

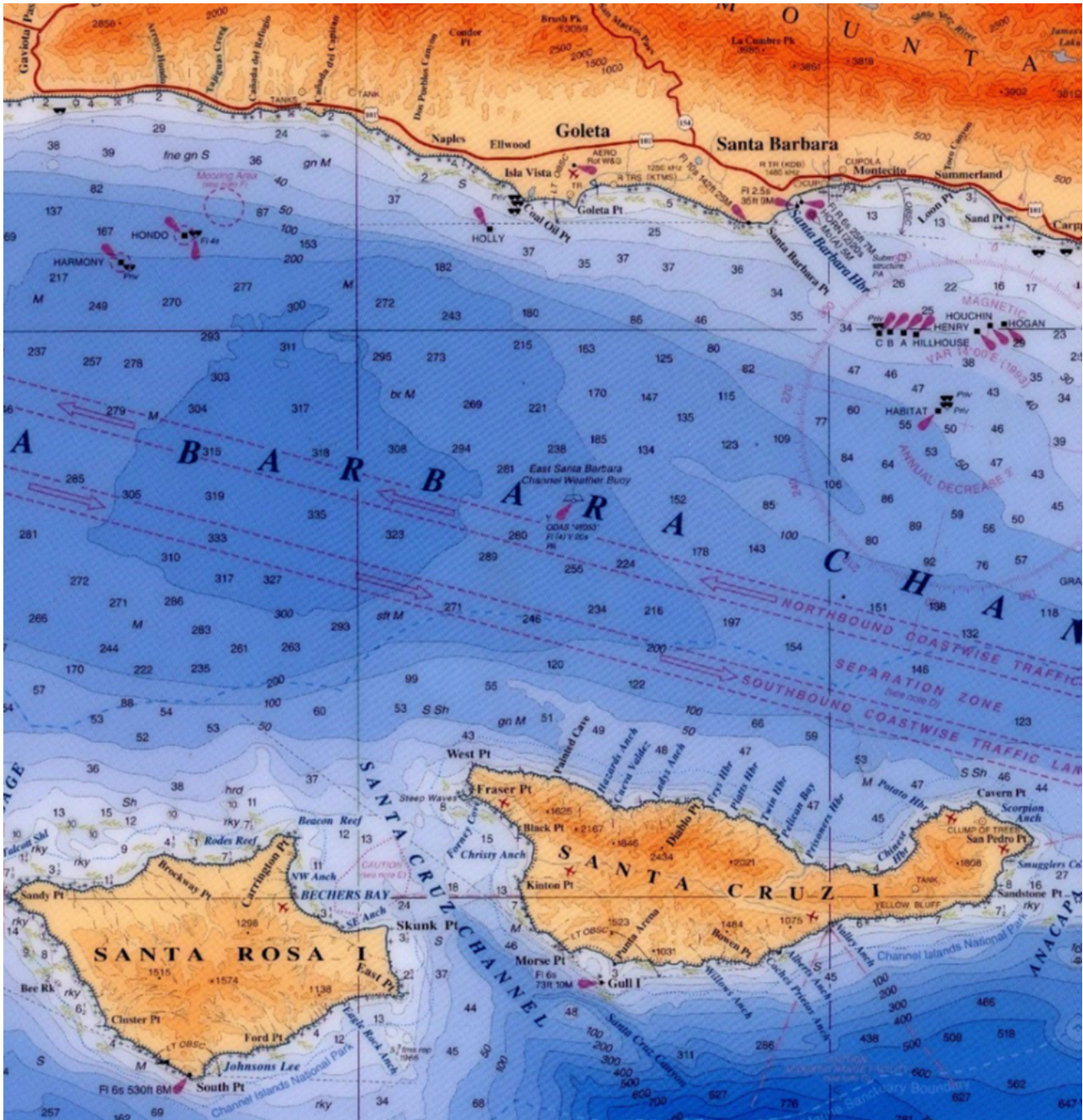


# Signal Hoist

## Santa Barbara Sail & Power Squadron

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## Monthly Newsletter May 2024





## COMMANDER'S MESSAGE

**Cdr. Virginia Johns, P**

May is a busy month for us. It includes National Safe Boating Week; so we are focusing our activities on the *SB Harbor* and *safe boating practices*. Mark your calendars!

