's first time working the buffet (not really – they are both seasoned veterans!) and they each of them did a fantastic job. Be sure to thank them at the next event!



Event Host Brunch

What's an Event Host Brunch, you ask? That's when SGYC Board members say Thank You to everyone who has agreed to help with an event by inviting them to a yummy breakfast. In this case, event hosts and helpers were served a delightful assortment of pastries and baked goods, along with a variety of egg dishes, breakfast casseroles and other assorted goodies. Along with all the friendly banter were conversations about all the fun-filled events that are rapidly filling our 2025 calendar.

This is a great time to point out who comes up with the club's event ideas and helps to make them a reality – it's you, our members! If you've attended a fun function or have an idea for one, speak to a board member. They may put it on the calendar, and can help you with every step of organizing, planning and recruiting. Not only that, but you'll get to come to next year's EHB!



- *Editor's note: We're not sure why there are so many pictures of our new Commodore, but we suspect he's hired a new staff photographer!*

Ship Store News

Ship Store Survey!

Margee Lennard, SGYC Ship Store Steward and all-around good gal, wants to remind everyone that this is your club, and as such, the Ship Store should reflect the items you have the most interest in buying.

To that end, she has come up with a brief survey which can be found at the end of this issue. Please take a minute to make some notes and get it back to her at KSPIRITML@AOL.COM, or give it to any board member.

Members Making Waves



Flowers, kidneys and hope!

During the last week of the year, several of our members could be found in Pasadena, where they were busily helping to decorate a float for the Tournament of Roses parade #137, where the theme was "Celebrating a World of Music: The Universal Language".

Maybe the theme should have been "Compassion"!

Our members Nanette and Richard Zumwalt started the CORE Kidney Foundation after Nanette, after battling kidney disease for some time, had a kidney transplant two years ago. The foundation sponsors a float in the parade, and those watching this year may have seen Richard actually riding on the float, with Nanette walking beside it!

Doing their best to throw a yachty spin on the event, the team went to the Del Ray Yacht Club afterwards for a nice buffet lunch. It was a good cause to support, and fun event for a group of club members.





Community Spotlight

Lifelines in Scorched Earth, California

We're a yacht club. We know all about lifelines.

They are just a few strands of nylon, but they represent the difference between hope and hopelessness, holding fast or slipping completely away, perhaps even life or death.

Now imagine a Seagate Fire, one that turns all 336 households into smokey cinders, maybe takes out Seabridge too. Just think of the homelessness and loss. Could there be a lifeline for a situation such as that? Our neighbors to the North are hoping the answer is Yes.

It's hard to know how to help. The SGYC Ship Store attempted to donate clothing, but was told there was already too much clothing, particularly for people who no longer have closets. A neighboring yacht club did a successful jacket drive, which was gratefully received due to the cold weather we've been having. Other people are offering to temporarily house a needy family, and one local mariner



even delivered several dozen buckets to fire victims who are combing through the rubble of their homes seeking salvageable items.



The State of California has arranged for houses of worship in the Altadena / Pasadena area to be a lifeline to the community there. There aren't many left; over a dozen Churches have burned, and the few that remain are burdened with many of their own parishioners who have suffered total loss.

Lately, Altadena based Victory Church has served as a much-needed lifeline for their fire-ravished community. Those seeking to help or get help can reach them at www.vbcpasadena.org/eatonfire/. The County of Los Angeles has also set up an online portal with links to funds that have been set up to help first responders and fire victims with housing, employment and recovery: <https://lacounty.gov/relief/>.

For a heartfelt message about the history and significance of the Altadena area, please see the reprint of a recent post by professor / historian / consultant Zoot Velasco at the end of this newsletter. Zoot will be hosting a benefit for Eaton Fire Relief through the Altadena Rotary Club on March 27 at 7 PM at the Alex Theatre in Glendale, with a Livestream happening as well, for yet another way to get involved.



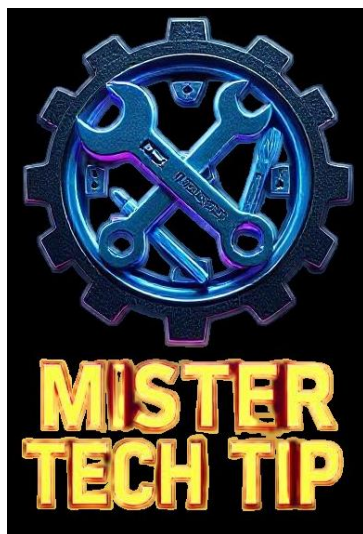
Sand Dollar Cookies

How do they do that? Make cookies with the unmistakable look of our favorite sea shell?



