

# Light Air

Newsletter of Lake Yosemite Sailing Association

August 2017

## Summer Racing



Photo courtesy: Mike Strealay

Left: Sea Scout Sasha at the helm of Villain during the July 20th Thursday night race on Lake Yosemite.

Below: High Sierra Regatta on Huntington Lake.



Photo courtesy: Deb Harden



Photo courtesy: Everett Loeffler

# Lake Yosemite Sailing Association

P.O. Box 3994  
Merced, CA 95340

## Club Officers

### **Commodore: Brigitte Bowers-Loeffler**

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brigittematt@comcast.net

### **Vice Commodore: Tom Cooke**

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### **Past Commodore: Jay Sousa**

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### **Secretary: Chris Martin**

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chrissybea@comcast.net

### **Treasurer: Diane Sousa**

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### **Port Captain: John Larson**

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### **House Captain: Peggy Larson**

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plarson@transcountytitle.com

### **Cruise/Social Captain: Matt Loeffler**

(209) 357-7049  
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### **Racing Captain: Debbie Harden**

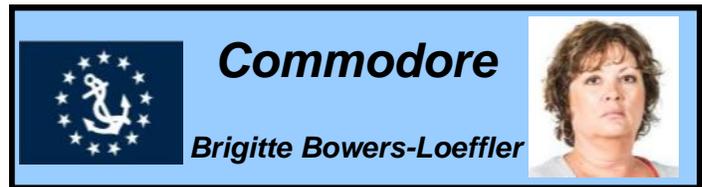
(209) 383-2631  
debra-harden@comcast.net

### **Submissions:**

**Deadline is the 22nd of each month**

**Submit with LYSA in the Subject Line**

to Chris Martin:  
chrissybea@comcast.net



I'd like to begin this month's column with an expression of my appreciation to Richard Kleitman and the Sea Scouts for cooking our July Sunday brunch. Eggs, sausage, fried potatoes, and a Hawaiian dish were just some of the items on the menu, and it was all delicious. I especially liked the chili relleno casserole, but it was really all fantastic. We will have an August brunch, so watch for the details in a future email.

At our July meeting, we passed a bylaw change to eliminate the past commodore position, beginning with the election of our new vice commodore in October. This means that Tom Cooke and I will both finish out our elected positions, each of us serving as past commodore after our term as commodore. However, the newly-elected vice commodore, and all other commodores thereafter, will serve for only two years, the first year as vice commodore and the second as commodore. Hopefully, this will make the prospect of serving as commodore more attractive to members.

I would like to add that I've served on the board as vice commodore, commodore, and past commodore twice, and the past commodore position is definitely the most work. Now, that work—primarily organizing the regatta and open house— will be divided more evenly among board members, and no one board member will be overburdened. If you are considering running for a board position, you should also know that serving on the board is the best way to initiate changes for LYSA. I'd love to see someone who has never been on the board run for a position in October, and for that person to bring some fresh perspectives to our club. Serving on the board is also fun (okay, maybe not always, but a lot of the time) and if you're hoping to build up the community service part of your resume, being on the board of a nonprofit is a good place to start. Being on the board is not very time-consuming, either. We meet once a month for a few hours, and our other duties require about two or so hours of work a month, at most. In the winter, board members have very little to do. Finally, this September the board is compiling a comprehensive document outlining the duties of various board members, along with supporting information, so that anyone new to the board will have a guide to follow.

*(Commodore, continued on page 3)*



**House Captain**  
**Peg Larson**



(Commodore, continued from page 2)

Much of this information is also available in our membership handbook, which can be accessed on the club website.

So that's my pitch for new board members. Please feel free to ask me, or any other board members, if you have questions about being on the board.

Our final week of 2017 Junior Sail Camp is July 31 to August 4. On August 5, we will have a junior sailing regatta at the lake for junior sailors who have been through our sailing program. Skippers' meeting is at 10:00. I'd love to see some club members come out to show their support for our junior sailors.

Thanks for reading! I'll see you at the lake.



**Port Captain**  
**John Larson**



Lake levels: Have been constant this year thanks to John, at MID. A big thanks goes out to him for his hard work.

Reminder on boat trailers: The LYSA parking lot is not for boat trailer storage neither is the LYSA yard. Let's keep the LYSA parking area clear for auto parking.

If you see a problem on the berths, with the berth or a boat please let me know or one of LYSA's officers know. Look out for the other guy's boat and they will good after you.

