

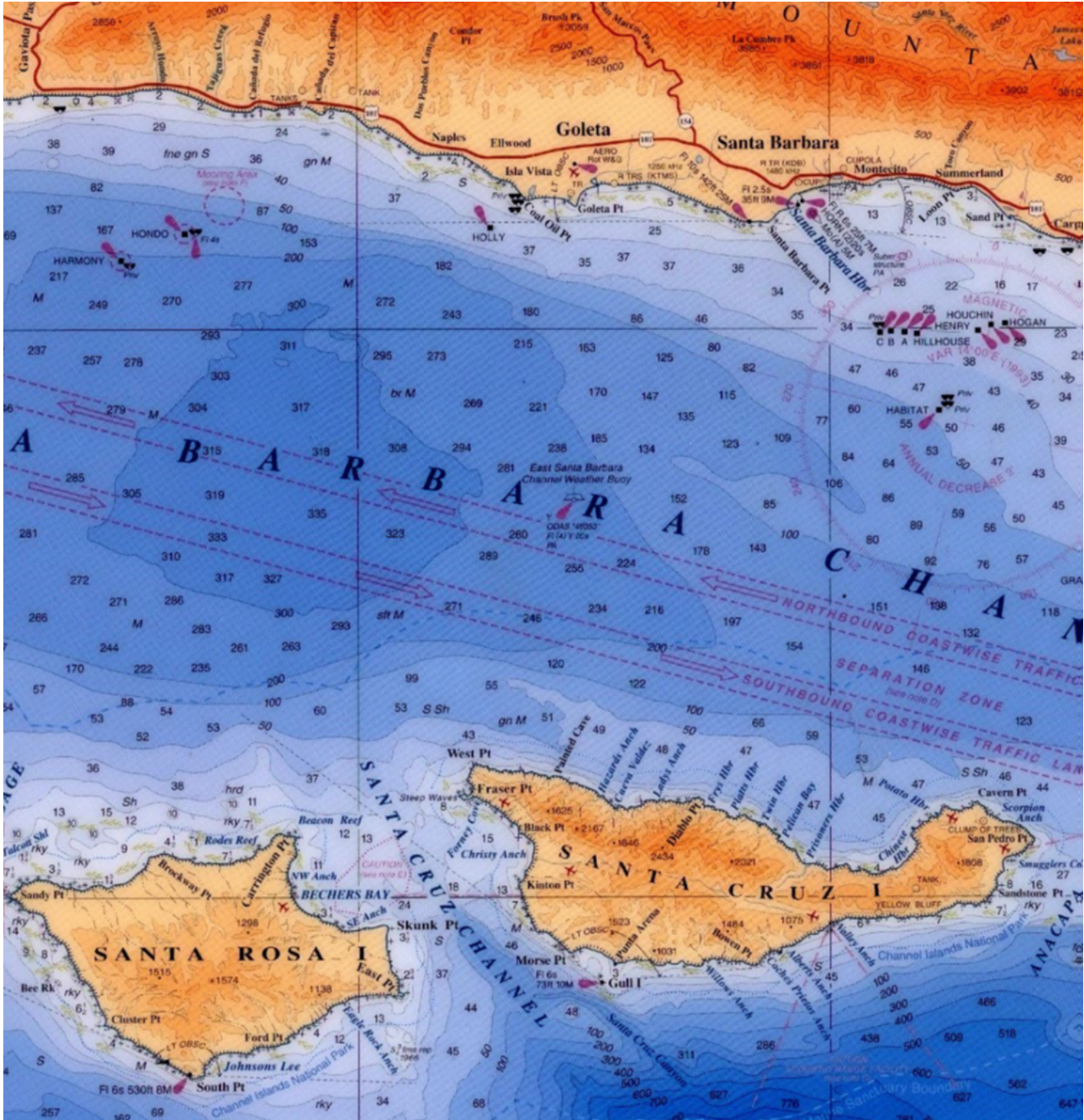


Signal Hoist

Santa Barbara Sail & Power Squadron

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Monthly Newsletter October 2024





COMMANDER'S MESSAGE

Cdr. Virginia Johns, P

Dennis and I are going to the Annapolis Sailboat Show for the first time! We will not be taking s/v Libertad there, but instead will be traveling in our RV-land yacht. We are spending a little time on the East Coast and included this show in our schedule.

We bought Libertad in 2000 and took ten years to get to know her and upgrade some of her systems before we took off on our world cruising adventure. We attended the Strictly Sail show in Oakland numerous times to keep an eye on what was available. It was a great learning experience (and fun). We practiced self-control and did not buy, especially electronic systems, until the year before we left. Eventually we purchased items from a ditch bag, SSB radio, EPIRB, satellite phone, water maker...up to a life raft.