Simple! Just do this: Whip up a batch of your favorite light colored cookies, such as snickerdoodles, sugar cookies or ginger snaps. Right before baking, decorate the tops with almond slivers to resemble a sand dollar, and voila!

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



In this issue, we are answering the question, How to Set Up a Duffy Boat for the Perfect Romantic Evening.



Since Mr. Tech Tip is more about Maintenance and Repair than boat-prepping for date night, we decided to poll some SGYC members to see what they had so say. Here are some of the best ideas submitted by both Guys and Gals in the club:

Seagate Gals

- 🚩 Candles, LOTS of them, electric of course
 - 🚩 Music: Playlist must include the words Love, Romance, Best & Greatest
 - 🚩 Champagne – ice bucket & crystal stemware non-negotiable
 - 🚩 Chocolate, boxed truffles OK, but prefer fondue with berries (No Kiwi)
 - 🚩 Flowers, either Roses or..... actually all Roses
 - 🚩 Essential Oil Defusers in all cupholders
 - 🚩 Pillows! If there's a place to sit, there aren't enough
 - 🚩 Heart shaped boarding mat
 - 🚩 Photographer, images pro-edited and uploaded before cast-off
 - 🚩 Full Moon – Figure it out!
 - 🚩 Duffy speed slowed to a crawl
- Bonus: string quartet or tenor ensemble performing at the dock.
(Points deducted for Mariachis.)

Seagate Guys

- 🚩 Beer
- 🚩 Back in time for the game

Member News

CELEBRATE!

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



The Valentine Boys

St. Valentine

Valentine was a 3rd century saint associated with courtly love after performing wedding ceremonies during a time when marriage was prohibited by the Emperor Claudius II.

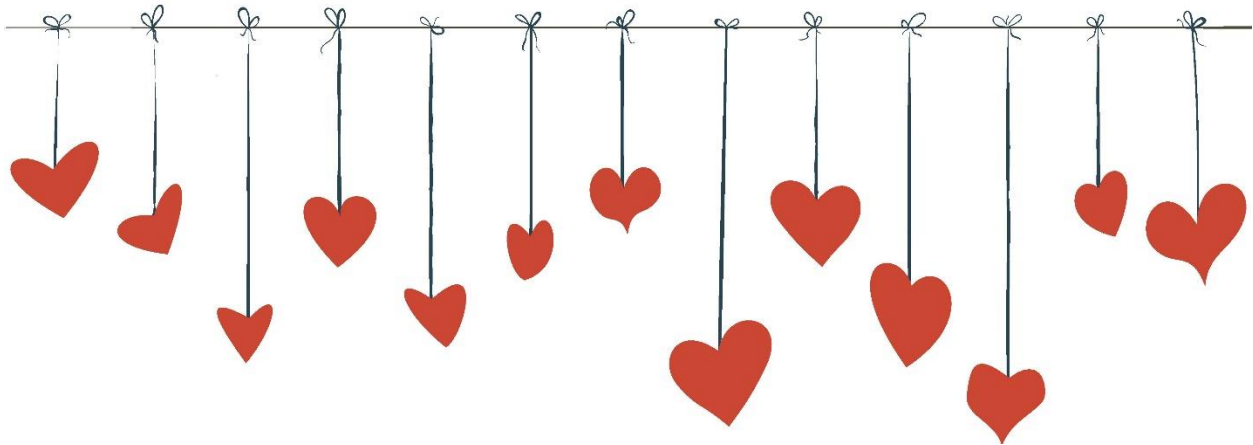


Valentine was ultimately executed for his rebellion to the edict. It's said that the last words he wrote inspired today's most romantic salutation: 'from your Valentine.'

Valentine is also the patron saint of epilepsy and beekeepers

Cupid

Cupid did not arrive on the scene until several hundred years later. Cupid, meaning Passionate Desire in Latin, is the mythological son of Mars and Venus, or Venus and Mercury, or Aphrodite and, well no one really knows where the mischievous little tyke came from, but it's universally accepted that, using only his bow and golden arrows, he can inflict a passionate blow on anyone he sees, even though he's still in pampers.



