Silver Gate Yacht Club

The year 2017 is upon us! I’m reviewing my calendar for the last couple of weeks and I thought sharing some of the entries would be a good way to apprise you all of some of the business taking place at the club.

**Wednesday, January 11**th
9 AM - Met with Club Manager Celeste Leginski regarding fine-tuning our agreement with Consummate Catering. It’s been about two years since Consummate Catering took over our Bar & Galley operations for us and both parties thought our agreement should reflect changes that have occurred during that time.
10 AM - Celeste and I met with Consummate Catering regarding our agreement.

**Saturday, January 14**th
9 AM - Attended the Finance Committee meeting. After reviewing last month’s financials with our club’s accountant, the main topics became what ways were best to increase the club’s operating revenue, and the 2017 Budget to be presented at the General Membership meeting on Friday.
6 PM - Kelly and I attended the Southern California Yachting Association (SCYA) Installation Dinner hosted at SGYC. Congratulations to SGYC Staff Commodore Simon Dekker for his installation as SCYA’s 2017 Commodore!

**Sunday, January 15**th
10 AM - Kelly and I actually took family and some young friends out on **Better Days** for a few hours on the water! We had hoped to do some whale watching, but not everyone aboard found the conditions outside the bay to their liking.
To their relief, I returned to the dock and we all had a very nice time there.

**Monday, January 16**th
10 AM - Attended the Bar & Galley Committee meeting, chaired by Gail Davie.

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Vice Commodore Terry Van Winkle

Since this is our first Soundings issue since the new year, I wanted to mention the great time we had at the New Year’s Eve party at Silver Gate. We danced the night away, toasted all the New Years’ from New York to Chicago to Denver and finally San Diego. The Noise Boys kept us rocking, while the steak & lobster feast Consummate Catering provided along with sparkling wine kept us well fueled. We hosted another meeting just last week where Consummate provided another stellar meal. If you haven’t tried dinner at Silver Gate recently, I encourage you to do so. I think you will be well-pleased.

As you know by now, the $1.00 increase in slip fees proposed in December did not pass by the required 2/3 majority. Consequently, the budget presented at the general meeting this month—while balanced as required by the by-laws—was a sparse budget that does not allow for some very necessary items such as furniture, fixtures & equipment, expanded maintenance of our building and grounds, and improvement of services such as internet and communications. The Board will continue forward using best efforts with the funds available, but some belt-tightening seems in order. Major thanks to our Treasurer, Mike Van Mouwerik who spearheaded the budget effort and all the work on this challenging task.

One concerning aspect of the last vote was the participation by eligible voters. The vote count was 66 for the proposal and 46 against, which totals 112 votes out of 151 that could have voted. So although a majority voted in favor, the proposal did not reach the 66% threshold. Obviously there is no way to predict how those that did not vote would have, but their absence is disturbing. Silver Gate Yacht Club is a volunteer organization and we, collectively, are only as good and effective as the participation of our members. Certainly, those eligible to vote need to utilize their privilege and I encourage all to do so to a greater degree in future ballots.

Everyone that is a member at any membership category should participate to the fullest of their ability. There are many activities available to all members from Book Club, V-32 races, Angler’s Club, Fourth of July, Jr. Sailing, and etc. to our charity events such as Wheel Chair Regatta and America’s Schooner Cup plus many more. All programs and activities can benefit from your talents and abilities so I encourage you to enjoy your membership and fellow Silver-Gaters and get involved.

That leads me directly to our next meeting of the America’s Schooner Cup committee which is occurring Saturday, January 28th at 9 AM in the banquet room. Next month the meeting will occur on February 25th also at 9 AM. There is still lots of work to prepare for the Race and all the events leading up to it.

America’s Schooner Cup month, (formerly known as March) now contains:
- Sunset Cruise & Raffle March-18
- Schooner Presentation March-24
- Cheeseburger in Paradise & Silent Auction March-31
- America’s Schooner Cup & Awards Dinner April-1

There is a flyer with more details inside the Soundings this month (see page 7).

A big thanks to Port Captain Terry Willis and all who have helped to secure the docks with all the rain and winds we have had this past month. As far as I know, our boats survived with very minimal disruption other than being extra wet! We are closing in on record rains for San Diego, but certainly nothing like S/C Dave Kissinger & Pat and Director Rick Krantz & Sandra; who were happily stranded in multiple feet of snow in the Truckee area recently. They reportedly survived in good spirits, due at least in part to the consumption of some very good spirits. Great job of provisioning!

