



THE MARINER'S NEEDLE



July 2025

Volume 65 Number 01

Celebrating 65 years!

ABC/USPS D28

SAN LUIS REY SAIL AND POWER SQUADRON

A Unit of the United States Power Squadrons®



OFFICIAL PUBLICATION



JULY 2025

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ADVERTISING RATES AVAILABLE





2025

JULY

- 4 Noon—1500 Oceanside Harbor Dinghy Parade
- 7 1830 Ex Com Meeting—Hosted by Phil Woelfel
- 11 D28 Mission Bay Raft-Up. Organizer Kirk Lippert**
- 13 San Diego Hosted Annual BBQ—DeAnza Cove

AUGUST

- 4 1830 Ex Com Meeting—via Zoom
- 15 All Member Happy Hour, The Yard House, Carlsbad**

SEPTEMBER

- 5-7 ABC Fall Governing Conference, Grand Rapids, MI.
- 8 1830 Ex Com Meeting—hosted by Cida Diehl
- 16 All Member Taco Tuesday—The Light House, Oceanside**

OCTOBER

- 6 1830 Ex Com Meeting—via Zoom.

NOVEMBER

- 3 1830 ex Com Meeting—via Zoom
- 19 All Member & Guest Event with Instructor Appreciation Dinner. Location: Mobile Estate's Clubhouse**

DECEMBER

- 1 1800 Ex Com Meeting—Hosted by Jill Powell
- 13 Oceanside Harbor Parade of lights—Organzier TBD**
- 19 1830 Christmas Party & Dinner—Hunter Steakhouse**

JANUARY 2026

- 10 San Diego Change of Watch—Southwestern Yacht Club**
- 11 Oceanside Change of Watch—Hunter Steakhouse**

Bold—Our own club event and all members invited to attend.

A Note from the Commander



Here is Summer 2025!

As we dive in to the heart of summer, I am excited to report that our efforts with the Google Grant Ads are beginning to pay off. We have started receiving calls, and inquiries about our classes—proof that the outreach is working. Thank you for everyone helping to make this campaign successful.

Summer means it is time for fun on the water! I am looking forward to our upcoming raft-ups and the much-anticipated trip to **Catalina**. These events are a great way to stay connected with fellow members and enjoy the boating lifestyle we all love.

We are also building new bridges with **District 13**. Plans are in motion for joint events focused on **Vessel Safety Checks** and we are working on the possibility of offering **ABC** classes at **Lake Perris**. These partnerships will strengthen our mission and extend our reach. If you are interested in helping with VSCs, ABC instruction, or any of our summer events, please reach out—*your participation makes a difference!*

Stay safe and enjoy the season!

Respectfully,
Stf/C Shawn Goit, JN-ON
 Commander, America's Boating Club Oceanside

JULY

JOSE OTERO	03
JAN FOLLESTAD	06
KEN SMITH	06
DAVE GIBBS	12
JEFF OLSEN	18
ADRIAAN VELDHUISEN	25

Happy Birthday !!



Oceanside, CA Harbor - Live



San Luis Rey USPS
666 subscribers

Subscribe

28

 Share
 Clip
 Save

2 watching now Started streaming on Jan 19, 2025

Please donate to America's Boating Club Oceanside to help support this camera.

<https://www.paypal.com/donate/?hosted...>

Oceanside, CA Harbor - this IP Camera is paid for and maintained by America's Boating Club - Oceanside and Oceanside Yacht Club. Check weather conditions or just watch the boats go by. Here is the schedule for camera angles.

12 midnight - 3:30am -- The North Jetty Only

3:30am - 8pm ----- Panning/Zooming of the harbor

8pm - 12 midnight ----- Marina Only



San Luis Rey USPS
666 subscribers

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ACCEPTING DONATIONS!



AMERICA'S BOATING CLUB



OCEANSIDE, California

TAX ID 95-6097943

[Click here to support](#) — *Thankyou*

THE MISSION OF THE AMERICA'S BOATING CLUB IS TO
 PROMOTE RECREATIONAL BOATING SAFETY THROUGH EDUCATION
 AND CIVIC ACTIVITIES WHILE PROVIDING FELLOWSHIP FOR ITS MEMBERS.

S.E.O. EDUCATION UPDATE



Hello Squadron/Club members—
enjoy your summer on the water!
But before you head out remember to:

- ◆ *Schedule your vessel safety Check (VSC);*
- ◆ *Then you and your passengers always **wear life jackets**, stay boating sober, and carry essential safety gear.*

Did you read about the giant freak storm with 45mph wind gusts and waves 10' high, that hit Lake Tahoe on Saturday 21 June, killing 8 people, frightening dozens and wreaking havoc amongst all the boaters? The boat owner had only been out in his new 27' gold Chris-Craft 3 times.

