



THE MARINER'S NEEDLE



April/May 2026

Volume 65 Number 08

Celebrating 65 years!

ABC/USPS D13

SAN LUIS REY SAIL AND POWER SQUADRON



A Unit of the United States Power Squadrons®

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION

APRIL/MAY 2026

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AFFORDABLE ADVERTISING RATES AVAILABLE





2026

APRIL

- 13 1830 ExCom Meeting—via Zoom
 14 1800 Taco Tuesday—Light House Oceanside Harbor

MAY

- 4 1830 ExCom Meeting—via Zoom
 10 SWYC Opening Day
 Silvergate YC Opening Day
 13 1830 Event at OYC—Stay tuned
 16 National Safe Boating Week—OYC Parking Lot
 28—04 June D28 Rhone River Cruise—France

JUNE

- 1 1830 ExCom Meeting—via Zoom
 6 H.O.T. Seminar
 7 Raft-up Oceanside Harbor—More to Follow
 11-14 San Diego Boat Show—San Diego

JULY

- 4 1300 Oceanside Harbor Annual Yankee Doodle Dinghy Parade
 6 1830 ExCom Meeting—hosted by Viki & Phil Woelfel
 11-12 Raft-Up—TBD
 13 1400-1700 San Diego Annual BBQ—DeAnza Cove

AUGUST

- 3 1830 ExCom Meeting—Hosted by jeff Olsen
 8 H.O.T. Seminar—Oceanside
 1400 1700 Dock Party—Oceanside S Dock

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

Commander's Report



Greetings Fellow Members,

April was a very important and historic month for our organization.

First and foremost, the **District 13 merger has now been finalized**. This was a long process that involved a great deal of work from many officers at both the district and squadron levels. With this merger complete, we are now moving forward as part of the new district structure, which will allow us to share resources, expand on-water training opportunities, and strengthen **America's Boating Club** throughout our region. The goal moving forward is simple: **more boating, more training, more members, and more visibility in the boating community**.

I personally thank everyone who worked behind the scenes on the merger, attended meetings, reviewed documents, and helped make this transition smooth and successful.

CALIFORNIA DIVISION OF BOATING AND WATERWAYS GRANT :

We also received excellent news this month — **our squadron was awarded a grant from the California Division of Boating and Waterways**.

This is a major step forward for our education and on-the-water training programs. These funds will help us continue building and expanding our **Hands-On Training and On-Water Training** programs, which are becoming the future of how we bring new boaters into our organization. People don't just want classroom anymore — they want to **learn by doing**, and this grant helps us do exactly that.

This funding will **help support**:

- *On-the-water training activities*
- *Educational equipment and materials*
- *Boating safety outreach*
- *Public boating education programs*
- *Growth of our local training fleet and instructors*

Photos in this issue contributed by Jill Powell & Allan Bombard

Cover: Happy Hour: Jill Powell, Russell Schneider, Marlyss McElroy, Darryel Simmons and Jeff Olsen.

Continued on Page 6

Educational Department Report



The ABC (America's Boating Course) was re-scheduled for **April 7, 2026**, at 6:30 pm to 9 pm, **OYC**. Registration starts at 6:15pm. This full ABC course also includes the on-the-water. The only requirement is that we have a minimum 5 students enrolled. The ABC course has been published in HQ800 and on Social Media. The flyers were posted at **OYC, West Marine**, and other locations. The instructors are P/C **Kirk Lippert**, JN-CN, and **Captain Jack Guida**, and Cdr. **Shawn Goit**, SN-ON Please, let your family, friends and marina buddies know about the ABC course. The boating season is around the corner, even though you can go boating anytime of the year in southern California. Our weather in southern California is great year-round. Take a safe boating course, even if you are novice, or salty, it is always good to brush up on your boat knowledge. Get your California Boating Card. **Be ready, be prepared!**

The Boat Handling / on -the - water is scheduled for **TUESDAY 12 May** at **6:30pm, OYC**.

Seminars Series. I am looking for members and non-members that would like to a 2xhour Kayaking seminar including on-the-water. Price for members is \$45.00 and price for non-members is \$60.00. Please, let me know if you are interested. I need 5 students to schedule the seminar. It is only two hours of your time in the classroom plus on-the-water.

The Instructor Development & Recertification course/seminar online started on 5 March with 4 students. Cdr. **Shawn Goit** and **Lt/C John LeDell** from **Arrowhead** squadron/club are the instructors assigned to teach both.

