



THE MARINER'S NEEDLE



December 2025

Volume 65 Number 05

Celebrating 65 years!

ABC/USPS

SAN LUIS REY SAIL AND POWER SQUADRON

A Unit of the United States Power Squadrons®



OFFICIAL PUBLICATION



DECEMBER 2025

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ADVERTISING RATES AVAILABLE



Merry Christmas

Come to the Party on Wednesday 17th December. See Page 3.



2025

DECEMBER

- 1 1800 Ex Com Meeting—Hosted by Jill & Loie Powell
- 13 Oceanside Harbor Parade of lights—Organizer TBD**
- 14 1600 55th San Diego Parade of Lights—Organizer SDSPS**
- 17 1800 Christmas Party & Dinner—Hunter Steakhouse**

JANUARY 2026

- 10 San Diego Change of Watch—Southwestern Yacht Club
- 11 1530 Oceanside Change of Watch—Hunter Steakhouse**
- 23 1630 Happy Hour—Yard House, Carlsbad Mall.**

FEBRUARY

- 2 1800 Ex Com Meeting—via Zoom
- 8-15 ABC/USPS Annual Meeting—Myrtle Beach, SC**

MARCH

- 2 1830 Ex Com Meeting—via Zoom
- 13-14 D28 Annual Conference—Hosted by San Diego at SWYC**
- 18 1830 All Member Guest Gathering & Potluck Dinner at OYC**

APRIL

- 6 1830 ExCom Meeting—Hosted by: TBA
- 14 1800 Taco Tuesday—Light House Oceanside Harbor**

MAY

- 4 1830 ExCom Meeting—via Zoom
- 13 1630 Happy Hour at The Broiler, Oceanside Harbor**
- 16 National Safe Boating Week
- 28—04 June D28 Rhone River Cruise—France**

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

December 2025 Commander's Report



AMERICA'S BOATING CLUB

OCEANSIDE

Submitted by: Stf/C Shawn Goit, JN-ON, Commander

Greetings Fellow Members,

December is here, and with the recent shift to standard time, the days feel like they end far too soon. Shorter daylight hours can make it challenging to get on the water, but brighter news is ahead—the Winter Solstice on December 21st. After that, our days begin getting longer again... *finally!*

INSTRUCTOR APPRECIATION EVENT

We recently held our Instructor Appreciation Night, and it was incredibly well attended. Thank you to everyone who joined us, and most importantly, thank you to our instructors. Their dedication, professionalism, and countless volunteer hours are what keep our education program strong. Recognizing them each year is not just important—*it's essential.*

INSTRUCTOR DEVELOPMENT CLASS COMING SOON

For anyone interested in becoming a Certified USPS/ABC Instructor, we will be scheduling an Instructor Development (ID) class soon.

If you've ever thought about teaching, coaching, or helping with our courses, now is the perfect time to step forward.

Please let me know if you're interested, and I'll get you on the list.

Photos in this issue contributed by Jennifer & Shawn Goit and Jill Powell.

Continued on Page 8



**Come and enjoy a celebration
with us!**



San Luis Rey / Oceanside USPS - Christmas Dinner -
Hunter Steakhouse - December 17, 2025 at 6:00 PM



Christmas

**Wednesday 17 December 2025
at 6:00pm**

**AMERICA'S BOATING CLUB
OCEANSIDE**

Hunter Steakhouse

1221 Vista Way, Oceanside, CA. 92054
Junction I-5 and Vista Way

**Free
Parking
RSVP
HERE**

**\$ 45
Per
Person
in
Advance
\$50 At
Door**

**Order from menu: Top Sirloin (*Medium*), Lemon Herb
Chicken or Roasted Salmon.
Vegetarian available: Vegetable Linguini Pasta.
Plus Garden Salad.**

Bring a gift of \$15 value to participate in the exchange



ATTENTION PLEASE!



CHANGE OF WATCH 2026

San Luis Rey USPS/America's Boating Club
Oceanside, Change of Watch -Jan 11, 2026 at 3:30 PM
- Hunter Steakhouse, Oceanside, CA



ALL MEMBERS WELCOME!