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

See how much you know about Valentine's Day:

- How many calories are in a glass of champagne?
- Approximately how many roses are produced for Valentine's Day each year?
- Which famous playwright coined the term "star-crossed lovers?"
- According to Roman mythology, who is the son of Mercury and Venus?
- Relative to perfume, this phrase roughly translates into "grooming water."
- Meg Ryan's famous "I'll have what she's having" scene in "When Harry Met Sally" takes place at what New York City deli?
- What element are diamonds made of?
- With a population of 108 people, which U.S. state is home to the town of Valentine?
- In the movie "Titanic," what's the name of Rose's necklace?

(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.

SCUTTLEBUTT

The barrel containing the fresh drinking water was called a scuttlebutt and became a place for sailors to gather, talk, and pass on information. The term scuttlebutt became synonymous with information. For example: The scuttlebutt says they planned to take their clients with them to the new o ice, but the boss found out and fired them for ethical violations.

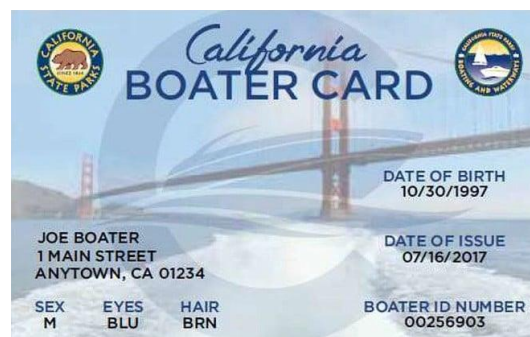
SCYA COMMUNITY REPORT

CA Boater's Card

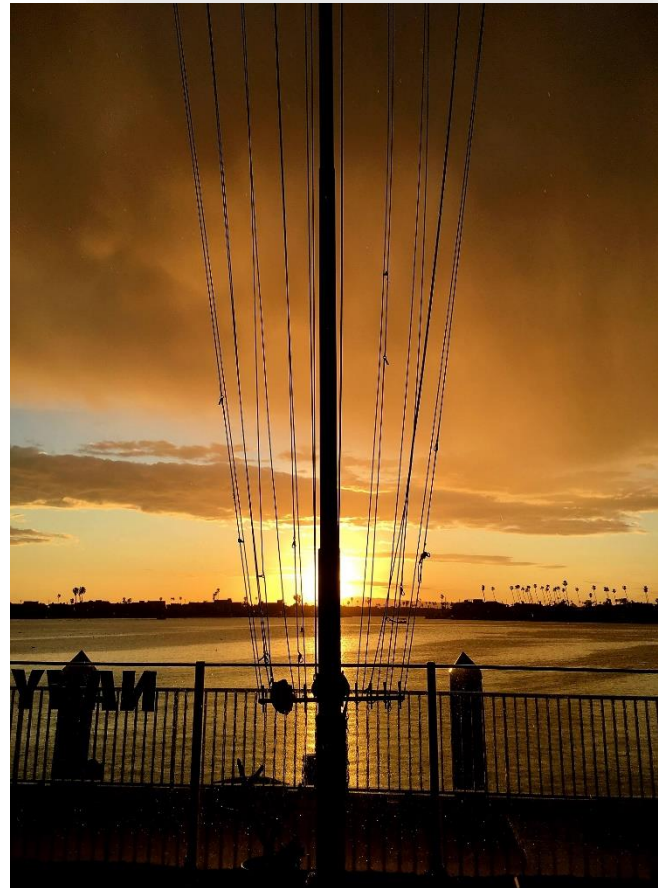


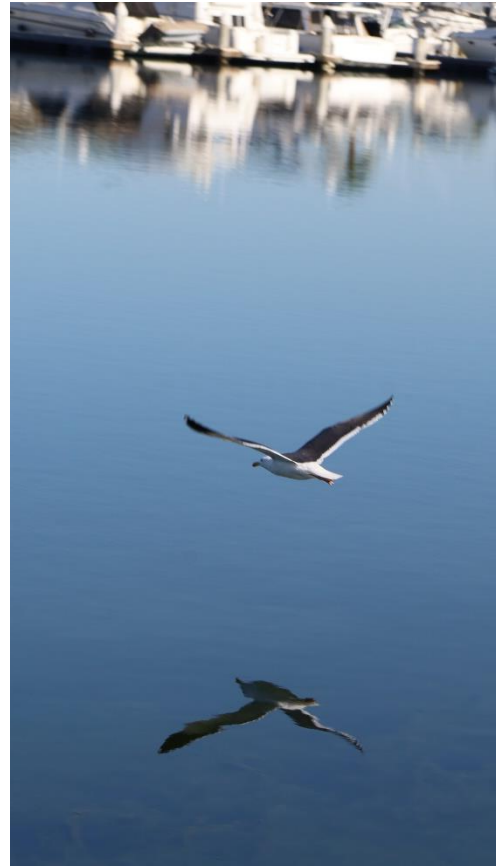
This year, all boaters, regardless of age, must have and possess a California Boater Card if you will be operating a vessel on any body of water in California. The California Boater Card shows that its holder has successfully taken and passed a state-approved boater safety education examination. As of January 1 2025, all persons who operate a vessel on California waters will be required to have one.