Silent Auction/Raffle Donations Needed!

We are seeking donations of gift certificates and other items suitable for our America’s Schooner Cup Regatta Benefit Silent Auction and/or Raffle. The raffle is in conjunction with the Sunset Cruise on March 18th. If you’d like to donate, please contact Committee Member Eileen Van Winkle at 858-571-5256 or email evanwinkle@sbcglobal.net. We can arrange to pick up or you are welcome to leave donated items, gift certificates, etc. with the office.

Please note that our deadline for donations must be March 13th, to give us time to prepare for the upcoming events.
VOTING
This is one of those articles that may not sit well with everyone; and to those who voted YES on the recent measures, stop here and move on to the next article.

It was pretty clear from the last two votes that many of you just don't know how or when to vote on a measure. When the request for comment on the proposed measure goes out, it isn’t too late for your opinion on how you think it ought to be done. This is when you make your opinion known, either for or against, and why you feel that way so others can make opposing viewpoints on the subject.

On the raising of slip fees, you had over a year to make your opinion known. Your board presented no less than two town hall meetings, and continual invitations for you to offer alternative suggestions. Your Finance Committee, Board and Bridge labored excessively over all the documentation and input presented prior to the vote going out for comment, and chose what they considered to be the best methodology. Oh, it would have been great if we could have thrown all your ideas into a bucket and let each of you choose which one you liked best but it just doesn't work that way. In this case, it was not an issue as to whether the club needed the money or not; the $60,000 payback from capitol had run its course and we flat needed to replace it. We had already provided for the day-to-day shortfall because we had finally gotten a handle on the real cost of operating the new facility. The “swap” vote that was passed several months earlier took care of that and everyone participated. Just because you didn't feel it in your wallet doesn't mean you didn't pay $50 per month extra for dues.

The increase in dock fees needed to come about. Heck, it has been 10 years since any increase. Since that time you have gotten new docks, a new clubhouse and a swimming pool. All the while the daily costs of living just keep (Continued on page 5)

Enjoy Reading and Discussing What You’ve Read?

The SGYC Book Club meets the 4th Sunday in February. Join us on Sunday, February 26th, 11:00 a.m. in the SGYC library. The book selection: Mrs. Lincoln’s Dressmaker, by Jennifer Chiaverini. Nancy Krueger will lead our discussion.

Questions? Contact Susan Fantle at usedm@thecopyworks.com
The committee reviewed the comment cards submitted this month. They also discussed possible ways for Con-
summate Catering to market the Galley better.

Tuesday, January 17th
6 PM - Attended the monthly Board of Directors meeting. Some of the items the directors handled were the pro-
posed 2017 Budget that Treasurer Mike Van Mouwerik prepared, prioritizing capital projects for 2017, (e.g. solar
for the pool, changing parking lot lights out to LEDs, painting the exterior of the clubhouse, and installing a water
conditioner), the recent damage done to our docks by a neighboring boat owner, and the advisability of contract-
ing with a certified public accountant firm to conduct a reserve study for the club.

Friday, January 20th
8 PM - Attended the quarterly General Membership meeting. The assembled flag members voted to approve the
proposed 2017 Budget — thank you for that, by the way! Members were notified that three new ballot measures
were mailed out for their consideration, for their comment, and for their eventual vote. The Bridge and the Board
endorse all three measures for approval.

Saturday, January 21st
9 AM - Along with Celeste, Rear Commodore George Woodley and his wife Tish, Treasurer Mike Van Mouwerik,
Director James Pennington, Director Rick Krantz and his wife Sandra, and Director Bob Michels and his wife Nan-
cy, attended a Yacht Club Management Seminar presented by the International Order of the Blue Gavel (IOBG)
at the Mission Bay Yacht Club.

Well, that’s about it for the last couple of weeks. The Schooner Cup event is gearing up and soon it will be time to
begin preparations for this year’s Wheelchair Regatta. Before I close, I want to also congratulate SGYC’s Vice
Commodore, Terry Van Winkle, on his recent installation as the Pacific Coast Yachting Association’s 2017 Com-
modore. He is going to be a very busy man this year!

Better Days!