Join your peers for the Annual Change of Watch Dinner
— *thanking the outgoing Bridge and installing the
incoming Bridge.*

When: Sunday 11 January 2026

Time: 3:30 — 5:30pm

**Where: Hunter Steakhouse, 1221
Vista Way, Oceanside, CA. 92054.**
(At I-5 and Vista Way.)

Cost: \$42 Per Person in advance. \$47 Per Person at Door.

EARLY DINNER MENU CHOICES:

ORDER UPON ARRIVAL

PRIME RIB—PETITE CUT

- *Ruby port au jus, mixed vegetables and red skinned garlic mashed potatoes*

NEW YORK STEAK

- *Served with mixed vegetables ad garlic mashed potatoes*

FOREST MUSHROOM CHICKEN

- *Served with rich whisky peppercorn sauce with mushrooms over rice pilaf and mixed vegetables.*

BROILED SALMON

- *Grilled then topped with a hity of garlic. Served with rice pilaf and mixed vegetables.*

Vegetarian available upon request.



Register NOW / Reservations Required
Please respond by 04 January 2026.
[America's Boating Club Oceanside](http://AmericasBoatingClubOceanside.com)





Instructor Appreciation Thanksgiving Dinner





EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT REPORT

The **Engine Maintenance** course finished last week with 6 students. Only one student took the exam. Thanks to instructor **Jorge Alonso** for teaching this course.

The **America's Boating Course** is underway with 5 students. Thanks to **Captain Jack and P/C Kirk Lippert, JN-CN** for teaching for teaching this course.

The schedule of classes for 2026 is underway. The classes are scheduled according to the availability of the instructors.

Americas Boating Club – Oceanside is in a great need for volunteer instructors. If you would like to be a safe boating instructor, please let me know.

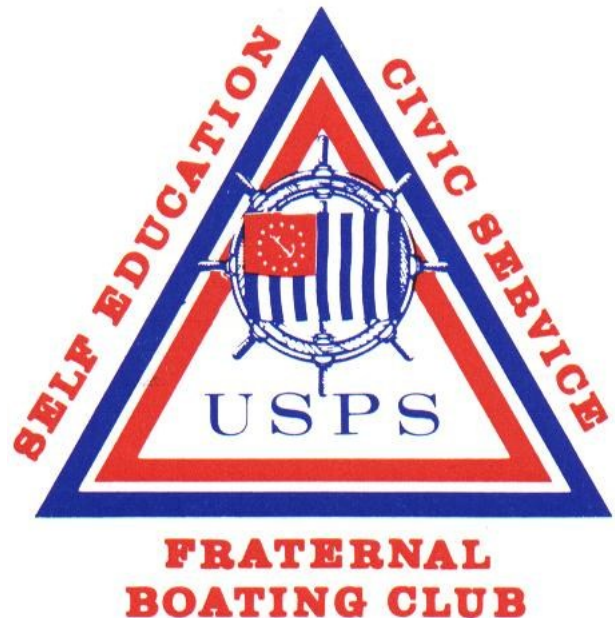
We have many opportunities available either for classroom, on-the-water, or both.

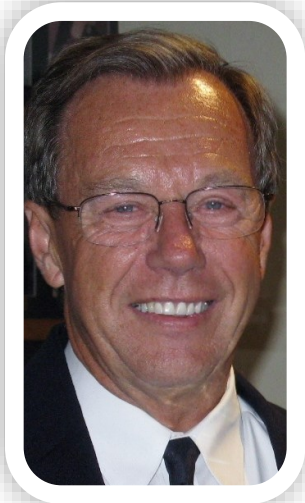
- *America's Boating Course*
- *Instructors Recertification/Certification*
- *Marine Electrical System*
- *Marine Navigation*
- *Boat Handling*

Happy Holidays!

