

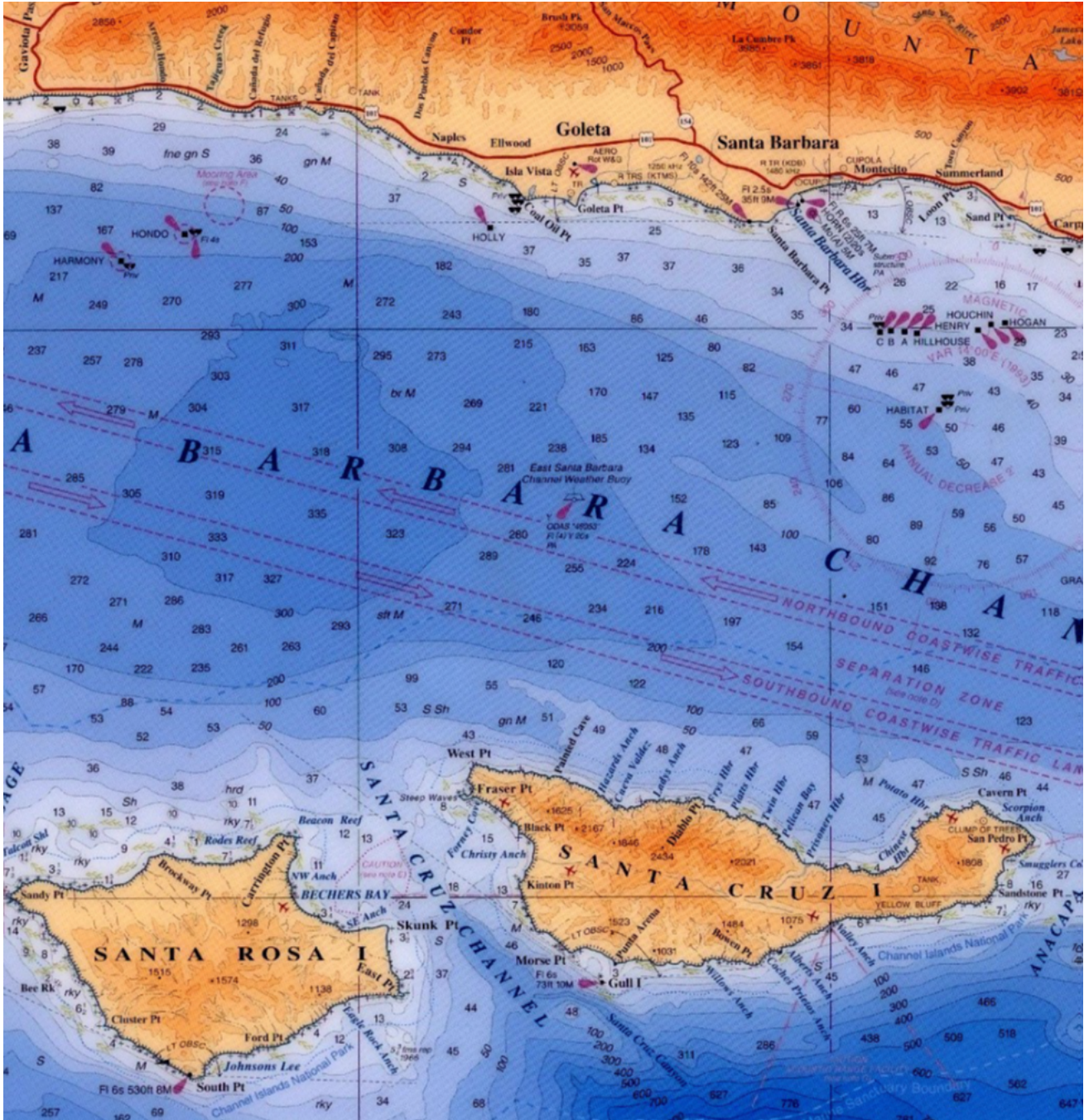


# Signal Hoist

## Santa Barbara Sail & Power Squadron

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### Monthly Newsletter April 2024





## COMMANDER'S MESSAGE

**Cdr. Virginia Johns, P**

Our March 7<sup>th</sup> Fun and Entertainment meeting had to be rescheduled as the Waterfront classroom was getting new media equipment. It has a big new LCD panel with great clarity. I think we will really enjoy the upgrades. Lydia Rao from the SB Maritime Museum will instead join us on **Thursday May 2** to speak on *170 years of Santa Barbara Harbor history*.

March 23<sup>rd</sup> we had our Change of Watch where we installed our officers for 2024 and our Annual Awards Celebration. See the article with details and photos further on in this newsletter. It's always an enjoyable event.

### **MARK these April dates on your CALENDAR**

**Tuesday April 16 at 7:00pm** is our quarterly business meeting in the Waterfront Classroom. Note the day and date change from previous publications. ALL members are welcome.

