

# THE STILLWATER COVE'ER



August-September, 2017

## Commodore's Log

We have had a fantastic summer at the Stillwater Yacht Club! Our **Youth**

### Water Sports

program completed eight weekly sessions with 70 students logging 339 student days of sailing, kayaking and standup paddle boarding. We are delighted to have sponsored 40 sailing days for students from the



Boys and Girls Club. Many thanks to **Rear Commodore Terry Russey** on an outstanding program this year! Special thanks to our outstanding instructors: **Olivia Gibbons, Alicia Ward and Mark Michael** and volunteer assistants **Graham Cash, Elliot Cash and Max Green**.

The season continues with our Fall events - **Dining with Spirits, Author's Night, Lobster Fest**, the increasingly popular **Pier BBQs** and the **Commodore's Ball!**

*"On a day when the wind is perfect, the sail just needs to open and the world is full of beauty."*

*Rumi*

Join us on our continuing adventure at the Stillwater Yacht Club!

*Commodore Carl*

## Lobster Fest on the Pier

**Sunday, October 15, 2017, 4-7 pm**

Celebrate the end of the 2017 SYC sailing season and the 5th anniversary of the first Lobster Fest for the Stillwater Yacht Club. Kay Sullivan, a past commodore, had a vision of a Lobster Fest. She discovered Cajun Coastal Catering, a local caterer that brings memorable, southern style "legendary boils" to the West Coast. Enjoy a pleasant October evening on the pier with friends while Cajun Coastal Catering prepares and rolls out a feast from the Bayou. They set it up and we will eat it up then they will clean it up. The food will be in great supply. Every attendee gets their own 1½ lb lobster flown in from Maine! Also on the menu: Cajun Boiled Shrimp & Sausage, Artichoke, Potatoes, Roasted Garlic, Onions, Corn on the Cob and selected wines or beer. E-blast information will be sent out the last week of September.



## Author's Night

**Tuesday, September 12, 2017, 6-9 pm**

We are privileged this year to have Kendall Livingston, a past commodore (2016) of the Saint Francis Yacht Club, as our guest speaker. He has made a career of doing, then telling about the doing, in print and in person. During the 14 years that he was a sailing writer for the San Francisco Chronicle, Kimball sailed high performance dinghies on San Francisco Bay and big boats on the oceans of the world.



Commodore Kimball has written for nearly every English-language sailing magazine on assignments that have taken him to the South

Pacific, Asia, Alaska, Mexico, the Caribbean, Europe and the Gulf Coast. He has covered every America's Cup from 1980 to 2017. Kimball was the foremost contributor to *Sailing on the Edge*, the official book of the 34th America's Cup in San Francisco.

His newest book due to be released in 2018 is on Dr. Albert Soiland, a pioneering radiologist who persuaded the AMA to recognize radiology as medicine and founded the American College of Radiology. The doctor, the immigrant son of a sea captain, founded Newport Harbor Yacht Club, Southern California Yachting Association and the Pacific Coast Yachting Association. Kimball is called upon whenever yachting is to be explained.



## Commodores' Ball Saturday, November 18 Six o'clock PM



Commodore Carl requests the pleasure of your company at the Stillwater Yacht Club's Commodore's Ball, a night for evening gowns and tuxedos. This elegant affair will begin with a champagne and wine reception, followed by a three-course meal in the Beach Club Dining Room. While you are enjoying dessert, the Annual Member's Meeting of the Stillwater Yacht Club will take place and next year's Board of Directors will be elected. Following adjournment of the meeting you will dance the night away to the ever-popular live music of the Mike Marotta Band. Please check our website closer to the event for more details.

## Meet Our Sailing Instructors

### Alicia Ward, Summer Sailing Instructor

Alicia Ward is our third-featured sailing instructor. A rising senior at CSUMB, Alicia studies Human Communication with a pre-law focus on law and policy. Originally thinking of entering law school, Alicia now intends to earn a Masters in policy, working on policy analysis and research. She currently is interning with California State Senator Bill Monning, who represents Monterey, Santa Cruz and San Luis Obispo counties.

Alicia grew up in Manoa, near Honolulu and began sailing when she was 9, purely by chance. Her mother was skimming a magazine on summer activities for kids and thought the sailing class (similar to our YWS camp) looked fun. At camp, Alicia caught the bug and kept sailing throughout her youth and into college. This is Alicia's second summer as a sailing instructor at our Youth Water Sports camp, having previously taught at St.



