



NAVY YACHT CLUB SAN DIEGO

The Spinnaker

EDITION 25-01 www.nycsd.club WINTER 2025

NYCSD BRIDGE

Commodore

Mike Lewis

commodore@nycsd.club

Vice Commodore

Joe Torres

vicecommodore@nycsd.club

Rear Commodore

Penni McNicholl

rearcommodore@nycsd.club

Jr. Staff Commodore

Jeff McNicholl

fstack@yahoo.com



The Commodore and Officers of

Navy Yacht Club San Diego

Request the pleasure of your company at our

Opening Day Ceremony

Sunday, March 2, 2025

Fiddler's Cove Marina

Naval Base Coronado

Coronado, CA

Registration/Hospitality 12:30 PM

Ceremony 1:00 PM

Reception 1:30 PM

R.S.V.P. by February 23, 2025

rearcommodore@nycsd.club

NYCSD BOARD

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FOUNDERS' DAY BBQ

Join us to celebrate our Club's founding fathers

Joe Quicker and Al Tarantino on

Saturday, January 25th on the patio from 1200-1500!

NYCSD will be providing burgers and hotdogs and ask members to bring a side dish or dessert to share.

Please RSVP on the club website today at

www.nycsd.club.



Treasurer's Report

Operating Funds-

Business Checking	\$18,476
Prepaid memberships	\$10,931
Certificate of Deposit	\$29,693
Capital Funds	\$9,948

Total Funds- \$69,817

COMMODORE'S BALL 2024



COMMODORE'S HALYARD

Commodore
Mike Lewis



Commodore Mike Lewis

Greetings Navy Yacht Club San Diego Members,

It is truly an honor to serve as your Commodore of NYCS. As I take on this role, I'd like to share a bit about my background and the journey that brought me here.

My fiancée, Lois, and I have called Coronado home since August 2024, and we've been proud members of the Navy Yacht Club San Diego since 2021. From the very beginning, we have cherished the camaraderie, fellowship, and traditions that make this club so special. While I was born in South Carolina, San Diego has been home since I was a toddler. Growing up in beautiful Coronado instilled in me a deep love for the sea and an enduring passion for sailing.

That passion began at the age of fourteen, when I started sailing Sabots at the San Diego Yacht Club. Over the years, my sailing adventures have taken me from local regattas to coastal journeys along the West Coast—sailing from San Francisco to Puerto Vallarta, Mexico—and even participating in the Baja Ha Ha rally alongside Lois, aboard our Jeanneau 53, *Aurora*.

After graduating from Coronado High School in the Class of '72, I proudly served in the United States Air Force, eventually retiring as a veteran. Returning to civilian life, I owned and operated businesses in Coronado, including Coastal Pool & Spa, which I ran for twenty-one years. Retirement has allowed me to devote more time to what I love most: sailing and building community.

Over the years, I've served on race committees, been involved with several local yacht clubs, and developed a deep appreciation for the camaraderie and tradition of our maritime community. Now, as Commodore of the Navy Yacht Club San Diego, I'm thrilled to work alongside you to celebrate our shared love of boating, strengthen the bonds among members, and honor the rich nautical traditions of our region.

Thank you for the privilege of serving as your Commodore. I look forward to a wonderful year of sailing adventures, racing, and fellowship with all of you.

Fair winds,
Mike Lewis
Commodore, Navy Yacht Club San Diego

VICE COMMODORE'S HALYARD

Vice Commodore
Joe Torres



Ahoy, Mates! As I take the helm as Vice Commodore of our esteemed yacht club, I find myself navigating a sea of emotions...pride, excitement, and an invigorating sense of purpose. It's a tremendous honor to be entrusted with this role, and I promise to steer a steady course as we chart our journey through an exciting year ahead.

The call of the open water has always resonated with me, and there's no greater privilege than serving a community of sailors who share this passion. As Vice Commodore, my compass is set toward fostering camaraderie, ensuring smooth sailing for club operations, and enhancing the joy of our collective maritime adventures.