Treasurer Mike Van Mouwerik

It was a dark and stormy night. We did however have enough brave souls at the
General Membership meeting January 18th to achieve a quorum and approve the
Budget for 2017.

The Budget for 2017 was balanced with a combination one-time funding, some on-
going funding, and expenditure reductions.

The $60,000 funding gap was mitigated by inclusion of the final $18,356 available
from the payback from Capital funds. In addition, due to savings achieved in 2016,
$5,000 in payback from Capital funds was held back and allowed to roll over into
2017. This total of $23,356 is the end of the payback funds available to be used by
Operations.

Ongoing revenue sources were increased by $6,780; mostly associated with recog-
nition of the full twelve months of the $50 SWAP that was approved last year. The
combined one-time and ongoing funding solutions total $30,136. This required that
expenditure reductions of $29,864 be implemented to close the $60,000 gap.

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Think it will rain?

January brought much needed rain and with the rain came high winds. Boats in slips at SGYC came through the weather with just a few issues. I would like to thank the members that came forward to help deal with the problems on the docks. Two dock carts were retrieved that had blown into the water, so during high wind please return dock carts to the area by the gate.

Not sure what the next months will bring, so please check your dock lines for chafe, that your canvas is secure as well as items on deck, furling lines are cleated off, and make sure shore power cords have strain relief. Thank you for all your cooperation.

See you on the docks.

Interested in Playing Dominoes?

*Play days at SGYC are the second and fourth Tuesday's of the month from 2-4 PM, up in the bar area.*

*Questions? Call Michelle at 619-972-5662*

(Rear Commodore, Continued from page 3)

rising; without even mentioning the luxurious and beautiful surroundings you now enjoy. The money to operate and maintain all this is not just fabricated from thin air. And stealing from capital funds to pay for operations is a recipe for long-term disaster.

For those of you who voted NO because you didn't understand the issues, you would help your club out tremendously if you either grabbed one of the bridge, board or finance committee members and got educated, or didn't vote at all. There is just no excuse for not finding out what's going on. You don't have to be on the board to be involved—just be informed. A no vote in this case is just not appropriate. For the others who voted NO because you just don't believe in any increases or have no interest in the club, congratulations, you did the right thing. You, at least, were informed and based your decision on your personal preferences. That's how democracy works.

In the future, please don't fight your board, as we are not your enemy. You elected us, hopefully, with the understanding that we will do our level best to be good Samaritans with your money and run the club within the best of our ability to preserve what so many before us have worked so hard to build. The recent failure to pass the required increase is a huge step backwards. You all have enjoyed the amenities that the club has to offer and, unfortunately, many of them will have to be cut back to satisfy a balanced budget. We're sorry but, ultimately, this is what NO means.
MEMBER STATISTICS

Flag: 153  Jr. Flag: 81  Associate: 77
Junior: 25  Retired: 129
Non-Resident: 51  Honorary: 5  Total 521

NEW MEMBERS APPROVED AT DECEMBER BOARD MEETING

- Matthew (& Diana) McGonigle & daughter, Leah; Associate
  Sponsors: Mark Wieczorek & Matt Kalla
- Trey Sullivan; Junior
  Sponsor: Pat Sullivan
- Kirby & Jodi Watson; Joint Junior Flag
  Sponsors: Joe Ravitch & Reg Pyrke

ASSOCIATE MEMBER WAIT LIST

- Robert (& Eileen) Peek; Associate

MEMBER RESIGNATIONS

- None

MEMBER STATUS CHANGES

- Fred & Sukie Edwards; Associate to Non-Resident

PRELIMINARY STATISTICS FOR FEBRUARY

Flag: 153  Jr. Flag: 82  Associate: 77
Junior: 26  Retired: 129
Non-Resident: 52  Honorary: 5  Total 524

QUOTA OF ONE MEMBERSHIP CHALLENGE

#1. Pat Sullivan (+ second Dec ’16) #4 Roy Hobbs  #7 Bill Pettersen
#2. Tamara Krimstock  #5 Mark Wieczorek  #8 Bob Wills
#3. Bill Whalen  #6 Reg Pyrke  #9 Joe Ravitch

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE NOTES

Congratulations to our newest Members; we look forward to having you in the Silver Gate family.
And many thanks to all of our Sponsors—you’re the best ambassadors for SGYC!
The Membership Committee and Board of Directors are moving forward with a ballot measure to increase the maximum number of Associate Memberships allowed. The informational mailing has gone out and I encourage you to consider this recommendation, learn more about it if need be, and to act by voting your preference.