*"We're stuck in the middle of Sierra Nevada so the weather is very unpredictable".. "It's really important that the recreational boater — or even professional boater — recognize that when whitecaps turn up so fast ... **it's time to put on your life jacket and get off the water.**"*

A pontoon boat made it to the beach — with a dead motor and no life vests in sight.

There are an average of 6 deaths on Lake Tahoe every summer—*don't become a statistic!*

You may think that it is not COOL to be seen wearing a life jacket, but what are the consequences?

It is BETTER to WEAR than NOT TO WEAR!

Remember, we lost two of our club members on a lake 2 years ago who were not wearing life jackets.

ABC COURSE "NO SHOW" FIASCO:

We had an interesting turn of events for the latest **America's Boating Course** that started on **10 June, 2025**. **Seven** students registered, but besides many phone calls and messages to potential students, we ended up teaching the course to **one** student. The course that was originally scheduled for 4 weeks, is now extended until the end of July.

If you commit you must COMMIT. Don't leave us underutilized. *Our instructors are volunteers and their time is valuable!* They are:

P/C Kirk Lippert, JN, and US Coast Guard Captain Jack Guida.

WHY EDUCATION MATTERS:

The **U.S. Coast Guard's** 2024 report shows 556 boating-related fatalities, marking the lowest in over 50 years with a rate of 4.8 deaths per 100,000 registered boats—**70% of these deaths involved boaters lacking boating education**. Additionally, drowning accounted for 3/4 of all deaths, with **87% not wearing the life jackets**.

**These stark numbers REINFORCE our mission:
EDUCATION SAVES LIVES.**

UPCOMING COURSES:

Cruise Planning — Voyage preparation, navigation and provisioning. See flyer on Page 5.

Engine Maintenance (10.16.25) — Routine care and trouble-shooting basics.

AMERICA'S BOATING CLUB



OCEANSIDE

CRUISE PLANNING

Start Date: August 7, 2025

Time: 6:30pm - 9:00-pm

Location: Oceanside Yacht Club Classroom

Why: Learn the basics of a successful cruise whether under sail or power in 16 sessions - 9 classes.

Subjects: Preparing your boat to cruise:

- *Propulsion/Electrical Systems/Vessel sub Systems;*
- *Electronics and Navigation/Communication*
- *Anchoring/Safety Equipment/Weather;*
- *Crew Selection and Comfort/Provisioning/Meals;*
- *Boat Emergency/Medical Emergency;*
- *Security/Chartering/Crossing Borders;*
- *Cruise Planning Exercises/Final Exam.*

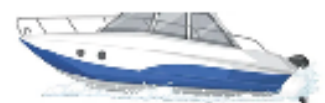


Instructors: Cida Diehl and Jeff Olson.

Cost: \$105 for ABC Members and \$140 for Non-Members.



CONTACT:
 CIDA DIEHL (760) 798-5794
cidadiehl@sbcglobal.net





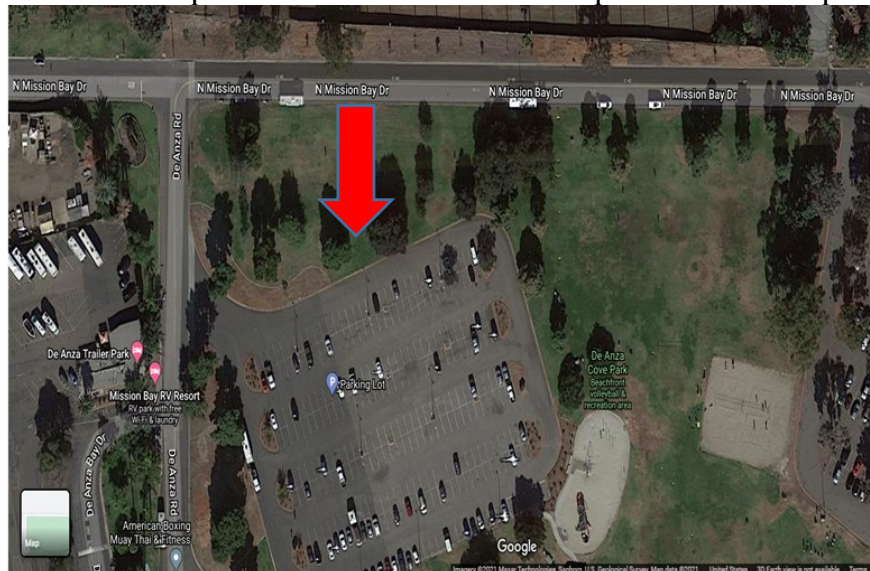
ANNUAL PICNIC

Sunday, July 13, 2025 2pm-5pm

DeAnza Cove

2701 N. Mission Bay Drive at DeAnza Road

Based on available space. Look for us around the perimeter of the parking lot



Time for a summer BBQ!!! Bring your favorite side dish or dessert and join the other SDSPS members for a day on the bay. Hot Dogs, hamburgers, condiments, and water will be provided. Beer and wine will be allowed (BYOB) but **NO GLASS BOTTLES!**

Be sure to bring chairs and a small table, Pre-Registration is Requested.