### **Thu May 2 7:30pm Fun and Entertainment meeting in the Waterfront Classroom**

Lydia Rao, Manager of Collections & Exhibits at the Santa Barbara Maritime Museum, will present: **170 Years of Harbor History**. I heard this presentation a few months ago and really enjoyed it.  
***Light refreshments!***

### **Sat May 4 8:00-noon Operation Clean Sweep – Harbor Cleanup**

We have provided a team of volunteers for this event for many years and have always enjoyed our time together.

The event begins at 8:00 a.m., with a briefing on the Travel Lift Pier beneath the Harbormaster's Office, complete with free coffee and donuts, and concludes with a hearty lunch at 11:30 a.m.

**RSVP to Mark Breen 512.709.2530 or [mbreen13@gmail.com](mailto:mbreen13@gmail.com)**

### **Fri May 10-11 Opening Season Cruise to Fry's Harbor**

We use this opportunity test our systems for a safe cruising season!  
**RSVP to Scott Burns [wscott@wsburns.com](mailto:wscott@wsburns.com) 805 448 8110, s/v Benchmark**

### **Sat May 18 Harbor Nautical Swap Meet**

See the flyer further on in this newsletter for details

**Tues May 21 6:00 pm Flare Shoot and Fire Extinguisher Practice**

The Harbor Patrol and Coast Guard have organized this event for several year and it is such a great practice session. We keep these articles on our boats "in case" . But would we be ready and comfortable using them. I highly recommend this session for all of us.

*Let's learn more about our harbor and enjoy a safe and fun cruising season!*

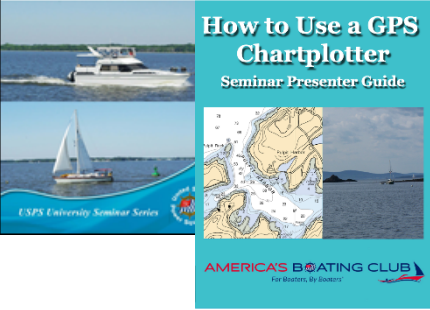


**SEO'S MESSAGE**  
**Lt/C Rich Ciolino, JN**

Our next educational offering is coming together and is planned to begin in early June. Advertising will get underway during the first week of May. It will be a two-session seminar given on two Tuesday evenings titled "Navigation Using and GPS Based Chartplotters". The material be based on two individual seminars available from National: Introduction to Navigation and How to Use a GPS Chartplotter. We've given the Introduction to Navigation seminar before and the GPS Chartplotter seminar was released just last year.

*Introduction to Navigation*

successive Paper Charts will



The sessions will take place on June 4 and 11 from 7:00 to 9:00PM in the Harbor Marine Center Classroom. Signup information will be available on-line at our website soon.

The Educational Committee is also planning for our Summer Saturday Seminars in July and August, with content to be announced, a Deisel Engine Maintenance seminar, and a Marine Electrical Systems class.

Till next month, let's get out on the water as the wet and windy winter/spring changes to warm and breezy.

## Upcoming Activities

<b>May 2</b>	<b>Thurs 7:30pm</b>	<b>Fun &amp; Entertainment Meeting — Lydia Rao "170 Years of Harbor History"</b>	<b>Waterfront Classroom</b>
<b>May 4</b>	<b>Sat 8:00am- 12:00pm</b>	<b>Harbor Clean Sweep</b>	<b>Travel Lift Pier</b>
<b>May 10 -</b>	<b>Fri - Sat</b>	<b>First Cruise of the Season to Fry's</b>	<b>Harbor</b>
<b>May 18</b>	<b>Sat 8:00am</b>	<b>Nautical Swap Meet</b>	<b>Harbor Parking Lot</b>
<b>May 21</b>	<b>Tues 6:00pm</b>	<b>Flare Shoot</b>	<b>East Beach near Yacht Club parking lot</b>

# SBSPS Harbor Cleanup Event May 4, 2024



Join the Santa Barbara Sail and Power Squadron (SBSPS) for a harbor cleanup event organized by the Santa Barbara Waterfront Authority.