**Saturday April 20 at 10:00am** Spring Brunch, hosted by our Past Commanders – dockside - Marina 1 at Libertad Q4

**Mon/Tues April 29-30** Our District is holding the Spring Conference at the "M" Resort in Las Vegas, Nevada. See the Conference Call with program details further on in this newsletter.

As we start up a new year of boating education, service, and fun – I want to thank all of you for your part in our achievements of the past year:

- our leaders who have taken on officer positions or roles as chairs and members of our various committees
- point persons for our community service and social events
- instructors for our classes and seminars

- presenters at our monthly meetings
- and all that have attended any of the above.

You all have contributed to a community of shared boating knowledge through which we have supported and enjoyed safe boating.



**SEO'S MESSAGE**  
**Lt/C Rich Ciolino, JN**

**Cruising Under Power and Sail**, our current educational offering, will finish its five-week run on Tuesday April 2. This last session for the class of eight attendees will focus on going through the process of planning a cruise – we have a mix of sail and power boaters in the class so it should be fun.

As for what's to follow, the educational committee is discussing what classes to offer next. One course we'll be planning is an abbreviated Engine Maintenance course focusing on diesel engines. The plan is to borrow the working diesel engine display from Ventura Sail and Power squadron to use as a teaching aid. The lectures will be given in our normal 7PM Tuesday

night classroom sessions and we'd use the diesel engine display for a final Saturday outdoor session. Perhaps we can tie in with the Santa Barbara Yacht Club and use their parking lot for the display.

We'll be doing a series of Summer Seminars again including the "Celestial Navigation Primer with a focus on the Noon Day Sun Sight" which has been very popular with local boaters. Other seminars under consideration are Using Navigation Charts and GPS Chartplotters, Introduction to Navigation, Rules of the Road, Anchoring, Partner in Command, and Weather for Boaters.

We would like to get another technical course in this year like Electrical Systems.

Till next month, let's get out on the water as we get into spring weather.

## Upcoming Activities

<b>Apr 16</b>	<b>Tues 7:00pm</b>	<b>Business Meeting</b>	<b>Waterfront Classroom</b>
<b>Apr 20</b>	<b>Sat 10:00am</b>	<b>Spring Brunch</b>	<b>Marina 1, Q4 Dock by S/V Libertad</b>
<b>Apr 29 - Apr 30</b>	<b>Mon/ Tues</b>	<b>Spring Conference</b>	<b>"M' Resort Las Vegas, Nevada</b>
<b>May 4</b>	<b>Sat 8:00am</b>	<b>Operation Clean Sweep</b>	<b>Santa Barbara Harbor</b>



# VEGAS ESCAPE

United States Power Squadrons

America's Boating Club

District 13 Spring Conference

April 29 – 30, 2024

M Resort, Spa & Casino

Henderson, NV 89044

Reservations:

(866) 551-1540 or (702) 797-1998

Group ID: SUSP24

# 2024 Change of Watch

Lt/C Suzette Seago

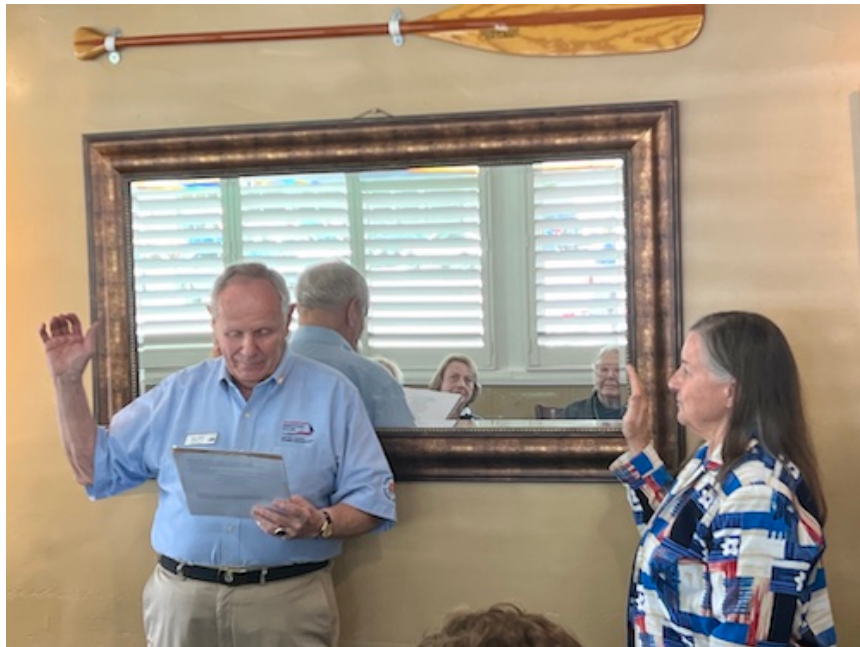
The Change of Watch was held 3/23/24 at Cody's Café. We had a good turnout with most of the 'regulars' in attendance; we were so glad to see Past Commander Don Crowder and his wife Inge, whom we haven't seen in a while. Cody's did an excellent job with lunch choices and service.