All Boaters here means All, so even our SGYC Duffy Pilots are going to need a California Boater Card. Learn more at CaliforniaBoaterCard.com.



This issue's Great Shots includes a great catch of the Seagate lagoon's pump and pump-shaft being removed for repair, a sunset over the Alamitos Bay turning basin, a winter shot of the pier, a bird in flight and a shot of the harbor at twilight.





We at SGYC headquarters would like to thank each and every one of you for your photographic contributions. KEEP UP THE GOOD WORK!

Another area where we ask for image submissions is Signs for our Times, and we have another good one for you this issue: the State of California is instructing us which fish to eat (the good fish) and which ones not to eat (the bad fish).

This sign can be seen on or near most of our local piers.

Signs for our Times

A GUIDE TO EATING FISH *from* SANTA MONICA BEACH SOUTH OF SANTA MONICA PIER TO SEAL BEACH PIER
(LOS ANGELES AND ORANGE COUNTIES)

WOMEN 18 - 49 YEARS AND CHILDREN 1 - 17 YEARS

Women (18 - 49 Years)
Children (1 - 17 Years)

4 TOTAL SERVINGS A WEEK
OR
2 TOTAL SERVINGS A WEEK
OR
1 TOTAL SERVING A WEEK

Eat the Good Fish
Eating fish that are low in chemicals may provide health benefits to children and adults.

Avoid the Bad Fish
Eating fish with higher levels of chemicals like mercury or PCBs may cause health problems in children and adults.

Choose the Right Fish
Chemicals may be more harmful to unborn babies and children.

Jacksmelt

California Corbina **Opaleye** **Pacific Chub Mackerel** (high in omega-3s) **Queenfish** **Surperch** **Yellowfin Croaker**

California Halibut **Kelp Bass (Calico Bass)** **Rockfish** **Sargo** **Shovelnose Guitarfish**

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!

Upcoming Events:



SeaGate Yacht Club 2025 Events Calendar

Date	Event	Time	Location	Event Hosts
1/10/2025	New Member Open House & Membership renewal drive Happy Hour		Bonaire Clubhouse	Board
2/2/2025	Event Host Brunch		Bonaire Clubhouse	Board
2/16/2025	Seal Beach Yacht Club Brunch		Seal Beach Yacht Club	
3/6/2025	BCYC Prime Rib Dinner		Bahia Corthian Yacht Club	Cleve Sproule & Mark Arizmendi
3/29/2025	Murder Mystery Dinner		Bonaire Clubhouse	John & Margaret Humphreys
4/26/2025	Opening Day		Bonaire Clubhouse	Grace Toy & Board
5/17/2025	Wine Tasting		Giali Residence	Robin & Kirk Erickson / Kristi & Craig Whitacre
6/7/2025	Night at the Races (Belmont Stakes)		Los Alamitos Race Course	
June - Sept	Tuesday Cruisin		Huntington Beach Harbour	Jack & Diane Wiegand
7/12/2025	Duffy Event		Huntington Beach Harbour & Clubhouse	Josef Davydovits & Felicia Emad
8/16/2025	Rocking the Docks		Windspun Dock	Mona Marcos & Laura Roskelly
9/4/2025	BCYC Prime Rib Dinner		Bahia Corthian Yacht Club	Cleve Sproule & Mark Arizmendi
9/19 - 9/21	Newport Beach Cruise		Newport Beach	Michael & Doris Dix / Elliott & Debbi Wainer
10/8/2025	Annual Meeting		Bonaire Clubhouse	Board
October	Bimini Dock Party		Bimini Dock	Susan Westover-Giali & Dale Giali
11/1/2025	Commodore's Ball		Bahia Corthian Yacht Club	Chris Johnson-Pasqua
12/6/2025	Ship's Store Holiday Boutique		Bonaire Clubhouse	Margee Lennard
12/13 & 12/14	Huntington Harbour Boat Parade		Huntington Beach Harbour	Board & Members
12/31/2025	New Years Eve		Bonaire Clubhouse	Tricia Pratto

Some Dates subject to Change

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

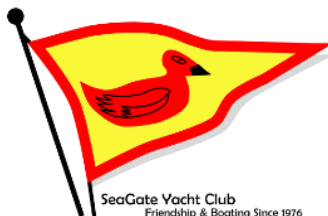
<http://sgyc2021files.seagateyachtclub.com/>.