We need 10-15 volunteers from SBSPS to help clean up in Marina 1.

**Date:** May 4, 2023 Time: 8:00 AM - 12:00 PM

**Location:** Santa Barbara Harbor Marina 1 entrance

**Lunch:** Sandwiches provided

Activities:

- Dive team will search for junk in the water
- Volunteers will haul up items using rope
- Cleaning docks, using brushes and buckets
- Disposing of items in a dumpster
- 

Let's work together to keep our harbor clean and beautiful. Don't miss this opportunity to make a difference in our community!

Interested in volunteering? Contact

Contact Mark Breen 512.709.2530 or [mbreen13@gmail.com](mailto:mbreen13@gmail.com).

*Written early November 1993 – the trip didn't turn out exactly as planned, but rather a lot better becoming the first of 5 trips south (and north-ugh!)*

## **A Last Farewell and Other Observations**

Neil Ablitt, P

If we are so well prepared then why am I so scared? And why is it that now when I hear the word **displacement** rather than think of a boat I think of my excitement being **displaced** with fear! Why? Because in a matter of days we will be leaving for Mexico - by boat - our own boat – alone in our own boat. And yes, now I really do wish we had finished **Advanced Piloting**. Oh well, fortunately for us I have told the whole world we're going so there can be no turning back. We have passed **Seamanship, Piloting** and **Sail**. Sue has her **Ham Radio license**, and so far this year we've logged over 1000 miles around the Channel Islands. We have **GPS** and **Radar** and we're learning how to use them. Our intention is to stay in touch. We are experimenting with an on-board **laptop, cell phone** and **fax**. The phone is registered in Mexico, so who knows it might work. Our first destination is Cabo then Puerto Vallarta and then Loreto. Actually these are individual six week trips interrupted by flights back to Santa Barbara. Then according to plan sometime in June **s/v Shearwater** will be picked up out of the Sea of Cortez and trucked back home. We hope to be at the next **Change of Watch** and to see you all there. Thank you for your friendship and everything you have taught us. If I were asked for any parting words of wisdom, they would be to study hard and finish Advanced Piloting. **Because next time it could be you.**

Sue and Neil Ablitt



## First Cruise of the Season

Shake down Cruise to Frys Harbor, It's trip to make sure that you have everything in order, Leaving the harbor at 8 am Friday May 10, Since it is Mothers Day on the 12<sup>th</sup>, we are coming back Saturday May 11<sup>th</sup> near noon. Let me know if you're planning on going, W. Scott Burns, [wscott@wsburns.com](mailto:wscott@wsburns.com) 805 448 8110, Benchmark



## Nautical Swap Meet

Lead: Dennis Johns

On **Saturday, May 18th**, the Annual Harbor Nautical Swap Meet will attract hundreds of treasure hunters to the Main Harbor Parking Lot from 8 a.m. to noon. Dozens of vendors will display and sell boat rigging, surfboards, fishing gear, inflatable boats, pumps, winches, boat motors, and other marine/nautical items. Spend the morning looking for new gear while enjoying complimentary coffee and other refreshments.

**Have some nautical gear you'd like to sell?** Dennis Johns is motivated to clean out his garage of items from last year's swap meet (donated by our members); he will be reserving a spot for our club. Let him know if you have items to contribute and if you can help with the sales that day. We historically make about \$100 (we had a banner 2023 as we made over \$400!) for the squadron and you get the benefit of having to never move that treasure out of the way to get whatever you stashed behind it. If you are inclined to come to the swap meet to hang out a while, bring a lawn chair and enjoy a few hours of nautical yarn spinning. If you have items to contribute, give me a call or email me and we'll coordinate a day & time for me to pick them up or for you to drop them off: 805-770-0614; [sbmesasailor@gmail.com](mailto:sbmesasailor@gmail.com)





## Past Commander's Brunch

P/C Dennis Johns, AP

April 20, 10am – Noon

The timeframe for the brunch was advertised to be from 10am – 2pm but most folks can't last that long outside on a cold overcast day. Actually, we started cleaning up right around noon and everyone had had their fill by then. The current Commander approached the lead of the event (Past Commander, Dennis) on Thursday suggesting the venue for the event be changed to the Johns abode in case folks wanted to stay indoors to avoid the cold. I responded saying that these were all seafaring folk and that kind of accommodation was unnecessary.