Dave Smith from District 13 installed the new bridge.





The new or continuing bridge for the coming year is as follows.

Commander-Virginia Johns

Treasurer-Steve York

SEO-Rich Ciolino

Secretary-Suzette Seago

Pete Seago will serve as activities chair, obtaining point persons for social events

Scott Burns will coordinate sailing adventures

Members at large are Betty Koch, Ed Kaufman and Pete Seago

As well as the Change of Watch, we handed out our annual awards to deserving members as follows:

Rich Ciolino-Al Lincoln award, given for promotion of educational classes



Scott Burns-Marcia Rowland Watersports, given to Scott for his kayaking  
(accepted by his wife Lisa)



Mark Breen- Power Boat Award-given for extensive use of his boat



Alec Hardy -Santa Maria Award, given as most active new member (unable to attend the COW and presented at the Cruise Planning Class by Pete Seagoe)



Suzette and Pete Seagoe-MVP Award, given for service to the Squadron





Virginia Johns-Commander's Award because she is the best of the best!

The following Award recipients were unable to attend the COW:  
George Poe-Sailing Award, given for doing the BajaHaha in his own boat  
Art Aldritt-Boner Award, given for losing his way into his own slip

# Pacific Corinthian Yacht Club Cruise & Dinner

P/C Tom Koch, SN

Hear Ye, Hear Ye... Come one and all... come by car, boat, bike, train or plane, but bring a friend and come!

Announcing the Pacific Corinthian Yacht Club (PCYC) Cruise and Banquet for 2024, July 12 - 14. All SBSPS members and friends are invited.

PCYC General Manager, Gwen Wilvert, assures me we are Welcome and the PCYC Staff members are looking forward to having us visit them again. They are planning to, once again, serve Prime Rib or Pistachio Encrusted Salmon, drinks, salads, veggies and a Hot Fudge Ice Cream Sundae for dessert. There will be a flyer with all the particulars of the Friday, July 13, dinner in next month's *Signal Hoist*.

Please note: During the past years, SBSPS has been able to support a portion of the Banquet cost and maintain a level of \$50 per person. This year, the cost has risen to a point SBSPS must increase the cost per person to \$60 each. We are sorry for this inconvenience, but found it necessary this year.

The PCYC dock will be opened for boats to tie up. Boats are welcome to arrive in the afternoon on 12 July and stay until the morning of 14 July. If more boats arrive than can tie up to the dock, we are welcome to raft together. So all should be accommodated.

Please Note:

- I must have the boat reservations by 28 June 2024.
- Dinner reservations must be submitted by 5 July 2024.
- No Refunds for Dinner Reservations after 5 July 2024.

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# Polyestermite Alert!

Rich Ciolino

Nothing has been written in the boating press at this point about Polyestermites. However, this spring their infestation was noted as far north as Rhode Island. Scientists had thought that Polyestermites could not survive in the colder northern waters, but the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection has now issued an alert for New Jersey boaters. An obscure article in the Federal Register has not received much attention by the press, but you can be certain that the pages of our boating magazines will soon carry large, bold headlines about this new problem for boaters.

So what the heck are Polyestermites, and what is the problem. They are small barnacle size snail-like creatures that attach themselves to bottoms of boats, pilings and bulkheads. They seem to have an affinity for boats, however, because most are now made of fiberglass.

Other than their slimy appearance, they do no damage to pilings and bulkheads. Fiberglass boats, however, are another matter. Polyestermites are not deterred by anti-fouling paints, and, in fact, they seem to thrive on it. They eat their way through bottom paint, and then have gelcoat for desert. They seem to secrete a substance that dissolves gelcoat into a paste that is then consumed. What is left are areas about the size of a dime where the gelcoat is completely gone leaving the fiberglass and resin exposed to salt water. Interestingly, Polyestermites cannot survive in fresh water, but most of us operate our boats in salt water.

The Federal EPA has prepared a twenty-page booklet fully explaining Polyestermites, and the procedure for their detection and repair of their damage. It also discusses preventive measures we can take to prevent their damage.

OK, that's enough of that. Happy April Fools Day! What you have just read is a recent attempt by a John Baker, JN, on Boat Banter, Captain Crunch, to recreate an article that ran in Sail magazine sometime in the 70's in an April issue. I read the original April article back then and was hooked for a while until I came to my senses.



The Signal Hoist is the official publication of the Santa Barbara Sail & Power Squadron. Articles of interest to the membership should be forwarded in writing via email to the Editor by the 20th of the month in order to be included in the next issue. We solicit the submission of your articles on safety, boating, cruising, racing, and squadron activities. Accompanying relevant photos are appreciated. We encourage articles by our members. Send us your true or tall tales. Articles, opinions, and advertisements published herein do not necessarily reflect squadron policy or endorsement unless so designated.

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