

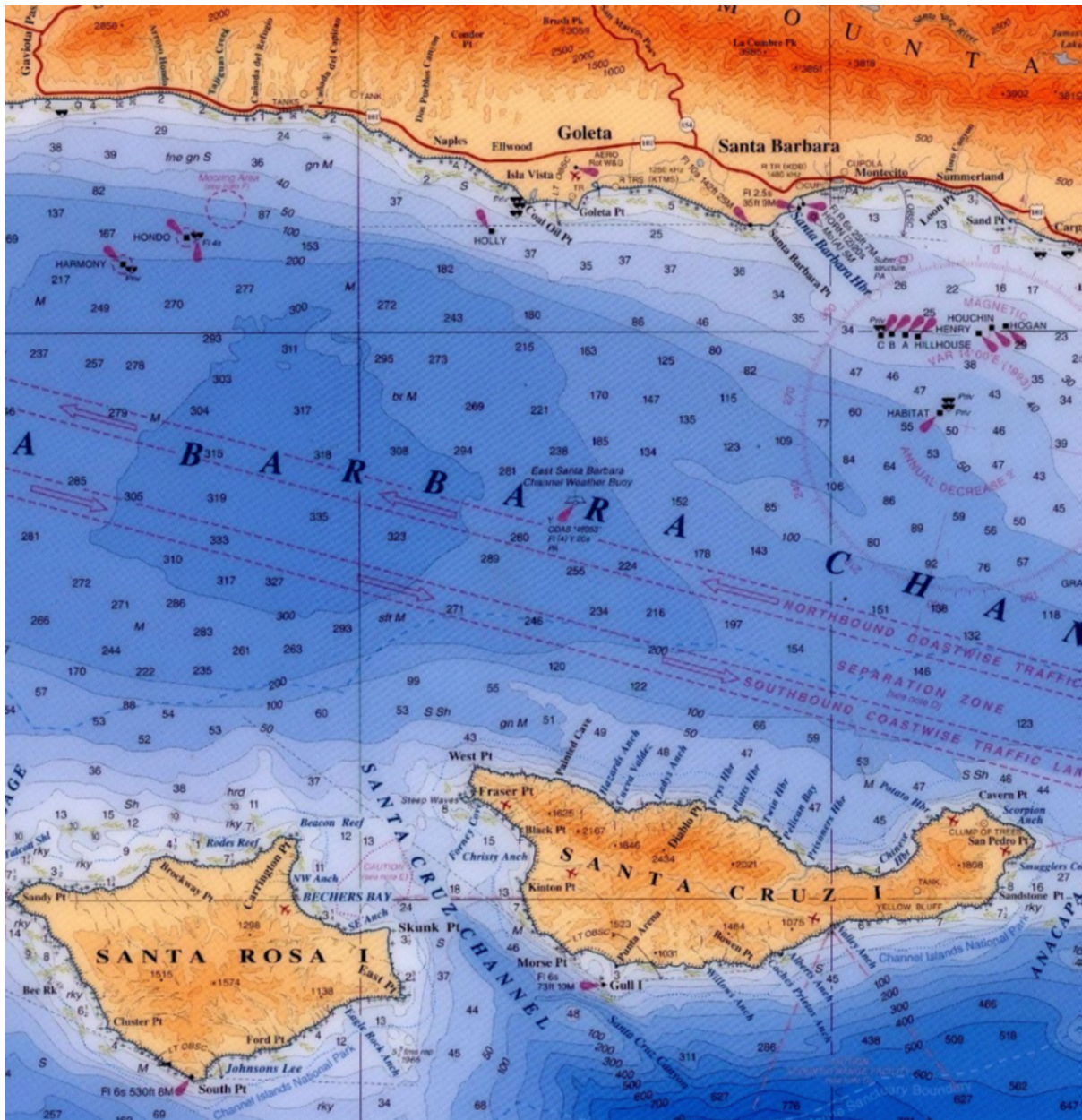


Signal Hoist

Santa Barbara Sail & Power Squadron

America's Boating Club® is a registered trademark of the United States Power Squadrons®

Monthly Newsletter July 2025





COMMANDER'S MESSAGE

Cdr. Alec Hardy

Dear Squadron Members,

Our season is off to a great start! I'm pleased to announce that our get-together at the Pacific Corinthian Yacht Club in Channel Islands Harbor is officially scheduled. *This is one of the best opportunities to connect with fellow Squadron members in a relaxed social setting.* For boat owners, it's a perfect reason to get the boat out—without the full commitment of an island cruise.