Members are \$5. Guests are \$10.

The activity for this GMM will be NOTHING!

Just a day to hang out with other boating members and catch up.

Join in our Raffle for some unique prizes. Tickets are \$5 for 5 or 15 for \$10

Please RSVP your attendance and Potluck Item by July 10th, 2025

to: Peter Oberg at ptob8@aol.com or text 858-883-3735.

Walk-ins welcome. Bring a potential new member.



SAFETY LESSONS LEARNED

JUNE/JULY



At the time of this writing, we will celebrate **Memorial Day**. I am the son of a WWII veteran who barely survived, and in 1960 at age 17, I joined the (Dutch) army for six years. So, I salute all **U.S. Veterans**, and I pray for the families who made the ultimate sacrifice. The **America's Boating Club** counts a high percentage of veterans as so many continue to serve after they retire.

The next national celebration weekend is, of course, the 4th of July weekend. From a boating safety perspective that is an important, though often sad, occasion with impaired boating and deadly accidents. In 2009 the **US Coast Guard** launched "**Operation Dry Water**". They feel that this recurring event has decreased the number of boating fatalities in the **United States**. This year's activities are scheduled for July 4-6. An interesting element of the program this year is alcohol use by passengers. Intoxicated passengers can easily slip, fall overboard or suffer other life-threatening incidents. It presents a danger regardless of the activity of the operator.

Remember the weekend of 4th of July in **Long Beach** in 2024? A power boat crashed into a jetty killing one man and injuring 10 other people. A 48-foot powerboat had crashed into the **Alamitos Bay** jetty. The **Long Beach Fire Department** said speed was likely a factor, with initial estimates indicating the boat was traveling at roughly 40 mph.

For my challenge in the previous issue, we stayed on the topic of vessel priority. We dug deeper into one of the category of **Restricted in her Ability to Maneuver (RAM)**. I figured that my question would be easy to answer if, and only if, you could find the definition in the **US Coast Guard Rules**. Identify the only vessels that shall NOT be regarded as "*restricted in her ability to maneuver*". My thanks go to one of my regular responders and friend, **R/C Allan Bombard** of the **ABC San Diego** and **District 28**. He correctly identified answer D - *a vessel not under command* - and the **USCG Rule 3 (g)**. Look it up and you will find that there is a list of six inclusions where three of my choices are listed. **Thank you to my readers who take the time to respond.**

For the **JUNE** and **JULY** challenge, I stay one more time with vessels "*restricted in her ability to maneuver*". At night, a vessel shall indicate that she is restricted in her ability to maneuver by showing in vertical line:

- A) *two red lights*
- B) *two red lights and two white lights*
- C) *two red lights with a white light in between*
- D) *two white lights with a red light in between*

If you find the Rule, then you also see a picture of the lights, as well as the day shape. Let me know what you think.

I hope you consider our "**On the Water Boating Program**" with **Shawn Goit** as the instructor in the classroom and on the water. To see if you can join, don't hesitate to get in touch with Shawn:

<https://americasboatingcluboceanside.org/classroom/>

Captain Adriaan Veldhuisen

awveldhuisen@gmail.com

Education Report Continued from Page 4

Help us spread the word, recruit registrants and ensure full attendance!

CALL FOR COLLABORATION:

Your participation is vital:

- ◆ *Encourage sign-ups from friends and family*
- ◆ *Volunteer to co-host classes or follow-up with students*
- ◆ *Help manage the waitlist and reminders to reduce no-shows.*

Together we can **maximize engagement** and **impact**.

CLOSING THOUGHTS:

Be safe and enjoy the California Summer

- ◆ *BOOK your VSC now!*
- ◆ *Wear those life jackets and stay sober;*
- ◆ *Encourage new boaters to get educated and certified—it truly matters;*
- ◆ *Let's minimize our part in the unfortunate 70% statistic—**education is prevention.***

Thank you for your support and teamwork.

Reach out with feedback or ideas at any time:

cidadiehl@sbcglobal.net

Fair Winds and Safe Boating!

Lt/C Cida Diehl, SN-CN

AMERICA'S BOATING CLUB
UNITED STATES POWER SQUADRONS™

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North County San Diego, CA.

Email: LeonVesselSafetyCheck@gmail.com

Website: <https://AmericasBoatingClubOceanside.org>



For Boaters, By Boaters™

Providing FREE & Confidential
Vessel Safety Checks

"We will come to you."



Please Contact:

Leon Hull
Shawn Goit
Kirk Lippert

As Above
(760) 468-6212
(442) 488-4178

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WWW.USPS.ORG

See details on Page 8

Photos in this issue of The Mariner's Needle
courtesy of Unknown Bystander.