In Annapolis, our list is a bit shorter. We need a new VHF radio. However, we will walk the other exhibits and make sure there isn't some new product that we didn't know we needed.

We also plan to visit the booth of the Content Creators. These are the folks sailing in various parts of the world (including in our local Channel Islands) who produce YouTube videos about their adventures. Dennis and I really enjoy watching some of these – we are kind of hooked on this as a lunchtime distraction once a week. Thanks go to Rich Ciolino who mentioned this resource in our Signal Hoist a couple years ago. We enjoy watching them sail in areas we sailed, reliving our times there. We enjoy watching their DIY install and fix-it projects on the boat, feeling their pain and laughing along with them at mistakes made. And even these old salts sometimes learn something from them – this week it was a hint to make

splicing easier. We see that several of the sailors that we routinely watch on YouTube plan to be at this booth.

Our speaker last month, Tom Farr, piqued our interest in chartering boats in alluring destinations. There are several opportunities at the show to collect more information on that style of cruising.

Lastly, we have been invited to an Amel gathering. Libertad is an Amel. Someone in a marina near Annapolis is holding a casual party. We are hoping we can fit that in the schedule.

Boat shows and YouTube videos – great resources.

Another boating connection that we are really looking forward to is seeing a couple who sailed in their boat s/v Solstice across the Pacific with us – we had a group of 5 buddy boats that left together and kept in touch twice a day over SSB radio. They live in Connecticut and we will spend a few days with them. When they completed their circle around the world, they had a few years more to sail that boat in their local waters. It was sadly destroyed beyond repair, at their dock, in a hurricane.

Wish you could all be with us!

REMINDER:

Earlier this month, I sent out a news blast which included the fact that our standard monthly meetings (first Thu of each month) are cancelled for **October** and **November. No meetings Oct 3 and Nov 7!**

Hopefully this allows many of you to participate in our other activities for these months – which are each described further on in this newsletter.

- Santa Barbara Harbor & Seafood Festival
- Maritime Museum Mixer



SEO'S MESSAGE
Lt/C Rich Ciolino, JN

We finished our Summer Saturday Seminars series in September with two Seminars – Weather for Boaters and The Celestial Nav Noon Sight. Thirteen students attended the Weather seminar that was led by Steve Young and Mike Pyzel. Steve covered general weather topics while Mike covered our local weather characteristics and where to anchor at the islands with good weather protection.



Getting ready to have a little lunch before heading out to the breakwater

Six students attended the Noon Sight seminar that was led by George Poe and Steve Hodges. (See photo above.) The seminar was split into two parts with a Tuesday night theory and practice calculation session followed by a Saturday hands-



OK, we're taking sights!

on sextant operation and noon sight exercise at the breakwater. Steve and George did a great job getting the students ready to conduct the noon sight, but alas, a heavy cloud cover blocked the Sun as it passed overhead at Solar noon, 12:54 PM. Some of the students did get one or two sights in around 12:30 before the clouds thickened so they got some practice. Perhaps it was a good lesson that nature doesn't always cooperate with us and sometimes you're going to have to wait for another day, or two, or before you can get that noon sight.



OK, that was one sight, but we need more.



Where'd it go?



Upcoming Activities

Oct 3	Thurs 7:30pm	NO meeting this month	Harbor Marine Classroom
Oct 19	Sat 10:00am - 5:00pm	Santa Barbara Harbor & Seafood Festival	Santa Barbara Harbor
Nov 7	Thurs 7:30pm	NO meeting this month	Harbor Marine Classroom
Nov 13	Wed 5:30pm - 7:30pm	Maritime Mixer — hosted wine & appetizers	SB Maritime Museum



Maritime Museum

Mixer

November 13,
2024

17:30 to 19:30

Hosted Wine and Appetizers SB Maritime Museum

We will have the museum all to ourselves.

Join us for two hours of camaraderie,
sharing of nautical knowledge, boating
stories and friendship.

Bring your sea stories!

