



P.O. Box 3265 • Seal Beach, CA 90740 • 562-433-7426

#### UPCOMING EVENTS

January 12-13, 2023

## SCYA 2024 Installation & Awards Luau Weekend!

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# From the Helm

## Commodore's Report

**John Caldwell**  
Commodore, SCYA



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### My last column in the Searchlight.

As my tenure as Commodore of the Southern California Yachting Association comes to a close, I want to take a moment to express my profound gratitude for the privilege and honor it has been to serve in this role. It has been a truly remarkable journey, one that I will always treasure.

First and foremost, I would like to extend my heartfelt thanks to the dedicated members of the Board of Directors who have supported me throughout this incredible experience. Your commitment to the SCYA's mission and vision has been unwavering, and I am deeply appreciative of your guidance,

wisdom, and tireless efforts in steering our organization towards success.

I also want to express my sincere gratitude to the countless volunteers who have generously given their time, energy, and expertise to make SCYA's events and programs a resounding success. Your dedication is the backbone of our association, and without your selfless contributions, we could not have achieved all that we have.

Working alongside such talented and accomplished individuals has been a privilege beyond measure. I have been constantly inspired by the passion and enthusiasm that pervades every corner of our boating community. Together, we have not only upheld our traditions but also embraced innovation, ensuring that SCYA continues to thrive in a rapidly changing world.

As my term concludes, I wholeheartedly offer my support and confidence to the incoming 2024 Flag Officers and Board of Directors. I have no doubt that they will bring fresh perspectives, energy, and leadership to guide SCYA to even greater heights. Please join me in welcoming them and offering your full support as they take the helm.

In closing, let us always remember that it is our shared love for yachting, camaraderie, and the beauty of Southern California's coastal waters that bind us together as a community. I am immensely grateful for the friendships I have forged during my time as Commodore, and I look forward to continuing to enjoy the pleasures of boating

alongside all of you.

Thank you once again for this incredible honor, and may the wind always be at your backs.

**John Caldwell, 2023 SCYA Commodore**  
[commodore@scya.org](mailto:commodore@scya.org)

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# From the Bridge

## V/C Report

**Kathy St. Amant**  
Vice Commodore, SCYA



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The end of a year brings to conclusion many yacht club officer's time to complete their goals as they slide up or out of their positions. Before the new year starts, now is a good time to reflect on what went well and what needs to be worked on when in the board room. Take some time to look at what your goals were at the beginning of last year and compare them to where you are today. Note how you can make the improvements necessary to complete what was missed last year.

If you are moving up or out of your YC position, make sure you leave clear information on what was and what was not

completed for those who will follow you. Provide them with a package that allows them to jump right in and perform their new duties with confidence. When they succeed, it will be because you got them off on the right foot. If you see them faltering, be ready to check the information you left them with and be ready to assist if asked.

For many of us, working in the board system is a new experience. Keep that in mind and don't let feelings break the strength of people working together. When disagreements get heated, the first thing to remember is that we are all volunteers, and none of us has to be involved. Take a deep breath and refresh the main points in your mind and work through them calmly. No one deserves to be targeted by anger in any meeting.

The word Corinthian is embedded in SCYA's Mission. Many yacht clubs proudly carry that word in their names. To be a Corinthian is to promote the principle of fair play. That also includes the spirit to make sure that those around us are secure and capable. If everyone on the board shares this spirit, it will create a group of people capable of working together in harmony. This crew will make things happen for the good of their organization. Be a Corinthian next year in all you do.

I wish all of you taking on new board positions the best of luck. I know I need it! HAVE A GREAT YEAR.

**Kathy St. Amant, 2023 SCYA Vice Commodore**  
[vicecommodore@scya.org](mailto:vicecommodore@scya.org)

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# From the Bridge

## R/C Report

**Lee Coller**

Rear Commodore, SCYA

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**2023 is almost to a close and looking forward to 2024!**

In January we have the SCYA installation and awards ceremony at Westlake Yacht Club. We then have the largest regatta in North America, the SCYA Midwinders the last two weeks of February. Please plan on participating, see <https://scyamidwinterregatta.org>. This year we have races from Ensenada up to Morro Bay.

I'm looking forward to planning seminars for next year. I've already been in contact with our Fleet Surgeon, Dr. Micheal Stone about doing the Medical Emergencies at Sea Seminar next year. Watch for an announcement. I'm also looking forward to planning for the Membership Seminar and restarting the Women's Sailing Conference.

Remember, SCYA is here to serve you. If you have an event

at your club you want to publicize to the entire association please let us know. We'll be happy to forward that. This is especially true if your club is holding a Race Management seminar, a Safety at Sea Course as these have wide interest.

I look forward to seeing many of you at opening days and other events during 2024.