Lt/C Cida Diehl, SN-CN

Educational Officer





SAFETY LESSONS LEARNED

DECEMBER



The year 2025 comes to an end and it is a good time, for all, to look back and make up the balance. I cannot and should not judge your year. But with some simple questions I can assist you in judging the year from a “**Boating Safety**” perspective. So here it is:

- 1) *did you learn anything that makes you a safer boater?*
- 2) *Did you apply that learning to your regular boating life?*
- 3) *Did you pass any of it on to your fellow boaters?*

*If the answer is negative in any way, what stopped you and how can we help? **WE VOLUNTEER!***

There are several National and Regional organizations in the field of Boating Safety. What they have in common are boating safety education and training, civic service to the boating public, and a community structure to belong to. Some are ‘for profit’ and some are aligned with the government. We, **America’s Boating Club**, have been a completely volunteer, self-funded and thus independent group of like-minded people since the early 1900’s. Our club in **Oceanside** has been a part of this effort for the past 65 years, *and we are proud of it!*

For my challenge in the previous issue, we looked at a typical Fall phenomenon in our area, restricted visibility, both in the harbor and out at sea. The key here is that, even if you know that there is another vessel nearby, you don’t know what that vessel’s privileges are over yours. So, I asked “*if you are underway in fog and you hear a signal of one prolonged blast, and two short*

blasts in succession, what does that signal identify?”

I received a response from my friend, **R/C Allan Bombard**. One response is often all I get back from my audience. ***So, here’s a suggestion: make a 2026 New Year’s resolution to write me a short email sometimes with your answer, and the USCG Rule that you found.*** Heck, with the current state of the Internet and A.I. these are easy to find, even if you don’t have a recent hardcopy of the USCG Navigation Rules. 🙄

Anyway, the **correct answer** is that a signal of one prolonged blast, and two short blasts in succession, indicate a fishing vessel underway. USCG Rule 35 c, and it also says that the signal is given at intervals of no more than 2 minutes. Rule 3 d defines a vessel engaged in fishing as fishing with nets, lines, trawls or other apparatus that restrict maneuverability.

For this month, let's stick a bit more with restricted visibility. **Which of the following statements is FALSE?**

- *a vessel which cannot avoid a close-quarters situation with a vessel forward of her beam shall reduce her speed to bare steeringsway.*
- *a vessel which hears a fog signal forward of her beam shall stop her engines.*
- *a vessel which hears a fog signal forward of her beam shall navigate with caution.*
- *if a vessel determines by radar that a close-quarters situation is developing, she shall take avoiding action in ample time.*

Find the Rule and choose the right answer. 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, do not hesitate to contact Shawn. <https://americasboatingcluboceanside.org/classroom/>

Of course, you don't become a safer boater by asking AI about boating safety. I still believe that an actual sit-down course, taught by an experienced boater, offers the best opportunity for life-long learning. Give it a try and help to bring boating accidents down!

Captain Adriaan Veldhuisen

awveldhuisen@gmail.com

Happy Birthday !!



DECEMBER

SHAWN GOIT	10
SARA LIPPERT	13

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



AMERICA'S BOATING CLUB
OCEANSIDE, California 

SUPPORTED NON-PROFITS

ACCEPTING DONATIONS!

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

Commander's Report *continued from Page 2*

HARBOR SAFETY ADVISORY – SANDBAR & RECENT BOAT SINKINGS

We've had multiple vessels sink at the harbor mouth recently. Please be aware that storms have built up a dangerous sandbar just outside the entrance, which can create unexpected breaking waves, especially on larger swells or outgoing tides.

If you're heading out:

- ◆ Check the swell forecast on our webcam
- ◆ Watch for breaking waves
- ◆ Wear your life jackets
- ◆ When in doubt, don't go out
- ◆ Safety should always come first.
- ◆ **When returning always come from OC buoy**

HARBOR LIVE CAMERA – PLEASE SUBSCRIBE

If you haven't already, please subscribe to our live harbor camera feed. It's a great tool to check real-time conditions, swell direction, and boat traffic before heading out.

LIVE CAMERA:

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

Your likes and subscriptions help us keep these community tools funded and available.

FINAL THOUGHTS

As 2025 comes to an end, I want to thank each of you for your support, involvement, and passion for boating. Despite the shorter days, there is still plenty happening in our club—and even more planned for the new year.