Now it is becoming easier to become a certified Instructor or get recertified. The **Instructor Development** program has been updated. The candidates have two requirements to complete the ID course:

1. *Create a single-concept lesson plan.*
2. *Deliver a 15 – minute oral presentation using a lesson plan.*

The **Instructor Recertification** seminar has also been updated.

Happy Spring!

.Fair winds! Lt/C Cida Diehl, SN-CN

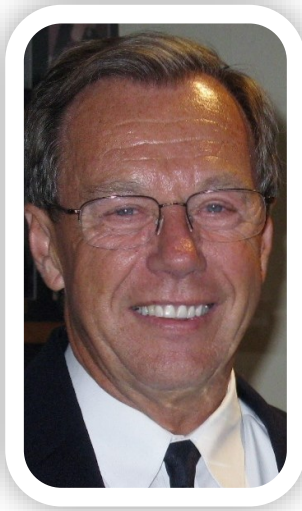


BARBARA BENEDICT

THOMAS BLACK

JACK GUIDA

APRIL/MAY



SAFETY LESSONS LEARNED FROM ..THE ...



My wife and I celebrated the end of winter 2026 in **Southern California**, with a heatwave, and upon return to the **Mid-West** nobody felt sorry for us. Can you imagine? We gathered for a week with friends, sailed on a magnificent yacht, visited a fine winery and spent a day on the beach in **Oceanside**. We must have looked somewhat emaciated since everybody tried to share great food and wine with us back home. It's 6 weeks of gardening before we travel again.

On our sail-day we probably had nine of the most experienced, educated, and qualified people to sail with, out of **San Diego Harbor**. So, while we were all required to wear a life vest, we skipped safety briefings and preparations. That is easy to do on a fully equipped 53-foot yacht, but in hindsight it made me think. In my long life as a sailor and author about safety on the water, I have heard many stories that were about emergencies, or near disasters. In one case, a pre-departure safety briefing saved the life of my friend and mentor, **Commander Frank Fitzgerald**, who suffered a heart attack at sea. His non-sailing crew took him safely back to shore to be met by emergency transport.

On a different topic, the whole country learned in the last weeks that my favorite organization, the **United States Coast Guard (USCG)** belongs to the Department of **Homeland Security (DHS)**, together with 23 other agencies. Established in 1790 by **Alexander Hamilton** as a branch of the armed forces, from customs enforcement ultimately into marine safety, it is for me personally the agency that granted me my 100-ton **Master Cap-**

tain's License. So, here is a quick **question**: *how do you report a maritime incident to them?* **Answer**: USCG CG-2692 2022-2026. Yes, it is online.

For my challenge in the previous issue, we looked at **Traffic Separation Schemes (TSS)** like the approach of **Long Beach** or **Los Angeles**. I find the Rule straightforward, but the exceptions are not. There are two classes of vessels which **DO NOT HAVE TO COMPLY** with the rules for TSS, and I gave you four instances to choose from. My most regular contributor, **Commander Allan Bombard**, sent me his answer as Rule 10, (I) - a vessel servicing a cable: Rule 10 of the Navigation Rules includes nine restrictions and two exceptions. **Thank you Allan!**

For **APRIL**, we'll look at one of the two Rules that I have used most to formulate my questions. Can you guess which they are? **Here is my question**: *your power-driven vessel is underway when you sight a sailing vessel on your port bow. Which is the stand-on vessel?*

- *The sailboat, because it is to port of your vessel.*
- *The sailboat, because it is under sail.*
- *Your vessel, because it is a power-driven vessel.*
- *Your vessel, because it is to starboard of the sailboat.*

First find the Rule which defines a **Stand-on Vessel**. It is the vessel that shall maintain its course and speed when encountering another vessel, known as the "give-way vessel."

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 **Stf/C Shawn Goit** as the instructor in the classroom and on the water.

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

Captain Adriaan Veldhuisen

awveldhuisen@gmail.com

Happy Birthday !!

APRIL

MAY

ADAM LIPPERT 26
JILL POWELL 27

MARK MANGEN 08



Oceanside, CA Harbor - Live



San Luis Rey USPS
666 subscribers

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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



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AMERICA'S BOATING CLUB
OCEANSIDE, California

SUPPORTED NON-PROFITS

ACCEPTING DONATIONS!

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

Commander's Report continued from Page 2

This grant is not just about money — it is recognition from the State of California that **America's Boating Club Oceanside** is an important partner in boating safety and education.

LOOKING AHEAD :

As we move into the spring and summer boating season, our focus continues to be:

- On-Water Training
- Public Boating Classes
- Member Boating Activities
- Growing Younger Membership
- Expanding our visibility in the boating community
- Continuing to build partnerships with marinas, yacht clubs, and boating organizations

We are in a very strong position right now as an organization, and I am very excited about where we are heading this year.