**Lee Coller, SCYA Rear Commodore**  
[rearcommodore@scya.org](mailto:rearcommodore@scya.org)

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Southern California Yachting Association

# Congratulations, 2024 Board of Directors!

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## OFFICERS

Commodore: Kathy St. Amant  
Vice Commodore: Lee Coller  
Rear Commodore: Jodi Masters-Gonzales  
Secretary: Lorraine Coller  
Treasurer: Chris Haro

## DIRECTORS

Howard Brenner

Herbert Brown  
Themis Glatman  
Rosalie Davis-Green  
Vic Jedlicka  
Scott LaMay  
Marie Rogers  
Judi Sheesley  
Jeanne Stafford  
Tamara Tatich

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SCYA MarCom Committee

# Call for Member Input on SCYA Strategic Planning

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Dear SCYA Members,

As we compile the final report on the recent SCYA Roundtable Discussion, we invite you, our valued members, to contribute further to this pivotal document.

The roundtable was a resounding success, thanks to the diverse and insightful input from those who participated. However, we believe every voice matters in shaping the future of the Southern California Yachting Association.



If you have additional thoughts, ideas, or input that you would like to share, this is your opportunity to make your voice heard. Whether you attended the roundtable or not, your perspective is crucial in ensuring that our final report reflects the collective wisdom and aspirations of our entire membership.

Your contributions can range from reflections on the topics discussed, such as member engagement, racing schedules, youth programs, or any other area you feel passionate about. No insight is too small, and all viewpoints are valuable as we strive to enhance our community and the sport of yachting.

Please submit your thoughts via email to [staffcommodore@pm.me](mailto:staffcommodore@pm.me) by December 31, 2023. We encourage you to be as specific and detailed as possible to help us fully understand and incorporate your perspectives.

Your participation in this process is not just appreciated; it is essential. Together, we can ensure that the SCYA continues to thrive as a dynamic, inclusive, and forward-thinking organization.

Thank you for your continued support and engagement.

Fair Winds and Following Seas,

Jodi Masters-Gonzales  
SCYA Rear Commodore-Elect  
[staffcommodore@pm.me](mailto:staffcommodore@pm.me)

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SCYA Adaptive Boating

# Challenged Sailors San Diego



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**Welcome to SCYA Challenged Sailors San Diego!**

Challenged Sailors San Diego (CSSD) was approved for special membership in SCYA at the November 2023 general meeting.



This association has a long history of adaptive sailing in San Diego, going back to 2014. Their mission is to “provide therapeutic and recreational adaptive sailing opportunities for people with disabilities to enhance their dignity, well- being, and independence.” Their mission is consistent with that of SCYA’s, the “support and promotion of recreational amateur boating.” CSSD also has a strong interest in “Corinthian yachting competition,” with eight regattas on their calendar in 2023, including the SCYA Midwinters.



SCYA Member organizations including CorYC, PLYC, and CRA are hosts to these regattas. CSSD started providing this opportunity to disabled sailors even before it was on other organization's radars. Challenged Sailors' recognition by US Sailing as the winner of their Robie Pierce Award this year, adds credibility to the caliber of their program, as the best of its kind in our country.

Challenged Sailors believes that the time is right to join SCYA and all its like-minded boating organizations. Challenged Sailors is a 501c3 non-profit organization.

To learn more about this organization their website is [www.challengedsailors.org](http://www.challengedsailors.org).

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Long Beach Yacht Club (LBYC)

# Upcoming Regattas & Events

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## [Two Gates Pursuit Series \(PHRF regatta\)](#)

Jan 7, Jan 21, and Feb 4, 2024

The Two Gates Pursuit Series features three 13+ mile reverse-handicap races in San Pedro Bay, scheduled every other Sunday beginning January 7. Twenty-seven PHRF boats participated in 2023 and we look forward to growing the entry list in 2024. Don't wait to register --late fee kicks in December 26.

## [Advanced First Aid for Mariners \(training\)](#)

Jan 13-14, 2024

Early-Bird Deadline: Dec 13, 2023

Whether you are spending time cruising, racing, day sailing, or offshore, our Advanced First Aid/CPR For Mariners will prepare you for your next adventure. Combining a highly experiential in-person training with our self-paced Maritime Medicine Online course, this program provides all the skills practice and knowledge needed to handle a range of medical and traumatic emergencies at sea.

This class is US Sailing accredited, meets World Sailing

Offshore Special Regulation (OSR 6.05) Medical Training requirements, US Sailing Senior First Aid Requirements, is valid for US Coast Guard Merchant Mariner credentials, and can be used to recertify a Wilderness First Responder certificate within its grace period.

### [US Sailing Basic Race Management Seminar \(training\)](#)

Jan 20, 2024

Because race officials play an important role in ensuring the fairness and quality of competition, racing sailors and US Sailing expect a high level of personal integrity and judicial temperament of certified race officials. The goals of the certification program are to standardize practices, provide structured training and continuing education, and ultimately make racing more enjoyable by improving the quality of race management.