Wishing you all a safe, warm, and joyful holiday season. See you on the water... or at the Solstice!

Respectfully,

Stf/C Shawn Goit, SN-ON

Commander, America's Boating Club Oceanside



LEON HULL

Phone: 760-809-9327

Vessel Safety Examiner
E323385

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."



<p>Leon Hull Shawn Goit Kirk Lippert</p>	<p>As Above (760) 468-6212 (442) 488-4178</p>
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WWW.USPS.ORG

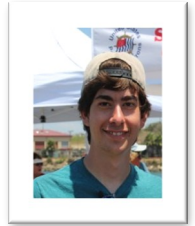


Mary Jane Lord
Viki Woelfel

America's Boating Club Oceanside

SAFETY REPORT – DECEMBER 2025

Submitted by: Jake Alcantara, Safety Officer



As we move into December and begin to see shifting weather patterns along our coast, I want to bring attention to an ongoing and increasingly serious safety concern at the **Oceanside Harbor** entrance. Several recent incidents—including multiple boats capsizing—have highlighted how quickly conditions can change and how hazardous the entrance can become when sand buildup creates a shallow, turbulent bar.

Even experienced boaters are being caught off guard.

SHALLOW ENTRANCE CONDITIONS:

Seasonal currents and storm activity have pushed more sand into the harbor mouth than usual, creating a shallower-than-normal bar. This forms steep, breaking waves at the entrance, especially during:

- * *Incoming tides*
- * *Northwest swells*
- * *Strong afternoon winds*
- * *Low-water periods*

These conditions have directly contributed to recent capsizings and near-miss incidents involving recreational vessels.

WHAT BOATERS MUST DO:

I strongly urge all boaters to take the following precautions before heading out:

1. Check the entrance conditions before leaving the dock

Use every resource available:

- *Live Harbor Entrance Camera:* <https://americasboatingcluboceanside.org/webcam/>
- *NOAA swell and tide predictions*
- *Harbor Patrol condition updates*

Never assume yesterday's conditions are the same today.

2. Time your departure and arrival

Avoid crossing the entrance during:

- *Low tide*
- *Strong onshore swell*
- *Afternoon wind waves*

If conditions look questionable, wait it out.

3. Maintain proper boat handling through the surf zone

If you choose to cross:

- *Keep the bow angled into the swell*
- *Maintain enough power for control*
- *Avoid sudden throttle reductions*
- *Do not turn broadside to a breaking wave*

When in doubt, don't go out.

4. Contact Harbor Patrol

If you are uncertain about conditions or need guidance, don't hesitate to call Harbor Patrol on VHF Channel 16 or by phone. They are watching the entrance daily and know when conditions are unsafe.

A FINAL REMINDER

Each capsizing incident this season underscores a critical point: The harbor entrance is unpredictable right now. Even the most capable vessels can become unstable in shallow, breaking surf created by the sandbar. Safety on the water starts with awareness and preparation.

Please share this information with friends, crew members, and new boaters in our community.
Stay alert, stay safe, and never hesitate to reach out if you have questions.

– JAKE ALCANTARA

Merit Mark Awards

For the Year 2025

JAKE ALCANTARA

JORGE ALONSO

CIDA DIEHL - THE BIG 25!!!!

JENNIFER GOIT

SHAWN GOIT

LEON HULL

ADAM LIPPERT

SARA LIPPERT

KIRK LIPPERT

SANDRA LIPPERT

MARLYSS MCELROY

JEFF OLSEN

JILL POWELL

RUSSELL SCHNEIDER

DARRYEL SIMMONS

ADRIAAN VELDHUISEN—THE BIG 30!!!!



Signed: Ralph Bernard, AP
Chief Commander

Receiving merit marks for volunteer work is a meaningful acknowledgment of the time, effort, and heart invested in helping others. These marks represent more than just recognition—they are a testament to personal commitment, responsibility, and compassion. Whether earned through community service, club participation, or special events, **merit marks** highlight a person's willingness to contribute positively to their community. They can also serve as encouragement, inspiring continued involvement and personal growth. Ultimately, receiving **merit marks** reinforces the idea that giving back matters and that even small acts of service can make a lasting impact.