Thank you to all of our members and volunteers who continue to make this organization run.

Please remember to Like and Subscribe to our **YouTube** channel. Our live harbor camera is not just for watching the sunset; **it is a vital tool for checking the harbor mouth conditions before you leave the slip.**

Respectfully,

Stf/C Shawn Goit, SN-ON Commander, America's Boating Club Oceanside <https://americasboatingcluboceanside.org/webcam/>

Go our website: <https://americasboatingcluboceanside.org>

Meet Captain Walter™

Mailman

Walter starts as a dedicated Postal Service worker

Training

Next Stop: Walter takes USPS boating safety courses

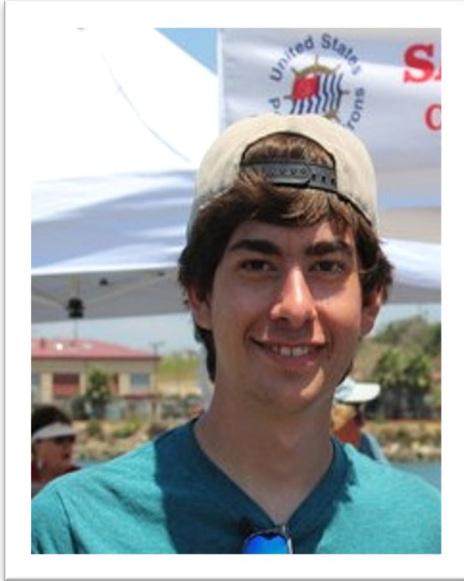
Captain's License

Walter earns his captain credentials

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Safety Report – April/May



As we move into the **spring boating season**, this is a good time to review a few important safety reminders before the harbors and waterways get busier.

The number one safety item continues to be **life jackets**. The best life jacket is the one you are wearing, not the one stored in a locker.

Many accidents happen quickly and without warning, and there is often no time to locate and put on a life jacket. Make sure everyone on board knows where life jackets are stored and that children are wearing them at all times while underway and on docks.

Another important reminder is **situational awareness and proper lookout**. With more boat traffic, kayakers, paddleboarders, and fishermen on the water this time of year, operators must maintain a proper lookout at all times. Remember that the operator is responsible for everything that happens with their vessel, and distractions like phones, chart plotters, and conversations can quickly lead to close calls or collisions.

Also remember to **file a float plan** or at least tell someone where you are going and when you plan to return. This simple step can save valuable time if something goes wrong.

Before heading out this season, make sure to:

- *Check your engine and fuel system*
- *Test navigation lights*
- *Check your VHF radio*
- *Verify required safety equipment is onboard*
- *Check weather and tides*
- *Carry extra lines and fenders*
- *Bring drinking water and sun protection*

A safe boat is a well-prepared boat, and a well-prepared crew makes all the difference.
See you on the water — and boat safe.

Jake Alcantara, P

Safety Officer

America's Boating Club Oceanside



LEON HULL

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<https://AmericasBoatingClubOceanside.org>



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Please Contact:

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Adriaan Veldhuisen & Craig Fraser enjoy Sunday sailing after D13 Conference

Cida Diehl, and Adriaan Veldhuisen are congratulated on their 25 and 30 respective Merit Marks by P/C/C Craig Fraser.

Carlsbad Happy Hour for Oceanside: Darryel Simmons and Jeff Olsen



Shouldn't you be here too?



Portland, OR to Clarkston, WA



11—20 June 2027



*Would you be interested?
District 2813 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.”

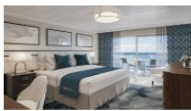



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EXAMPLE

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<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

25 April 2026

Spreading of Ashes at Sea organizer—
Cdr Jerry Murphy aboard "Grebe"



Associate Member



Shaun McArdle 1935—2025

Luis Sepulveda, Paula Vance, Allan Bombard
and Kirk Lippert



"Knot Again" with
Doug Bass and Bob
Gibbs



Gail Strickland, Nancy McArdle, Jon Coats, Allan Bombard,
Jill Powell and Jerry Murphy. Insert Kirk & Sandra Lippert.





AMERICA'S BOATING CLUB OCEANSIDE

SAN LUIS REY SAIL & POWER SQUADRON : 2026 BRIDGE

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

FLAG LIEUTENANT

Position Open

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P/C Darryel D Simmons, JN-IN

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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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NEED TO CONTACT AMERICA'S BOATING CLUB OCEANSIDE ?

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