Passing this course will certify the individual with a Club Race Officer certification. A Club Race Officer is expected to be able to properly run any race normally conducted at his or her local sailing organization, including organizing the race committee, writing sailing instructions and scoring the event.

### [North U Tactics Seminar \(training\)](#)

Jan 27, 2024

Early-Bird Deadline: Dec 15, 2023

It takes more than speed to win races. Led by 21-time national champion tactician Andrew Kerr, this seminar teaches the strategy and tactics you need to turn your speed

into a podium finish. Starts, upwind, downwind, mark roundings: with this refined curriculum you'll learn techniques to improve your game all the way around the course.

### [International Offshore Safety at Sea Course \(training\)](#)

Feb 17-18, 2024

Safety at Sea courses are for everyone: cruisers, power boaters & sailboat racers will all benefit from the knowledge and skills covered in this course. The two-day course with hands-on training will be tailored to crew members of long-distance and international offshore races, long-distance cruisers, or persons requiring the International Offshore certificate that complies with World Sailing guidelines for Personal Safety.

Seminar topics include Personal Safety Gear, Fire Safety, Crew Overboard, Cold Exposure, Crew Health, Heavy Weather, Damage Control, Search and Rescue, Signals, Emergency Communications, and Life Rafts. Hands-on training includes skills such as boarding a life raft (in a pool), working with inflatable life jackets, pyrotechnics, firefighting, and more.

#### **For more information, please contact:**

Cameron MacLaren  
Yachting Director, LBYC  
Long Beach Yacht Club  
P: (562) 294-5161

[cmaclaren@lbyc.org](mailto:cmaclaren@lbyc.org) | [www.lbyc.org](http://www.lbyc.org)

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Dockside Podcast

# Ep 16 -- Why I wear a Life Jacket.



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Let's chat with fisherman, boater and waterman.

In this episode we chat with fisherman, boater and waterman Justin Hugron about an accident that changed his perspective. Make sure to tune in!

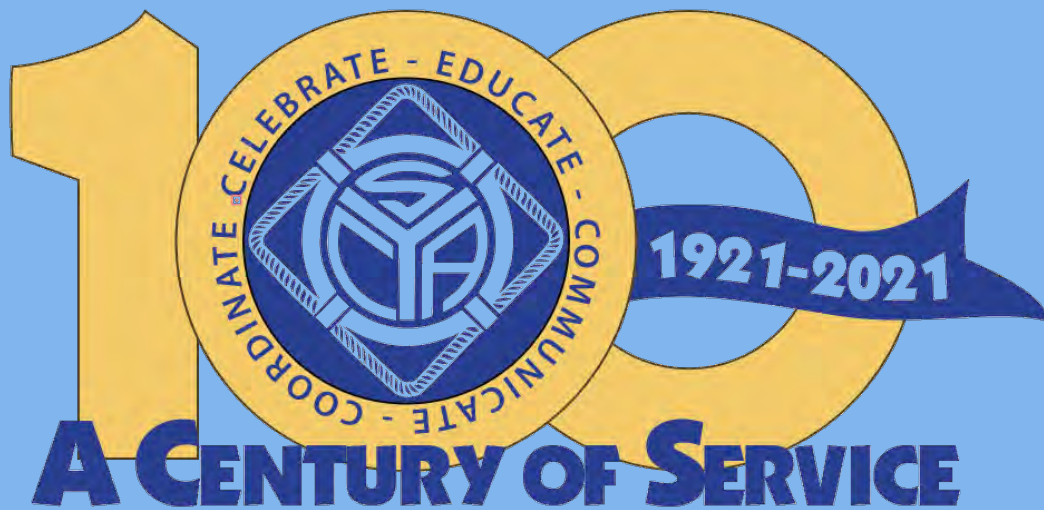




Want more? Check our previous five podcast episodes [here](#).

This podcast was brought to you by the California State Parks Division of Boating and Waterways, the California Coastal Commission, and the San Francisco Estuary Partnership, and it is partially funded by the Division of Boating and Waterways Clean Vessel Act Education Program and the Federal Clean Vessel Grant Act Program.

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### SCYA Searchlight Newsletter Information

Newsletter Chair - Jodi Masters-Gonzales, [StaffCommodore@pm.me](mailto:StaffCommodore@pm.me)

Commodore - John Caldwell, [Commodore@SCYA.org](mailto:Commodore@SCYA.org)

Services Manager - Kim Bergeron, [Service@SCYA.org](mailto:Service@SCYA.org), (562) 433-7426

[SCYA Website](#) | [SCYA Events](#) | [SCYA's Midwinter Regatta](#)



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