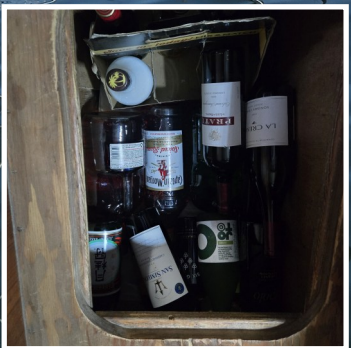
D28 Raft Up at La Playa Cove November 2025



Grebe and Wicked Good



Student Driver



And there is more where that came from



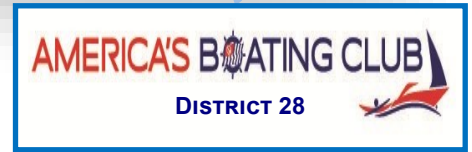
Arrival and greeted at Grebe by a grebe



Portland, OR to Clarkston, WA



11—20 June 2027



*Would you be interested?
District 28 River Cruise within the USA!*

“Step into the intrepid shoes of **Lewis and Clark** and embark on a riveting journey through history on the **Columbia & Snake Rivers**. Setting sail from **Portland, OR to Clarkston, WA**, get ready for all this legendary waterway has in store for you. Admire the ever-shifting landscapes, from lush, forested mountains to cascading waterfalls and rocky shores, each turn offers a breathtaking spectacle unlike any other in **America**.

Watch as the ship passes through the intricate lock and dam system, witness firsthand the marvel of human engineering that tames these mighty rivers. Led by our local guides, discover the captivating stories behind iconic landmarks like **Mount St. Helens**, renowned for its explosive

1980 eruption, and enjoy a tour and tasting at **Maryhill Winery**, one of Washington State's largest wineries. Watch as the scenery switches from the towering peaks of the **Cascade Range** to the misty veil of **Multnomah Falls**, standing proud at a staggering 620 feet.

This region, with its waterways lined by the tallest trees you can imagine, mountains that blend into the uninterrupted sky, and eagles soaring above you is a truly remarkable sight. Experience America like never before, aboard our ultra-modern Riverboat.”

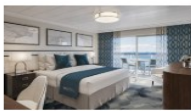

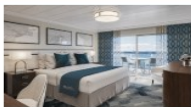
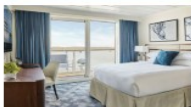
CONTACT:
D/Lt Jill Powell, AP
D28 Administrative Officer

“AMERICAN ANTHEM”:

- Coming in 2027
- 180 Guest Capacity
- Multiple Dining Venues
- All-Inclusive
 - * All meals and snacks
 - * Alcoholic/Non Alcoholic Beverages 24/7
- * Daily evening cocktail hour with hors d'oeuvres and top shelf liquor
- Elevator Access to All Passenger Decks
- Spacious Staterooms
- Private Balconies
- Crew Gratuities
- Entertainment & Shore Excursion options
- Multi-Story Glass Atrium

Waiting to hear from you!

EXAMPLE

<input type="radio"/>		Vista Balcony View Stateroom Details... Book Now Free Brochure	\$8,230 Per Person
<input type="radio"/>		Premium Balcony View Stateroom Details... Book Now Free Brochure	\$7,835 Per Person
<input type="radio"/>		Deluxe Balcony View Stateroom Details... Book Now Free Brochure	\$7,390 Per Person
<input type="radio"/>		Single Balcony View Stateroom Details... Book Now Free Brochure	\$8,535 Per Person



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

Lt/C Kirk Lippert, JN-CN

IMMED. PAST COMMANDER

P/C Darryel D Simmons, JN-IN

MEMBER AT LARGE

Russell Schneider

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 1 Year Term: Kirk Lippert, JN-CN

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CO-OPERATIVE CHARTING

LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

Lt/C Adriaan Veldhuisen, SN-ON

VESSEL SAFETY CHECK

1/Lt Leon Hull

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