So off to *Libertad* we trekked with tables, egg casseroles, fruit bowls, and pancake griddle. We were all set up at 10am when the coffee, mimosa fixings, and the pastries arrived escorted by Neil and Sue Ablitt, John Profant, and Tom Koch.



Dennis started flipping flapjacks and soon the rest of the guests trickled in. Ron & Vicki Slocum, Pete Seago, Steve and Eleanor York and soon most of the usual suspects were gathered in conversational groups wolfing down egg casserole and pancakes by the stack. We were treated to the special company of Susan Lindman (Nils' wife) and Julie Lindman Koonce (Nils' daughter) whom we hadn't seen for a while. Another couple that has been known to enjoy an occasional squadron event, Peter and Mary Ford joined us later that morning (Peter is a member of the Wednesday sailing co-op and is threatening to retire soon, so we may get him to join the squadron this year). Steve and Bobby Young arrived to finish up the leftovers but didn't do a very good job of it. There was lots of everything to take home -we'll be eating egg casserole for breakfast lunch & dinner for a few days. Actually it wasn't all that cold after all and I think most folks left just to go home and take a nap. As always, a good time was had by all, sorry you missed it if you weren't there.



# Santa Barbara Sail & Power Squadron



Pacific Corinthian Yacht Club  
Cruise & Dinner

Dinner & Festivities, Saturday,  
July 13, 2024

Slips Available Friday & Saturday  
12 noon July 12 - 11:00AM July 14

*Santa Barbara Sail & Power Squadron*  
**PACIFIC CORINTHIAN YACHT CLUB**  
**CRUISE & DINNER - CROW'S NEST**

**13 JULY 2024**

2600 South Harbor Blvd  
Channel Islands Harbor

**Dock Appetizers and Drinks @ 1600**  
**PCYC Crows Nest No Host Bar @ 1800**

**Dinner Crow's Nest @ 1900**

Pistachio Encrusted Salmon Or  
Roasted Prime Rib

**Dinner Includes:**

Seasonal Mixed Greens Salad  
Vegetables

Potatoes/Rice Pilaf, Rolls & Butter

Coffee or Tea, Dessert — Ice Cream Sundae

**Price: \$60.00 per person**

(tax and gratuity included)

**Guest dock and rafting available.**

**After 12n 12 July — 11am 14 July**

Coming by boat: take left fork, continue to bridge, on left. By car: 101 S to Seaward, left onto Harbor Blvd. to Channel Islands Harbor (approx. 7 miles after exiting 101). Turn right before the bridge, first left into shopping area and another immediate left. Follow the road to PC Yacht Club.

**ALL MEMBERS WELCOME**  
**YOU DO NOT NEED A BOAT TO PARTICIPATE**

**Make your reservation NOW!**

For further information contact

**Tom Koch @ 805 729-3385 or**

**email: [tbkoch01@gmail.co](mailto:tbkoch01@gmail.com)**

*Santa Barbara Sail & Power Squadron*  
**PACIFIC CORINTHIAN YACHT CLUB**  
**CRUISE & DINNER - CROW'S NEST**

**RESERVATION FORM**  
**Come by boat or by car, but join us!**

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

SPOUSE/GUEST(S) \_\_\_\_\_

Coming by Boat: Power \_\_\_\_\_ Sail \_\_\_\_\_ Length \_\_\_\_\_

Approx. date and time of boat arrival: \_\_\_\_\_

**DINNER CHOICE**

Pistachio Encrusted Salmon #: \_\_\_\_\_

Roasted Prime Rib #: \_\_\_\_\_

# Dinners @ \$60 each: \_\_\_\_\_ Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Two Ways to Make Your Reservation**

*Make your reservation and pay by credit card at <https://www.sbsps.net/boating-event/pcyc-cruise/#tribe-tickets> or*

*Make checks payable to Santa Barbara Sail & Power Squadron and mail along with your choice of entrée to:*

**Tom Koch**  
**333 Old Mill Rd. Spc 278**  
**Santa Barbara, CA 93110**

**DINNER RESERVATION DEADLINE: JULY 5**  
**BOAT RESERVATION DEADLINE: JUNE 28**  
**NO REFUNDS FOR CANCELLATIONS AFTER JULY 5**

# Chasing Two Bodies of Celestial Navigation

P/C Dennis Johns, AP

We needed to make this article relevant to boating, so that title is the best we could come up with.