We have slips available at PCYC for the weekend of **July 18–20**, with our main social event and dinner taking place on **Saturday, July 19**. Be sure to check this issue of *Signal Hoist* for more details—and don't forget to **RSVP!** [Link to Flyer](#)

On the training front, we've recently met to finalize this season's schedule. Thanks to the enthusiastic support of our volunteers, we'll soon be rolling out a variety of training opportunities. I want to extend a heartfelt thank-you to everyone who has stepped up to help. One of the best ways you can support the Squadron's mission is by **attending a course**—or better yet, **encouraging others — both members and non-members — to join a training season as well.** See you out on the water



SECRETARY'S MESSAGE

Virginia Johns

Squadron Bylaws

The revised bylaws for Santa Barbara Sail and Power Squadron presented for a vote at the Change of Watch in late May, have received final approval from National. You can find them on National's Member Website or you can use this convenient link for the copy on our squadron website [CLICK HERE](#).

Thank you to the Rules Committee, Will Goodale and Tom Koch, for their work on this document.

June Business Meeting

Cdr Alec Hardy held a business meeting via zoom on June 9th. The main topics of discussion were

- Our upcoming cruise and social activity at PCYC in Channel Islands Harbor July 18-20
- Scheduling a meeting of the Education committee - encouraging participation from more than the instructors - to develop a list of offerings for the summer/fall and to identify support for administration of the selected courses and seminar

Upcoming Activities

July 18 - 20	Fri - Sun	Cruise & weekend at PCYC (Pacific Corinthian Yacht Club)	PCYC in Channel Islands Harbor
July 19	Sat 4:00pm	Appetizer POTLUCK	PCYC Dock
	6:00pm	Cocktails	PCYC Crow's Nest
	7:00pm	Dinner	PCYC Crow's Nest



Santa Barbara Sail & Power Squadron



Pacific Corinthian Yacht Club
Cruise & Dinner

Dinner & Festivities, Saturday,
July 19, 2025

Slips Available Friday &
Saturday
12 noon July 18 - 11:00AM
July 20

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

19 JULY 2025

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
New York Steak

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 18 July — 11am 20 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! Pay by credit card at <https://www.sbsps.net/boating-event/pcyc-dinner-and-cruise/>

For further information contact
Tom Koch @ 805 729-3385 or
email: tbkoch01@gmail.com

Report from Pelicans

Cdr Alec Hardy

Our cruise to Santa Cruz began on Thursday with a plan to try for Cueva Valdez on the more North West side of the Island. On the way out from Santa Barbara we sailed past some interesting yellow buoys so if anyone has any input on what they might be it would be a great conversation piece!



We arrived at Cueva Valdez and our Captain promptly quizzed the currently anchored boats on conditions. The response was that the wind and waves had increased in the last half hour, so the decision was made to go farther East. We arrived at Pelicans early afternoon and were able to get in a quick snorkel and get the skiff ready. Our dinner was an

appetizer of freshly caught scallops and ribs, with a fine wine provided by the Captain. On Thursday night there were two other boats at the anchorage. The wind and waves met us during the evening and so it was a little bit bumpy overnight.

Friday consisted of hiking, snorkeling and kayaking, and we were able to get some great shots of the anchorage. As a diver, I can say that Pelican has some fun snorkeling, and while there are some urchin barrens, there are still plenty of scallops, a fair amount of fish, lots of sea hares, sea stars, black abalone, sheep crab, and I did see one octopus.



Once the sun passed behind the mountains, we feasted on our scallop appetizer again with the Captain supplying homemade award winning chilli. While not completely calm Friday night, it was better than the night before so sleeping was a bit easier. We left Pelican for Santa Barbara about 10:30 and encountered a good breeze from the east, which helped get us back to the harbor right before 2pm.





Libertad is shown at its berth in Ventura West Marina a few months after purchase - where it lived for the first 10 years before we took off on our adventure. Had already replaced the main boom, made sail covers, purchased a dinghy.

What If ?

Virginia Johns

It was January 2000 and we were headed to Fort Lauderdale to bring our new-to-us 1983 Amel Maramu, s/v *Libertad*, home to California. Dennis was the sailor, but this 46-foot boat was a bit larger than our current boat, the Lido 14 he had competitively sailed with his dad growing up in Southern California. We had hired a professional captain to accompany us on our first voyage from Fort Lauderdale to Galveston Texas where a truck would be waiting to carry *Libertad* to southern California.