Francis in San Francisco and Hawaii. She currently sails on the CSUMB club team and also at Monterey Peninsula Yacht Club. She enjoys the MPYC Wednesday night sailing and our Thursday night adult racing. It was fellow YWS instructor and CSUMB sailor Olivia Gibbons who introduced Alicia to SYC and the instruction opportunity.

What Alicia most enjoys about sailing is being on the ocean. Both in a race and peacefully by herself, she enjoys the sea life and scenery. Alicia thinks kids should sail because it boosts their confidence. Making friends, driving boats, helps them socially and also helps them to be and feel safe around the ocean.

Be sure to introduce yourself to Alicia when you see her on the pier.

## SYC Supports Cal Fire Water Rescue Program

Fire Captain Garon Coalwell spearheads a new safety regime for Cal Fire and PBCSD

By Megan Mayer

Have you wondered why, if "jet skis" (personal water craft, or "PWCs") are banned in the marine sanctuary, we have one stationed on our pier? Or perhaps you saw people zipping around Stillwater Cove on PWCs and wondered what has changed. While PWCs remain banned in the marine sanctuary for recreational use, Cal Fire has a special exemption to use them for training and water rescue services. In fact, during a competency check off session with a Craft Operator, someone called NOAA to complain about the "Jet Skis" in the marine sanctuary. It was a six-month permit process with NOAA to allow training in the marine sanctuary, training that brings a new rescue team to our coast.



### Addressing Coastal Risk

The new Rescue Swimmer Program is part of Cal Fire's expanding protection coverage. The Carmel Highland station has one Inflatable Rigid Boat ("IRB"), a 14 foot Zodiac 40CC outboard, that it puts in at Whaler's Cove in Point Lobos, but Cal Fire could not put any person in the water at any time, which severely limits their ability to rescue victims from the water. Fire Captain Garon Coalwell came to San Benito - Monterey County Cal Fire as a Rescue Swimmer from San Luis Obispo County. He is bringing the program to our region, which permits swimmers in the water and provides training for ocean hazards unique to our coastal terrain. The program is now one year old, with their first call coming on the day of the PBCSD Annual Open House and BBQ in June of 2016.

### Reduced Response Time

Cal Fire may "put in" their Craft at Whaler's Cove in Point Lobos or our own Stillwater Cove, and nowhere else. Yet even with only two input locations, the Cal Fire Rescue Swimmer Program greatly reduces response time for coastal rescues. If, for example, a tourist was pulled into the ocean near Bird Rock in Pebble Beach, the U.S. Coast Guard has a 25-minute procedural

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# 2017 Pier Potluck BBQs

Select Saturdays and Sundays, 5-7 pm

There is still time, so be sure to join the fun on the remaining two Sunday evenings September 17 and October 1st from 5:00 pm until 7:00 for the 2017 Pier Potluck BBQs. No reservations are required. Members may bring two guests free-of-charge. Additional guests are welcome with a cost of \$10 for each adult and \$5 for children.

As always, SYC will provide complimentary wine, beer, soft drinks and barbecue grills. Members and guests bring their own entrée and condiments. Plates, utensils and napkins are provided by the



Beach Club. No glass vessels, please (Beach Club rules). Members are also asked to bring a potluck side dish, which may be an appetizer, salad,

vegetable, casserole or a dessert. Whatever you choose to bring, it should be for six to eight others and be placed on the community buffet table for all to share and enjoy!

Please continue to welcome new members and guests and invite them to sit at your table. Volunteers are always needed to assist in bartending and other helpful tasks. Check the [sycpb.org](http://sycpb.org) website or call Bruce Graham at 831-595-9402 to volunteer.



## Committee Members Needed

SYC functions and events are run by the Board of Directors and SYC Committees. Current SYC Committees include: Membership, Social, Sailing

and Youth Water Sports, as well as Strategic Planning. Please consider joining a committee; we need your help and promise you will have fun. To discuss your interest or ask any questions please contact either:

Vice Commodore Dixie Smith 209-481-0626  
[ViceCommodore@sycpb.org](mailto:ViceCommodore@sycpb.org) or Rear Commodore Terry Russey 831-521-711  
[RearCommodore@sycpb.org](mailto:RearCommodore@sycpb.org)

## Water Rescue Program

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check to get a boat on the way. Monterey City does not staff a boat continually so engaging a boat could easily take a while. However, the PBFS will send a Craft Operator to Stillwater Cove to put in, while sending a swimmer directly to Bird Rock to enter from the shore. Thus the PBFS can reach Bird Rock fastest of the three agencies. No other agency can send a swimmer to enter the ocean from the shore. The protocol would also include sending the IRB from Whaler's Cove. Thus, coastal rescues include Surf Rescue Technicians (Rescue Swimmers) from the shore, the Craft from Stillwater Cove, and the IRB from Whaler's Cove. The Craft, a Yamaha VSR with 1812 cc motor, provides a unique benefit to the program due to their speed, maneuverability and ability to operate in only 2 feet of water instead of the 25' Coast Guard and Monterey City crafts require. The Craft is now stored on the pier at Stillwater Cove, permitting operators to go directly to the pier to put in within 8 minutes.