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2017 America's Schooner Cup Events

Our annual fundraising efforts on behalf of Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society will once again include a variety of fun events - something for everyone. Check out the dates below and add them to your calendar.

March 18th
Sunset Cruise
Invite your friends and join us for a wonderful evening, wine, cheese, raffle and lots of fun!

March 31st
Cheeseburgers in Paradise
Everyone is invited to an evening of music with Gary Seiler and Coast Riders. Enjoy beer, wine, (maybe margaritas), cheeseburgers, and silent auction.

March 24th
Schooner Seminar
Free. Come and learn all you ever wanted to know about schooners

April 1st
America’s Schooner Cup Race
Come on down to the Club to watch the race. Awards dinner to follow
A shout-out of thanks to all Members who have donated books to our library—you have made our Library what it is today.

We also have a few SGYC authors who have donated copies of their books: Martin Fogel, Therese Handley, Viggo “Pete” Hansen, Victoria Murata, and Richard Dean Smith. Thank you as well to these authors.

Happy Reading!

Your librarian, Michelle Willis

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Some budget reductions were taken from nondiscretionary line items that had some excess capacity based on 2016 actual costs. This includes reductions to Insurance and Utilities. For the most part, however, reductions had to made to our discretionary spending. This included support for Wheel Chair Regatta, Junior Sailing, and Schooner cup. Reductions were also made to Club events, Entertainment, and Maintenance budgets.

So while we do have a balanced Budget for 2017, it contains some areas of concern. The assumed Flag Equivalent number may be too optimistic. We have seen Flag Equivalent numbers dropping in 2016 and this is an area we will need to watch this year. Our combined Maintenance budgets are less than actual 2016 expenditures, and again will need to be managed closely. Finally, the budget does not have much capacity for any unanticipated costs. These items will be monitored throughout the year and further reductions will be made mid-year should it become necessary.

The Board will also need to continue looking at revenue options for this year and ongoing.

In addition to the Operating budget, we also have a Capital Fund Budget. This budget is funded from the Capital Assessment. The Capital Assessment monies may be spent on Debt service payments and Capital Improvements. These funds cannot be spent on Club Operational costs. There are also some restrictions placed on these funds per our loan agreement with the bank. I will get into more detail in next month’s article on the nature of the Capital Fund and these restrictions.

I did want to share in this article, however, that we have included $55,000 for Capital Projects for 2017. We have a long list of Capital needs but the Board prioritized projects that will have a return on investment for the Operational budget. The approved projects include pool solar heating, energy efficient parking lot lights, water conditioning system, and facility paint.
Thank you all for taking the time to fill out the comment cards. We do take your suggestions seriously. From reading your comments, Consummate Catering is doing an excellent job and our wait staff and bartenders are very efficient and professional.

Have you checked out the new look in the dining room? It now has a more intimate and homey feel.

If you have any special requests about your meal or the menu, just ask your wait staff and Chef David will try to meet your needs if possible.

Please continue to fill out the comments cards.

Thank you,
Gail Davie

Bar and Galley Committee Chair
## Future Dates to Remember

- **April 1, 2017**  Schooner Cup Race
- **April 21, 2017**  General Membership Meeting
- **May 21, 2017**  Opening Day
- **June 11, 2017**  Wheelchair Regatta
2017 Membership Priorities and Events

- Quota of One Membership Challenge: 25 new members for 2017
- New Member Orientation Sessions: Four opportunities during 2017 to help our newest Members learn about our club. It will be required that each new Member attend one orientation session.
- New Member Engagement: New Members can earn ‘Engagement Credits’ by participating in social and community service events, joining/helping a committee, and utilizing the bar & galley. The goal is to help our new Members to become a part of our family and enjoy the benefits of membership.
- Three Fun & Fitness Standup-Paddleboard Workshops: Scheduled in April, June, and August. Associate members Brian & Sharon Ferich Henry have graciously volunteered to lead the workshops — Thank You Both! (You may remember Brian & Sherry as the ‘M & M’s’ at our 2016 Trick or Treat dock party).
- Open House or other recruitment event in May.
- Two All-Member Dock Parties to Welcome our newest Members: July & October.

A big thank you to the Membership Committee for their continued work to attract new Members and to help all Members engage in our organization.