Best regards,  
John E. Larson

**Membership Meeting**

**Join us... on Tuesday, July 11th**

6:00 pm *Dinner / Social*

6:45 pm *Membership Meeting*

8:00 pm *Board Meeting*

It's summer in Merced and a great way to beat the heat is to head out and enjoy the beautiful sunsets and wonderful sailing weather! There have been a lot of things happening at the clubhouse too.

The shrimp feed turned out to be a fun time and I believe we made some decent money, enough to finish the fence at least. There was a real nice turnout at the 4<sup>th</sup> of July barbeque and after finally getting the tables in some shade I think everyone had a great meal and good time. July 22<sup>nd</sup> Rich had the Special Needs day and I thought it went real well. We had 6 boats rigged and ready. We could have accommodated a few more families actually, hopefully next year.

Rich Kleitman and his crew have been doing an excellent job with the Taco Thursdays. I know Matt has been doing some nights too but I think he's flying solo and that's just not easy but he always does an excellent job as well. We appreciate you!!! I think Rich and Matt need to do a taco challenge and we'll all benefit! What a great way to finish a race night with lots of chatter in the yard, good food and refreshments.

Once sail camp is over, I will be cleaning the house and garage. I am a firm believer that it's always easier to ask for forgiveness than permission and I will keep that in mind when I am organizing and purging! I am also under the impression that sailors should know how to store their belongings and with that being said maybe we should all try to be better role models for the junior sailors and for each other.

Please remember if you use the last of something to call me on my cell at 201-1143 or put a note on the corkboard, it's that easy! See you on the water!





This month I am continuing the instruction from US-Sailing's Sailor's Guide to the Racing Rules 2017-2020.

**Limitations:** Even when a boat has right-of-way (see last month's article), there are limitations on what she can do.

1. Every boat **must avoid** hitting other boats whenever that is reasonably possible. This applies both to boats that must keep clear AND to right-of-way boats. Rule 14
2. When a boat suddenly gains the right of way, she must initially give the other boat a chance to keep clear. Rule 15
3. Whenever a right-of-way boat changes her course, she must give the other boat room to keep clear. Rule 16
4. When a boat gets leeward overlap from a clear astern position and within 2 hull lengths of another boat, she must not sail above her proper course while the boats remain overlapped on the same tack and within that distance. Basically If you catch up with another boat and you want to pass it to leeward, you may not sail above your proper course. This means you can't sail higher than you would have done if that boat wasn't there. Rule 17

**Rule 18: the longest and most complex rule**

**Definition:** The Zone is the area around a mark within a distance of 3 hull lengths of a racing boat.

**Rules at marks:** When the first boat of a pair enters the zone, Rule 18 turns on between them and governs how they will round the mark.

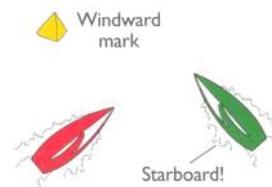
**Definition:** The definition Mark-Room describes how much room a boat gets when she is on the inside or clear ahead at a mark. A boat entitled to mark-room gets enough space to do the following things in a *seamanlike* way: 1. Sail to the mark. 2. Leave the mark on its required side. 3. Round the mark as necessary to sail the course.

Who gets mark-room? This is determined by the position of the two boats at the moment when the first one enters the zone.

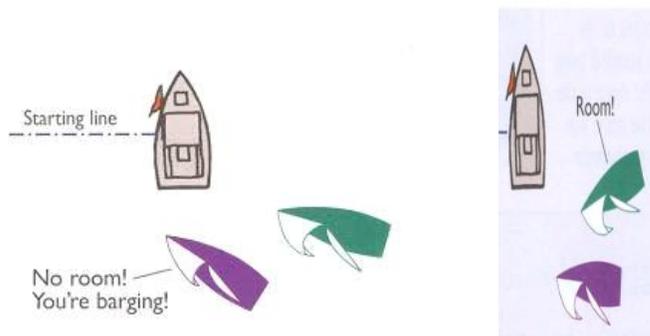
1. If boats are overlapped when the first one reaches the zone, the outside boat at that moment must give

the inside boat mark-room during the rounding.  
 2. If a boat is clear ahead when she reaches the zone, the boat clear astern at that moment must give her mark-room during the rounding.