### New Skill Set for Fire Fighters

Training is extensive. Rescue Swimmers must complete a 500 meter ocean swim in less than 12 minutes, and take 40 hours of swimming rescue training. Swimmers may then seek training of an additional 40 hours to become a Craft Operator. Once they complete the training and a competency check off, they can be listed in the dispatch as a Craft Operator.

Captain Coalwell has structured our program to emulate those of San Luis Obispo and Marin Counties. "The Fire Chiefs and the community have been very supportive. Stevenson School permits training of rescue swimmers in their pool, which is a huge help." Rescue Swimmers swim 2-3 times per week at Stevenson to keep up their strength. "We have 3-4 drownings per year between Point Lobos and Bird Rock, and 25-30 responses per year with the IRB," explains Coalwell. "Now with the RWC, we can improve on that." The fire captain hopes to reduce response time even further. Here at Stillwater Cove, Port Captain Charlie Kurtmen and the Pebble Beach Company are cooperating with Cal Fire to get a floating dock on the opposite side of the pier, where many of us used to jump into the water as children. This dock would be in the water for the same period of time as our regular dock. During the winter, the Craft will be locked on the trailer as it is now. We are grateful the Cal Fire team at PBFS has brought this new rescue program to our area.



# Upcoming SYC Events

- Aug 28** Dining with Spirits, 6 pm
- Sept 12** Author's Night, 6 pm
- Sept 17** Stillwater Pier BBQ #6, 5 pm
- Oct 1** Stillwater Pier BBQ #7, 5 pm
- Oct 15** Lobster Fest, 4 pm, Stillwater Pier
- Nov 18** Commodore's Ball, 6 pm  
Beach Club Dining Room
- Dec 3** **Lighted Boat Parade, MPYC**

## Burgee Update

We encourage you to exchange burgees with other clubs when you visit. Check our burgee photos before you leave in order to avoid duplicate exchanges. Burgees are available from the BTC office or from Director Pfeiffer. Upon your return, give the new burgee to Director Pfeiffer, email the exchange photo to Director Abercrombie for the web, and return the unused burgees to the BTC office.



unused burgees to the BTC office.

## Adult Sailing & Regattas

Continues Thursdays through September 7

Each Thursday night until September 7, three or four short "just-for-fun" SYC races are scheduled. The fun starts at 5:00 pm and lasts until after sunset. All races begin at the Pier and take place within viewing distance of the dock. If you don't sail, you can have a great time watching the action from the Pier. Neither exceptional sailing skills nor knowledge of racing rules is required—just bring a good attitude and be prepared to have fun. If you prefer not to sail, you can take out one of SYC's kayaks or stand-up paddle boards. For some, the après sailing soirée is the best part, where drinks and hors d'oeuvres are shared. Please bring your own beverages as well as a little something (snacks, cheese, crackers light hors d'oeuvres, etc.) to share with the other participants. The evening's regatta winner is awarded a cup. For more information contact Sherif Michael (831) 624-6116 or Charlie Kurtmen (559) 917-0559.



## Stillwater Yacht Club

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|-----------------|----------------------|
| Commodore       | Carl Meyer           |
| Vice Commodore  | Dixie Smith          |
| Rear Commodore  | Terry Russey (PC)    |
| Staff Commodore | Sherif Michael (PC)  |
| Secretary       | Peter Baldwin (PC)   |
| Treasurer       | Marina Miller        |
| Port Captain    | Charlie Kurtmen (PC) |
| Fleet Captain   | Richard Clark (PC)   |
| Webmaster       | LeBon Abercrombie    |
| Directors       | Tad Church           |
|                 | David Day (PC)       |
|                 | Denise Foderaro      |
|                 | Jim Fuqua (PC)       |
|                 | Judy Furman          |
|                 | Dick George          |
|                 | Bruce Graham         |
|                 | Debbie Jett          |
|                 | John Pfeiffer (PC)   |
|                 | Kevin Larkin         |
|                 | Michael Praisner     |
|                 | Ralph Thompson       |

(PC) Past Commodore