This year, the Race Committee has a treasure chest of thrilling plans ready to unfurl. From meticulously charted regattas to the ever-popular beer can races, we're set to hoist the sails on a season brimming with friendly competition and nautical fun. These weeknight races are the perfect blend of sport and socializing, where tactics meet teamwork, and every tack and jibe is followed by hearty laughs and cold refreshments on the dock.

But our course isn't just about racing. It's about the spirit of the club, the sense of belonging that anchors us, whether we're sharing sea stories over a pint, or teaching the next generation how to sail. This year, we'll work together to strengthen the bonds that make our yacht club a true home port for its members.

As in past years, we'll host weekly beer can races, Quicker/Tarantino and the Navy Cup. We're also co-sponsoring the Arden Regatta a collaboration between Southwestern Yacht Club and Navy Yacht Club San Diego. Additionally, plans for opening day 2025 are well underway. Tasks have been delegated, and your Bridge and Board are hard at work, ensuring smooth sailing for opening day. Last year, I received several emails and comments on the camaraderie exhibited by our club members on opening day and I aim for a repeat performance.

I'm grateful to our past Commodores, whose leadership has led to a well-set anchor, and to the entire crew of volunteers and members who keep our club afloat and thriving. Your dedication ensures that we continue to ride the waves of tradition while embracing fresh winds of innovation.

So, batten down the hatches, NYCSD sailors! With a full sail and a fair wind, we're embarking on a year of exciting adventures and unforgettable memories. Whether you're a seasoned skipper or a landlubber just finding your sea legs, there's a place for you on this voyage. Here's to fair winds, following seas, and a year that'll make our yacht club's logbook one for the ages. Let's hoist our glasses and our sails on an extraordinary journey ahead!

REAR COMMODORE'S HALYARD

Rear Commodore
Penni McNicholl



Hello NYCSD! I am honored to be your Rear Commodore for the 2025 yachting season. I have been supporting NYCSD by becoming a director in 2021 for membership. In addition, over the past year I have been your Secretary; and now your Rear Commodore. Myself and my husband, Jr. Staff Commodore Jeff McNicholl, continue to immensely enjoy the comradery of our club. We have wonderful members; I am thankful for those active members of whom I have had the absolute privilege of working with, great times, hard work and lots of laughter.

Now a little about myself, my career has primarily been within business management and operations, including both program and project management within the high-tech industries such as laser communication, laser hair removal (first to obtain FDA approval), to launching many new mobile phones with two carriers, to now automotive fleet telematics. I have been fortunate to be employed by a couple successful startups where I held many operational roles.

In 2010, I took the basic keel boat sailing class at MCRD. Over several years, Jeff and I would rent sail boats until we obtained our first power boat a 28-foot Regal Cabin Cruiser and now a 38-foot Silverton Convertible (Boatload of Fun). We enjoy racing the 16.5 sailboats during NYCSD's racing season. We also enjoy off-roading and are long time active members of the San Diego 4 Wheelers. Hiking and backing are another favorite activity.

Navy Yacht Club San Diego is an "all-volunteer" run organization. It takes many people to keep things running smoothly; we are grateful for those who have and continue to contribute to our club. I have had the absolute pleasure of speaking to, and have gotten to know those members who attend and help out at our club's events. We really do have amazing members. I am looking forward to a great year and I am preparing for our first BBQ of the year, Founder's Day on Saturday, January 25th. I will do my best to cook the burgers and hotdogs as well as our Vice Commodore Joe Torres did all of last year.

Come on out to one of our events; I look forward to meeting you!