Virginia and I realized that the total solar eclipse to happen on Monday, April 8 passing across the continental US may be our best opportunity to experience this unique event. The path was to pass over Dallas, TX and we had friends and relatives along that path, so it made sense that we could enjoy visiting those folks while waiting for the eclipse. Of course travelling 2000+ miles to experience 4 minutes of an event may seem a bit of a folly but we are here to tell you it was worth it!

Fortunately our land yacht, a 25' class C RV travels somewhat faster than *Libertad*, so we didn't need to plan for 3 weeks of transit like we did crossing the Pacific Ocean to the Marquesas. Nevertheless, just like plans must remain flexible in cruising, our plans changed on this trip as well. Our initial plan was to leave on Monday, March 25 with a short jaunt to Riverside, CA to visit Virginia's sister thereby making the haul to Tucson, AZ much easier, having left LA county behind and reduced the transit time to Tucson by several hours. We got a call from her sister the day before advising that she had contracted COVID! OK, no stop in Riverside, now nonstop to Tucson which turned out to be about 9 hours –yes we know people who can do it in much less but we keep the cruise control at 60mph to save fuel. And it was worth it. We filled up the diesel tank at \$5.35 a gallon in Santa Barbara. Our next fill up was in Tonopah, AZ for \$3.73 a gallon. We only have a 26 gallon tank on the RV so at 60mph we can get about 15.5 miles per gallon =403 miles. This is all Dead Reckoning math which we learned in SBSPS Piloting! *Libertad* has a motoring range of over 750 miles but then fueling stations can be quite a bit further apart.

We visited a friend in Tucson who had helped us by driving our son Darren to his swimming lessons when he was about 12. She was aghast to hear that he is celebrating his 50<sup>th</sup> birthday this year.

Our next stop was Texas where we would be visiting a couple we had met cruising, Bill & Judy Rouse. They also owned an Amel sailboat and we had

been following their exploits as they travelled the world starting about a year ahead of us. We finally caught up with them in Croatia and did some buddy boating from there to the Caribbean where they swallowed their anchor and settled in Galveston. Bill & Judy gave us a grand tour of Galveston leaving just five days before the eclipse.

While cruising, we'd check the weather several days out before leaving the anchorage or marina, watching for the best weather window. We learned that forecasts were of little value beyond three or four days. Knowing that, we started checking the forecasts for Dallas, TX (where our next stop for visiting family & friends was to be) before leaving Galveston. The forecast for the Dallas area did not look good, i.e. overcast and thundershowers for April 7-9. That forecast got us searching for a plan B. Accessing windy.com forecasting, we could filter for cloud cover. We saw that the skies were forecast to be clear in the northern section of Arkansas. Our original plan was to store the RV in Little Rock and fly home from there, so going a little further north of Little Rock was not unreasonable.

Having visited family & friends in the Dallas area under overcast skies, we headed off for Jonesboro, AR. Sight unseen and no reviews yet (no photos on the website), we had made reservations at a very new RV park (they had not finished hooking up electricity to all their sites and their pads had just been asphalted). We actually didn't have much choice as most RV parks along the eclipse path were sold out. As we pulled off the freeway, we looked to the right and realized that the RV park was situated not more than 100 yards from the freeway. In addition, on the other side of the RV park, another 100 yards away, were train tracks. We arrived on Sunday, the day ahead of the eclipse and experienced constant freeway noise during the day and regular freight trains passing all night. To top it off, Sunday was overcast and raining, causing considerable doubt as to whether we'd be on the road again in the morning.

We awoke to clear skies and much anticipation in the folks in the park. As we set up our camping chairs to view the eclipse, our neighboring RVer's from Memphis, TN came over to join us. We had great conversations leading up to the event, similar to what we experienced when meeting fellow cruisers as we sailed around the world –similar interests, shared experiences, recommendations for other adventures.