Mark-Room does NOT apply when boats are on opposite tacks near a windward mark



or when boats are approaching a starting mark to start. In the first example the purple boat is heading towards the start line and does not need to give room. Section C Preamble. In the second example, neither boat is heading at the start line, so room should be given.



Tacking in the zone: When a boat tacks inside the zone at a windward mark, she must not force a starboard-tack boat to sail above a closehauled course to avoid her. Rule 18.3

Jibing at a mark: When a right-off-way boat has an inside overlap and needs to jibe to sail her proper course around a mark, until she jibes she must sail no farther from the mark than needed to sail that course. Rule 18.4

I found an interesting read with diagrams at <https://sites.google.com/site/princetonsailing/sailing-tips/rule-18> Look it up!

I am learning so much. Who knows maybe one day, I will even learn to sail!

Each month, I must praise my Race Committee. They work so well together to bring you, Thursday night after Thursday night, great evenings of racing. Be sure to thank them!

See you at the lake!

## SAIL CAMP

LYSA's learn to sail program is for kids between the ages of 8-16 and is held on Lake Yosemite. The camp is taught by experienced CPR certified youth sailing instructors under the supervision of adults. Five sessions were offered during the 2017 season. Campers learned to sail on stable Lido 14 sailboats. El Toros and Lasers were also available.

Students who have been through at least four summers of our sail camp program and are at least fourteen years of age are encouraged to ask about Junior Counselor positions for the 2018 season. Junior Counselors are volunteers who act as skippers and are expected to take on a roll of leadership helping the Head Counselor. Extra training days for JCs are a part of their growth as sailors and teachers. In future years JCs will have the opportunity to apply as paid counselors.

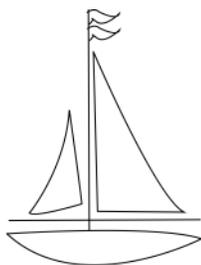
[Look for Junior Sailing Sail Camp pictures on the following pages.](#)

### Sailor's Calendar: August

While the water is in the lake, sail as often as you can.

Check your dock lines regularly, looking for wear and tear. Replace as needed.

Make use of the water available on the docks to hose the dirt off the decks.



### Upcoming Events

#### August, 2017

- 5 Junior Sailing Regatta, Skippers' meeting 10 am
- 18 "Cocktail and Sail" 6 to 8 pm, bring a guest
- TBD Host needed: Sunday Brunch at the Clubhouse, 10 am

#### September, 2017

- 22 "Cocktail and Sail" 6 to 8 pm, bring a guest

#### October, 2017

- Fleet Week SF Bay
- 7-9 Monterey Trip, RSVP ASAP to Ed
- 21 End of Year Party / Election / Dinner / Awards

#### November, 2017

#### December, 2017

- 2 Christmas Party

#### January, 2018

- 1 Frostbite Regatta

#### February, 2018

- SF Bay
- Oakland Yacht Club Sunday Brunch Series

#### March, 2018

- General / Board Meeting
- St. Patrick's Day at the Lake—Social 5/ Dinner at 6 pm
- Oakland Yacht Club Sunday Brunch Series
- Petaluma trip

#### April, 2018

- 6th Annual Chili Fest. Bring your best Chili - 5 pm
- Strictly Sail Pacific, Richmond
- Livingston Kite Festival—8:30 to 4:30
- Don Pedro trip

#### May, 2018

- LYSA Opening Day
- LYSA Thursday Night Summer Series Begins
- LYSA Spring Regatta

#### June, 2018

- Gold Country Regatta
- Sunday Brunch at the Clubhouse - 9-11 am, \$5
- Open House/Shrimp Feed
- Delta Doo Dah

#### July, 2017

- 4 Independence Day Potluck Lunch BBQ & Fun Sail Jack & Jill Race, Skippers 3:30, Race at 4, BBQ to follow
- High Sierra Regatta, small boat, Huntington Lake
- High Sierra Regatta, large boat, Huntington Lake
- Special Needs Sailing Day
- Sunday Brunch at the Clubhouse, 10 am, \$5

**Dates are To Be Determined. Subject to change.**



benefiting Sea Scouts. If you haven't been out to watch the races, come out and enjoy the company.

Now I'd also like to mention two more items: the monthly Brunch, and the Sailing Social.