NYCSD Racing

NYCSD Upcoming Racing/Spring Series 2025

NAME	DATE	Day of the Week	Series
Quicker/ Tarantino Invitational	4/5/2025	Saturday	1-3/3
Wed Night Regatta	4/9/2025	Wednesday	Skipper's meeting
Wed Night Regatta	4/16/2025	Wednesday	1/18
Wed Night Regatta	4/23/2025	Wednesday	2/18
Wed Night Regatta	4/30/2025	Wednesday	3/18
Wed Night Regatta	5/7/2025	Wednesday	4/18
Wed Night Regatta	5/14/2025	Wednesday	5/18
Wed Night Regatta	5/21/2025	Wednesday	6/18
Wed Night Regatta	5/28/2025	Wednesday	7/18



Looking for a fun way to volunteer in NYCSD and spend time on the water? Join the Race Committee! You can volunteer for any number of races and NO experience is required. Please contact our Vice Commodore, Joe Torres and get involved! Joe can be reached at vicecommodore@nycsd.club.

Reciprocal Privileges

Dear Esteemed NYCSD members,

Please know that when you visit another yacht club you represent NYCSD. Each year the Commodore of our club will receive several concerns from other yacht club Commodores regarding improper use of reciprocal privileges by NYCSD membership, which must then be addressed. We provide this article on the proper use of these privileges to help ensure that we are able to remain in good standing with other clubs and maintain these precious reciprocal privileges. Please take a moment to review and familiarize yourself with the information below in order to support NYCSD. Thank you so much!

One of the benefits of NYCSD membership is reciprocity with other participating yacht clubs. Each year, the Commodores of various other yacht clubs extend reciprocal privileges to NYCSD, offering the use of their club facilities for that specific year, usually via a formal written invitation. Likewise, the Commodore of NYCSD formally extends reciprocal privileges to other clubs. Each club establishes its own policies with respect to what the visiting privileges include, and some clubs do not offer reciprocals. Some clubs follow the “in-kind” policy, meaning that a club will only extend reciprocals that the guest club also offers to the host club (i.e., bar and restaurant, swimming pool, guest dock, etc.). In the case of NYCSD, our offered reciprocals include the invitation to attend NYCSD club events, sponsored reservation of the club patio, and the temporary use of the MWR guest dock, all based on availability and advance request.

A club is no different from a person’s home with respect to guests. There is nothing automatic about reciprocal privileges, and reciprocity should be considered a privilege, not a right. When you consider that many yacht clubs have fine premises, restaurants, bars, launching and boat storage facilities (and membership dues that reflect all of these benefits), it is clear that reciprocal privileges are to be treasured, nurtured, and cultivated. If abused, these privileges may be modified or formally rescinded by the host club, and privileges may be lost to an individual member, or to all of NYCSD. The NYCSD bridge and board reviews all complaints related to abuse of reciprocals, and when warranted, can suspend or revoke membership.

To maintain goodwill between NYCSD and other reciprocating clubs, it is important to follow these guidelines:

1. Remember that reciprocal privileges are not an entitlement. Do not overuse reciprocal privileges, as this reflects poorly on the guest club. Overuse will rightfully lead the host club to expect that you should become a member of their club and pay the appropriate dues.

2. Call ahead to verify that the host club offers reciprocal privileges and to verify that space is available (at the guest dock or restaurant, etc.) to ensure your visit will not conflict with other club functions.
3. When making arrangements ask about the host club and marina rules such as, proper attire, allowing pets, electrical service, etc. Many clubs have a “no cell phone” rule inside their facility. Please observe these rules as you are a guest.
4. Always have a current membership card from your club. Some clubs have barriers or security guards to prevent unauthorized access, so simply explain that you are visiting under their club’s reciprocal agreement. If access to a club is denied for any reason, please do not argue. Notify NYCSD board members of the problem to see if they can arrange a more favorable welcome next time.
5. Always sign the guest register.
6. Wear your club nametag if you have one. (You can purchase them online from the NYCSD ship store.)
7. Patronize the facilities of the host club. They may have brought in extra staff just for your visit.
8. There is no process in place for NYCSD members to make restaurant and bar charges on a club account and be billed on a monthly basis. You are expected to settle any charges in full at the time of your visit to a reciprocal club.
9. When approaching the host club via water, fly your NYCSD burgee to identify your club affiliation. This will help identify you if you made guest dock arrangements.
10. Under no circumstances board or make fast to any vessel without permission. Do not move lines or use any equipment left on the dock.
11. Always follow good environmental practice consistent with concerns for proper waste disposal and discharges from your vessel. Leave a clean wake.
12. Be gracious, courteous, and aware of the perception you give to the host club members. You are an envoy for NYCSD and our entire club will be judged by your actions.