At about 12:30 the event began. We of course had our eclipse shades to see the start. The entire event would take about 90 minutes so we had plenty of time for discussion between short views of the sun. Virginia had purchased a special filter for her phone camera. With the filter in place and the camera on maximum zoom, it was difficult to keep the sun in focus. Nevertheless, we got some really good shots included in this article. Here are the most notable experiences during the event:



- 1) At about  $\frac{3}{4}$  into the eclipse, we could see a change in the sunlight as it began to get darker and continued to darken from then on.



- 2) A little bit later, we could detect a drop in the air temperature which had been in the mid-seventies.
- 3) The northern part of Arkansas is agricultural (wheat fields), so we could see the horizon all around us. As totality neared, we could actually see the shadow of the moon approach us from the southwest. It was not subtle as automatic lights that would come on at dusk were flickering on. Normally dusk takes about 30-45 minutes, this was happening in a fraction of that time.
- 4) At totality, we were not only in an eerie darkness, but we could see the planet Venus in the sky in the middle of the day. Normally at dusk only the western horizon has an orange or pink hue. In this case, the horizon in 360 degrees was that color. Birds & insects stopped chirping, flowers closed, and the freeway noise halted resulting in an unnatural silence –apparently everyone on the freeway had pulled off to view the eclipse even though there were constant electronic signs on the shoulder advising all drivers not to pull off to view the eclipse.





5) Totality lasted only four minutes which didn't give us much time to get a clear photo but we finally got it in focus and got what is called a "diamond ring" shot which includes the corona and the first escaping ray of the sun.

Minutes later everything returned to normal except us. We had experienced several "once in a lifetime" events in our trip around the world and we were overjoyed to add one more. We moved the RV to storage in Little Rock and flew home (like we used to leave *Libertad* on the hard). It will be there for us to continue our journey which will take us to Ohio in June.

**In Memoriam**  
**P/C Nils G. A. Lindman, SN**  
**June 2, 1939 – March 21, 2024**

P/C Tom Koch, SN

On March 21, 2024, another long-time member of the Santa Barbara Sail & Power Squadron took his final cruise. Nils Gosta Albin Lindman was an avid boater for most of his life. Nils was a U. S. Naval Radar Technician serving on a Naval Destroyer in his youth. While in the Navy, Nils met his wife, Susan, a U. S. Navy Nurse. He was also a avid Water Skier and continued this sport while their daughters, Julie and Kristi, grew into adulthood. He was also an avid Sailboat Racer. He and his racing partner competed in the Santa Barbara Harbor Wednesday Sail Races aboard their 38' Catalina, *Bobcat*, for many years.

To gain a greater knowledge of *Boating*, Nils joined, what was then, the *Santa Barbara Power Squadron*. He immersed himself in all Educational & Navigation Courses offered and earned *Full Certificate Senior Navigator* status. Nils served on many SBPS offices and committees and was Squadron Commander in 1988.

Nils continued his boating on multiple *Bobcat* cruises and Piloted Yachts in the Pacific Northwest San Juan and Gulf Islands in 2003 and 2006.

One of Nils' favorite boating experiences was looking for calm water to water-ski in. We now wish him "Fare-Winds and Following-Seas" as he cruises off "Looking for Glass!"



*Nils Piloting Yacht in 2003*



*Nils relaxing after a tough day on the water*



*Nils grilling fresh-caught salmon*



*Nils cruising off "Looking for Glass!"*

Join Santa Barbara Maritime Museum for its May offering of its Maritime Distinguished Speaker Series "Butcher Boy and the First Defense of the Lipton Cup" featuring Dr. Raymond Ashley, CEO and president of the San Diego Maritime Museum. The event will take place on Thursday, May 16, 2024 at 7:00 p.m. Dr. Ashley will dive into the narrative surrounding the beloved sailboat *Butcher Boy* and its important role in shaping the history of Southern California. The cost is free for SBMM Navigators Circle members; \$10 for all other members; and \$20 for the general public. Purchase tickets: <https://bit.ly/4d6n3TH>





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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