We have had two Brunches, the first prepared (and that is such a mild description) by Rachel Hadley. The meal that that Rachel put together set a very high bar for people to meet. The menu contained just about everything you'd expect at a 5 star restaurant. The second Brunch was sponsored by Richard Kleitman with help from the Sea Scouts. I tell you Richards crew also did a fabulous job. If anyone would like to volunteer to be the chief please contact Brigitte Bowers and schedule a brunch.

Last Friday we had our first Sailing Social. I got to see many new faces; hopefully we will have lots of returns. The idea behind this is to get people at the lake that haven't been sailing before. My son Everett did this by inviting people from his basketball group. We got to have one of his past team mates and his brother and cousin sailing with us. Oh, I almost forgot to mention, we potlucked and the food was, of course, terrific.

Thinking back on what I have been talking about, I don't know if I am a member of a sailing, or an eating club.

See you all at the lake!

There has been a lot of sailing activity at the lake. In mid-July, Brigitte, Everett, Casey and I met with Brigitte's sister Isabel and her husband Andy at Huntington Lake. We didn't bring the Catalina, but we did have a couple of kayaks. Also up there we met the Hardens, and Mike Streal. Team Harden was missing Jake, he was in Chicago, and had a couple, Scott and Livia, from a competing boat from SF. This is one of the best things about sailing. No matter the competition, all sailors are part of one big family. For Sunday, Livia had to go back to the city and Casey took her place on Hard'n Fast. Also on Sunday I got to represent LYSA while working at the Tent for Fresno Yacht club. And such a small world, the last person I met working there was the younger sister of a guy I went to high school with.

Oh, I forgot to mention the terrific dinner that we all had at the Hardens cabin. Thank you Tim for the terrific BBQ, all was fantastic.

Speaking of dinners, we have still been having Taco Thursday after the racing. I've done a few for Junior Sailing and Richard has done a few

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## SAIL CAMP June 26-30



**SAIL CAMP  
July -10-14**



**SAIL CAMP  
July -17-21**





summer storage. Rich: Active – boats in sailable condition, dry sailing.

**Race Captain: Debbie Harden:** We are in the second half of our racing season. First horn is at 6:30 pm, dinner is between 7:30 and 8 pm.

**Jr. Sailing Committee & Cruise / Social Committee, Matt Loeffler:**

**Sunday Brunch:** July – Sea Scouts. 10 am to Noon, Sunday, July 23<sup>rd</sup>.

**Sail Camp:** 7 full scholarships, 4 are CASA referrals. 2 partial scholarships. Brigitte is extremely proud of the Junior Counselors: Casey Loeffler, Jacob Harden, and Bridget Farmer.

**New Business:**

Rich Kleitman: Complimented Darrell on the 4<sup>th</sup> of July Jack and Jill. It should be noted he did a super job.

Brigitte: From Mike Strealay, Friday evening New Sailor event with appetizers. Members bring friends out to sail, one time in July, August and September. A date will be selected.

Jay: asked Alan Samuels for his input on becoming a new member. Alan is impressed. Club members work hard to make it an active and friendly and low-key club.

Rich Kleitman: Sea Scouts are having a great time. Every Sea Scouts ship should have an event, for example, Sail Camp is an event. Would like to race at the Regatta next year. Rich explained: the Sea Scouts ship is owned by LYSA. Lee's boat is owned by the Council. The Sea Scouts is a sub-organization under the umbrella of the Boy Scouts.

**Old Business:** Discussion and vote on the By-Laws revision. Copies of the proposed sections under consideration were distributed and read.

Chris suggested language: "Responsible for overseeing event, including assigning duties to sub-committee members."

Discussion of "spearhead" vs. "oversee". Also discussed ambiguous language that could be misinterpreted. To ensure you will not have to oversee both events in one year, Commodore – Open House, Vice Commodore – Regatta.

Discussion: importance of having a document outlining the responsibilities of each Board Member. Tom suggested a committee. Peg suggested a binder, list of responsibilities, important contact numbers, etc. and communication. Brigitte: serve for two years.

**Motion:** Moved by Tom, seconded by Peg. **Motion carried.** The By-Laws revision was approved as amended. Casey is teaching Adult sailors. Discussion on the need for Adult lessons.

Discussion on writing a PSA to publicize LYSA.

**LYSA Membership Meeting Call to Order:** A meeting of the LYSA Membership was held on July 11, 2017 at the LYSA Clubhouse. The meeting convened at 6:58 pm, Commodore Brigitte Bowers-Loeffler presiding.