View past Burgees here:

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

Valentine Trivia Answers

There are 84 calories in a glass of champagne.
250 million roses are produced for Valentine's day each year.
William Shakespear coined the term "star-crossed lovers".
Cupid is considered the son of Mars and Venus.
Eau de Toilette roughly translates to "grooming water".
Meg Ryan says "I'll have what she's having" in Katz's Deli.
Diamonds are made of Carbon.
Valentine, Texas has a population of 108 people.
Titanic's Rose wears a necklace named The Heart of the Ocean



The BURGEE

(Published Bi-Monthly)

SeaGate Yacht Club

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Huntington Beach, CA 92649

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<http://seagateyachtclub.com/>



A member of the Southern California Yachting Association

SeaGate Yacht Club

2025 Board Members

- Chris Johnson-Pasqua – Commodore
- Tricia Pratto – Vice Commodore
- Joyce Zimmerman-Ochs – Rear Commodore
- Robin Erikson – Treasurer & Roster
- Debbie Miller – Secretary
- 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



Ship Store Survey

2025

Add more Jackets / Vests Yes/No

Add more Tops / Shirts Yes/No

Add more hats (what style?)

Add Higher Quality (and more expensive) items such as Blazers,
Cashmere Sweaters with our logo Yes/No

I prefer items with just the Burgee on them Yes/No

I prefer items with both Burgee and SGYC on them Yes/No

Keep Ship Store as is Yes/No

I would like to see engraved items such as:

Blanket/throw, Glasses, Cheese Board, Coasters, Mugs, Water Bottles,
Notebook, Pens.... Ideas?

On Altadena

I am in shock and mourning for my beloved [hashtag#Altadena](#). When buying my current home, I first put several offers on homes in Altadena that weren't accepted.

I have always been fascinated and infatuated with Altadena, first developed in the 1880s. Western rancher libertarian meets hippie chic meets Black culture panache. It has been known as the Black Beverly Hills and stood in for Beverly Hills on many TV shows. It is a JPL and CalTech bedroom community filled with professors and scientists. I have a friend, a top film industry costume designer, who owns a goat ranch. The foothill town is also home to several monasteries.

Altadena has a culture and history like no other. I loved meeting friends at Fox's for home-smoked pork with redeye gravy, Perry's Joint for sandwiches, or El Patron for Mexican. I started attending the free summer concerts at Farnsworth Park, my favorite park anywhere.

General Charles S. Farnsworth was a decorated General and hero of World War I, winning a Silver Star, the French Croix de Guerre, and the Legion of Honor for his bravery in battle. He mentored and trained his junior officers, including Patton and Eisenhower. He retired to Altadena and, in 1931, was the Rose Parade Grand Marshal. He helped get the park built as a Works Progress Administration (WPA) project. It opened in 1934 as part of the WPA to get people working during the Great Depression. Even though it was built in the thirties, it held the best aspects of Arts & Crafts architecture. From several spots at the park, you can see all of LA County on a clear day, all the way to Catalina.

After attending some concerts there, I attended the Rotary Club meetings at the beautiful Altadena Town & Country Club (established in 1910) and joined the club as it celebrated its 75th anniversary. Last year was our 27th year hosting the Farnsworth concerts and our most successful. I love Pasadena, but I have been having a long-term affair with Altadena.

Now, our Farnsworth Park building is gone. Our country club is gone. Fox's is gone. The McNally house and its legendary cigar lounge, which I only saw on my favorite episode of my favorite TV show, Restored with Bret Waterman, is gone. So many other businesses, houses of worship, and historic sites that held the culture of Altadena are gone.

Where else but Altadena would you have a bike shop that is also a Bunny Museum? Gone. My friend's goat ranch is gone. She is now in my guest house. Monasteries and schools in historic homes are gone, too.

We must mourn. As Altadena rebuilds, which will take a long time, it will redefine itself for the next 150 years, but it will never be quite the same.

This is why I am so proud to have this job. Historic preservation is such an essential and defining element of who we are as a community. Let's always treasure what we have. We will continue to help Altadena in any way we can with what they need and archive what was lost.

Zoot Velasco, Social Impact Consultant, Leadership Coach, and Professor