Cover Photo: San Diego Boat Show:
Darryel Simmons, Phil Woelfel and Jeff Olsen

All About Vessel Safety Checks

A vessel safety check is a **FREE**, voluntary inspection of a recreational boat to ensure it meets safety standards. Conducted by trained examiners from organizations like the [Coast Guard Auxiliary](#) or [America's Boating Club](#), these checks help boaters identify and correct safety issues before they become problems on the water. Successful checks result in a decal, indicating the vessel is equipped to meet minimum safety requirements.

KEY ASPECTS OF A VESSEL SAFETY CHECK:

VOLUNTARY AND FREE:

Boat owners are encouraged to request a safety check, and there is no cost for the inspection;

IDENTIFIES SAFETY ISSUES:

Examiners assess various safety equipment and practices, such as life jackets, navigation lights, fire extinguishers, ventilation, overall boat condition, fuel and electrical, and more.

NO CITATIONS ISSUED:

The primary purpose is education and safety, not enforcement. Examiners don't issue citations or report findings to law enforcement.

Decal awarded:

If the vessel passes the check, it receives a decal, signifying it meets basic safety standards

Potential benefits:

Passing a safety check can potentially lead to insurance discounts, and it can also prepare boaters for potential law enforcement boardings by ensuring they meet basic safety requirements.

Convenience:

Examiners can conduct the check at the boat owner's location or at a designated site.

What is checked:

Examiners verify items like registration numbers, navigation lights, life jackets, flares, fire extinguishers, sound producing devices, and more.

Not just for large boats:

Even personal watercraft and paddlecraft users can benefit from a safety check.

WHAT HAPPENS IF THE BOAT DOESN'T PASS ITS TEST?

The examiner will kindly explain to the boat owner what is missing or incorrect and after the modifications have been made will arrange to re-examine the boat. *Again free of charge.*



Examiners can conduct the check at the boat owner's location or at a designated site.



AMERICA'S BOATING CLUB
UNITED STATES POWER SQUADRONS



District 28

**SOME CABINS STILL AVAILABLE—
DON'T WAIT!**

8 CABINS BOOKED SO FAR!

Explore France in 2026

WITH US

28 May - 04 June 2026

Escorted by D/Lt Jill Powell, AP



Add 3 nights in Paris and visit Notre Dame and Giverny as a pre-cruise delight

PRICED AT 2 for 1!!

BALCONY \$3,999.00 PP OR \$7,998 PER CABIN

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- Touring as mentioned in itinerary
- Complimentary superior drinks package
- Complimentary WiFi

OFFER EXTENDED—DIAMOND AND RUBY DECKS AVAILABLE : \$7,998 or \$8,598 per cabin.

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jill.powell@traveledge.com
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- Visit Palace of the Popes in 14th Century Avignon
- Explore the Ardaches Gorges' outstanding landscapes
- Marvel at the Pont du Gard aqueduct
- Visit the iconic Roman amphitheatre in Arles

STOP and SMELL the lavender!

CST #1006676-10

ensemble

Deck Plan for the Rhone River cruise for May 2026

MS THOMAS HARDY

DIAMOND DECK (UPPER DECK)



RUBY DECK (MIDDLE DECK)



EMERALD DECK (LOWER DECK)



- DELUXE BALCONY SUITE
25sq.m/269sq.ft
- SUPERIOR SUITE
23sq.m/247sq.ft
- SUPERIOR STERN SUITE
23sq.m/247sq.ft
- DIAMOND DECK SUITE
17sq.m/183sq.ft
- RUBY DECK SUITE
17sq.m/183sq.ft
- EMERALD DECK SUITE
16sq.m/172sq.ft





AMERICA'S BOATING CLUB OCEANSIDE

SAN LUIS REY SAIL & POWER SQUADRON : 2025 BRIDGE

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3 Year Term: 1/Lt Jill Powell, AP
 2 Year Term:
 1 Year Term:

FLAG LIEUTENANT

Position Open

MERIT MARKS

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IMMED. PAST COMMANDER

P/C Darryel D Simmons, JN-IN

MEMBER AT LARGE

Russell Schneider

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Lt/C Kirk Lippert, JN-CN

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NOMINATING COMMITTEE

2 year Term: Shawn Goit, JN-ON
 1 Year Term: Kirk Lippert, JN-CN

ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE

Position Open

CO-OPERATIVE CHARTING

Lt/C Kirk Lippert, JN-CN

LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

Lt/C Adriaan Veldhuisen, SN-ON

VESSEL SAFETY CHECK

1/Lt Leon Hull

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NEED TO CONTACT AMERICA'S BOATING CLUB OCEANSIDE ?

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<https://AmericasBoatingClubOceanside.org>