**Reports - Actions - Discussions: Commodore, Brigitte Bowers-Loeffler:** Brigitte welcomed members to the meeting, including prospective new member Alan Samuels. Invited Board / Committee Members to report.

**Approval of Minutes:** No Secretary's report. Minutes read by Chris Martin. Corrections: Past Commodore: change Regatta to Open House. Commodore/Sail Camp: Delete "the next sail camp is June 26<sup>th</sup>".

**Motion:** Moved by Tom to approve minutes with the correction, second by Diane. **Motion carried.**

**Vice Commodore, Tom Cooke:** It was nice to see Lee Anderson at the Open House. Tom commended Jay on his putting together a great event. New membership list: Tom requested a new list. Diane gave Tom a current list, which is also updated online.

**Past Commodore, Jay Sousa:** The Past Commodore duties are done. The Open House preliminary numbers will be shared by Diane. 240 chairs were ordered and 200 tickets were pre-sold. There are a lot of people to thank: John & Peg – auction, Rich Kleitman and the Sea Scouts, Rachel worked through the day, Deb's decorations, Brigitte and the Sail Camp kids, Diane took care of registration, Dan Farmer assisted with racing.

**Treasurer, Diane Sousa:** The Treasurer's Report was shared. Membership: 67 plus 2 new proposed members.

**House Captain, Peg Larson:**

**House and Fence:** Members are not leaving the house as they would leave their own home. Peg asks members to clean up and put chairs away when leaving the Clubhouse. There is some money to fix the fence.

**Clean Up Day:** There will be a clean up day when Junior Sailing is over. Shrimp feed items were not returned to the office, and are in the garage.

**Garbage:** A new key will be made and placed in the kitchen.

**Yard:** Dead spots in the lawn. Peg will ask the gardener to check the sprinklers, repair and fertilize if needed.

**Dock Captain, John Larson:** Water is working, the hoses work. John reminds members to open the gate to the dock if access is needed. The garage is so cluttered, can not access. Some people have switched berths. Also, a berth may have been purchased, but the boat is sitting in

(Continued on page 9)

(Continued from page 8)

**Good of the order:** Tom thanked Jay and Dennis for their efforts at the Open House.

Question: who sells hats and burgees? Diane sells them.

**Adjournment:** The next LYSA General Membership meeting will be held Tuesday, May 9, 2017 at the Clubhouse. Potluck at 6:00 pm, General Meeting at 7:00 pm. Board Meeting at 8:00.

**Motion:** Moved by Deb, seconded by Tom Cooke. **Motion carried.** Membership meeting was adjourned at 8:11.

**LYSA Board Meeting Call to Order:** A regular meeting of the LYSA Board was held on July 11, 2017 at the LYSA Clubhouse. The meeting convened at 8:23 pm, Commodore Brigitte Bowers-Loeffler presiding.

**Members in attendance:** Members of the Board in attendance:

Commodore: Brigitte Bowers-Loeffler, Vice-Commodore: Tom Cooke, Past Commodore: Jay Sousa, Secretary: Chris Martin, Treasurer: Diane Sousa, House Captain: Peg Larson, Port Captain: John Larson. Race Captain: Deb Harden.

**New Members**

Brigitte: Vote in New Members. Discussion of keys. Jay will check on keys. Discussion: New Members should receive a dock key, after 6 months trade it for a house/dock/gate key.

Alan Samuels, sponsored by Brigitte. **Motion:** Moved by Tom Cooke to accept Alan Samuels as a new member, second by Jay Sousa. **Motion carried.**

Glenn and Dorothe Catlin, son Colby, 17 years old, sponsored by Steve Eyeborg. **Motion:** Moved by Tom Cooke to accept Glenn and Dorothe Catlin as new members, second by Deb Harden. **Motion carried.**

**Good of the Order:** "Cocktail and Sail" new member promotion, to be held one Friday per month from 6 to 8 pm: July 28, August 18, September 22. Bring a friend who may be interested in LYSA and an appetizer to share.

**Adjournment:** The next LYSA Board meeting will be held Tuesday, August 8, 2017 at the Clubhouse. Potluck at 6:00 pm, General Meeting at 6:45 pm. Board Meeting at 8:00.

**Motion:** Moved by Tom Cooke to adjourn, and second by Diane Sousa. **Motion carried.** Board meeting was adjourned at 8:46.

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