If visiting a yacht club in another state, first call the club and ask what is needed for your visit. Usually a letter of introduction from your Commodore on yacht club stationary will help to allow you access to their club for a one-time visit. It is also important to note that reciprocity extends only to actual members of NYCSD and does not extend to non-member family and friends. This means when visiting another yacht club as a NYCSD member you are the guest and should not bring additional non-member “guests”. (This is a privilege reserved for members of the host club who pay dues.) However, if you check with the host yacht club ahead of time and request to bring a non-NYCSD member guest(s) with you, they usually try to accommodate as availability and space allows. Most clubs want you to enjoy your visit at their facility. Visiting other clubs is a fun opportunity to enjoy different venues and make new friendships with fellow boating enthusiasts. Traditional yachting protocol, courtesy, and a thank you goes a long way in fostering good relations between clubs.

NYCSD Big Boat Raft-Ups

Submitted by Curt Snyder, Your Big Boat Raft-Up Coordinator

The Big Boat Raft-ups are set! We will be in:

Glorietta Bay, June 20-22

La Playa, July 25-27

La Playa, August 8-10

Things get going around noon on Friday and start breaking up at noon on Sunday. If you are coming out you will need a reservation with the Port of San Diego so make your reservations at this link:

<http://reservations.portofsandiego.org/boating>

It is easy, even I can do it. If this is your first time you will need to establish a login. If you have a login just make your reservations. I recommend that you make your reservation early as there are limited reservations available. If you are just even considering making the raft-up, make the reservation, you can always cancel later.

If you don't want to bring your boat out or don't have a boat, you can still join the fun by coming out on your dinghy, kayak, canoe, or just swim out. If that doesn't work for you we can probably send a dinghy to retrieve you. So come on out and enjoy some good food, good drink, good stories, and good comradery. I guarantee if you show up you will see your name in the next issue of the Spinnaker (in a good way).

If you are coming out please let me know so I can make appropriate plans. My contact information is cesnyder@hotmail.com or 619-892-2084.

Curt Snyder
Port Captain

It's Not Always a Word-for-Word Translation

When cruising in Mexico, it's worth the time and effort to do one or both of two things: (1) before you cast off, take a basic Spanish class; and/or (2) equip yourself with a translation option (electronic [phone app] or "manual" [pocket dictionary]). Trust me — you'll be glad you did! It's better to know than to guess when it comes to translation.

Last time I was in Marina Los Cabos (San Jose del Cabo), there was a bar/café located on the waterfront next to the marina office. It was named the "Container" for the obvious reason. That's what it was, and I'll go into detail in a following story. However, the sign for the "Container" is worthy of note.

Realizing their customers would be Spanish- and English-speakers, they opted to cater to both with their signage — half was Spanish and half was English. However, a direct translation of the Spanish half did not match the English half. Since you can read the English half in the photo, I'll translate the Spanish half: "Scientists have discovered a novel way to chat directly through voice and in 3D, they call it 'have a beer with someone.' "

You can see that the English "process diagram" and the Spanish translation sort of get you to the same end point. They want you to come in to the Container and at least have a beer (if not also order something from the café menu)!

So, I think I've made my point. You'll get a lot more out of your Mexico cruising if you have some way to translate, because "what you see is not always what you "get"!"

Submitted by: Neal Doten s/v *No Moss*