You have all heard the story of that adventure before where Captain Johnny turned out to be a lot like Captain Ron - capable, unflappable, but a bit too casual and willing to "fix it out there", especially for this newbie sailor. I got incredibly seasick after just a few hours out to sea. I was using a wristband that emitted a slight electrical pulse continuously that I had found to be a

cure for my seasickness on day sails out of Santa Barbara. Completely useless in the storm that hit us on that trip.

We were planning to sail as far as St. Petersburg Florida before making our first stop. We had an additional crew member, Joel Unger, waiting for us there. But I was so ill we stopped in Key West. Sitting in the cockpit those first few days I was trying to imagine how I could tell Dennis that I was D O N E. I could not go any further. This was all a mistake. And I didn't want him to proceed either with only himself and this captain aboard. Very dramatic I know, but I was so depressed. However, I recovered after a few days on land. I pulled out the brochure I had picked up in the chandlery in Fort Lauderdale about a boating club with a great education program that had "squadrons" in every state. Dennis promised we would look into that organization when we got home. I decided I was ready to try the next leg to pick up Joel.

This past April Dennis and I returned to Key West – this time in our RV. We rode our e-bikes all around Key West and had a grand time. One day we decided to head to the port and locate that infamous dock where *Libertad* sat for a couple days 25 years ago, allowing me to recover my health and my senses and continue on with our dream. We found it! And I teared up thinking **What If** I had given up back then.

All the adventures, the countries we visited, the cultures we experienced, the friends we made at home and around the world. **What If** I had missed all that.



The dock master dock in Key West which we visited on our maiden voyage and again in April 2025.



“Tunas and Trash” – Exploring the Hidden Costs of Seafood and the Power of Art

Ethan Estess Headlines SBMM’s Maritime Distinguished Speaker Series

Santa Barbara, CA – The Santa Barbara Maritime Museum (SBMM) is proud to welcome scientist-turned-artist Ethan Estess for its Maritime Distinguished Speaker Series on Thursday, July 17, 2025 at 7:00 p.m. Estess will present “Tunas and Trash: A Surprising Synergy Between Marine Debris Art and Tuna Research.” The event includes a pre-lecture reception for SBMM members from 6:15 to 6:45 p.m. Tickets are free for Navigators Circle members, \$5 for students/educators, \$10 for SBMM members, and \$20 for the general public. [Purchase tickets here](#) or call (805) 456-8750.

Estess will explore the surprising connections between ocean plastic pollution and global tuna fisheries. Drawing on his early research on tunas and sharks with the Monterey Bay Aquarium and Stanford University, he now creates large-scale sculptures from discarded marine debris to



raise awareness about ocean health. His artwork, seen by millions, has been featured in collaborations with the World Surf League and the Bernice Pauahi Bishop Museum and are crafted primarily from fishing rope collected in Hawaii, much of it sourced from unregulated international tuna fleets.

“Art is a powerful way to start conversations about big issues,” said Estess. “I want my work to draw people in visually—and then challenge them to consider the deeper consequences of the choices we make, especially around seafood and ocean stewardship.”

Through stories, images, and scientific insight, Estess will illustrate how supporting local, sustainable fisheries can reduce ocean pollution and protect marine ecosystems. His unique combination of marine science and art invites



audiences to think critically, and creatively, about our relationship with the ocean.

“Ethan’s work inspires curiosity, empathy, and action,” said SBMM Education Coordinator Jason Statucki. “By blending research with art, he empowers our community to be more engaged ocean stewards and reminds us that local choices can have global impact.”

About the Speaker

Ethan Estess holds M.S. and B.S. degrees in environmental science from Stanford University and has conducted research on tuna bioenergetics, white shark ecology, and sustainable fisheries. His work as a science communicator and artist has led to exhibitions across North America, Hawaii, Europe, and Japan, with major installations for institutions such as the Getty Museum and the San Francisco International Airport. Today, Estess channels his passion for surfing, science, and sculpture into building monumental ocean-inspired artworks that advocate for the health of our planet.

Photos:

1. Ethan Estess Searches for Trash. Courtesy
2. Estess with Students. Courtesy



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.

Editor:	Peggy Ciolino, P
Proofreader:	Lt/C Richard Ciolino, JN
SBSPS Website Manager:	Lt/C Steve York, P
Website address:	<u>www.sbsps.net</u>