Presentations at 18:00

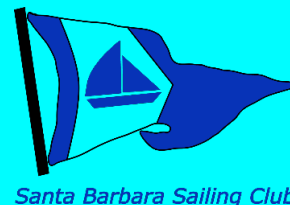
rsvp to Suzette Seago

shseago@gmail.com by Wednesday

Nov 6th

Hosted by the

Santa Barbara Sail and
PowerSquadron and Santa
Barbara Sailing Club





September Cruises to Coches Prietos and Cueva Valdez

Scott Burns

Both Coches Prietos and Cueva Valdez have sandy beaches. Over Labor Day, Benchmark mostly motored over and around the east end to get to Coches. Coming back on Sunday, we sailed after we turned the corner at the east



end, sailing about 2 hours. We motor-sailed the rest of the way. We were very surprised that there were about 30 boats anchored at Coches or Alberts. A lot of SB Yacht Club members were there for the weekend, so it is hard to spot Benchmark or Alec Hardy's boat. We had a few drinks on the beach.

Cueva Valdez is an interesting anchorage. We were there on the weekend of the 21st and wind and surge died down about 4 pm so we had a quiet anchorage. Only 3 boats were there and the weather was rather foggy. We did get about 1 hour of sun just before sunset. We motor sailed out and back, but at least we were able to walk on the sandy beach.



Annual Barbecue and White Elephant Auction

P/C John Profant, SN

The Squadron Business/BBQ meeting took place at Tucker's Grove on Sunday, September 15th. We had a pot luck with barbecue chicken, beans, couple of salads, chips/dips, deserts and just plenty of food. Jim Hirsh and

Pete Seagoe entertained us with some guitar playing and vocals, along with Virginia Johns. Island Jam can be viewed on YouTube: https://youtu.be/Zj_53lziH8. The auction was conducted differently this year, though the items auctioned off continued to be unique!! Participants



purchased tickets and then deposited the tickets in bags associated with each item. Of course, the wrapping and the size of the package were the clues as to what treasure(?) might be inside...and not very reliable either!! A bag from the Apple store was particularly appealing...and misleading and garnered many tickets. Virginia Johns ran the auction, with Sue Hodges drawing the lucky winning tickets from the bags. It was great fun, as usual, and raised several hundred dollars!





Notice: Changes to the USCG Local Notice to Mariners (LNM) and Light Lists

The U.S. Coast Guard Navigation Center announces upcoming changes to the Local Notice to Mariners (LNM) and the Light List, as part of our efforts to modernize and improve the accessibility, accuracy, and overall user experience for mariners and other stakeholders.

What Is Changing?

- 1. Transition From Paper Charts:** In January 2025, NOAA will discontinue the production of all paper charts. In alignment with this change, the Coast Guard will transition from using NOAA Paper Chart Numbers and Editions/Dates for disseminating Marine Safety Information (MSI) to using Official Waterway Names.
- 2. How You Will Access LNMs and Light Lists:** The LNM and Light List data will now be available in a geospatial format, which will allow you

to visualize information interactively on a map/chart. You can use your mouse wheel or the +/- buttons in the upper left portion of the screen to zoom in or out and navigate to your desired area on the map/chart. Once the area is displayed, you can generate a PDF of the LNM or Light List for that specific area, which you can then save and/or print. Alternatively, you can use a fillable form on our website to select your waterway by name from the Light List and generate the LNM or Light List.

3. **LNM and Light List Data Refresh Rate:** LNM data will be refreshed every fifteen minutes. Light List data will be refreshed every 24 hours. This will give you a much more up-to-date operating picture, designed to enhance your efficiency and improve safety in your area of transit or planned routes.
4. **Elimination of Weekly Files:** Weekly LNM, Weekly Light List Correction Files, Daily Discrepancy Files, and the Summary of Light List Changes will no longer be published to focus on providing the most up-to-date and accessible format. In the near future, we will also publish an Application Programming Interface (API) for interested parties to access the data externally.

Why Are These Changes Being Made?

The modernization of MSI delivery is designed to improve the U.S. Coast Guard's aid-to-navigation data management and dissemination capabilities. By providing frequent updates, geospatial visualization, and digital access, we hope to achieve our goals of:

- **Enhancing Maritime Safety:** By delivering the most current and precise information, mariners can make better-informed decisions, reducing the risk of accidents and ensuring safer navigation.
- **Improving Accessibility:** The shift to geospatial visualization makes it easier for all users, from commercial mariners to recreational boaters, to stay informed.
- **Increasing Efficiency:** The integration of LNM and Light List data into a geospatial format to simplify the gathering of safety information and facilitate easy route planning.

When Will These Changes Take Effect?

The transition to the modernized LNM and Light List platform (the Navigation Center website) will be completed by Monday, September 30th.

How to Access the New Features?

Starting on September 30th, 2024, you will be able to access the updated LNM and Light List through the NAVCEN website. A User Guide will be available on the NAVCEN website. Customers will still have the ability to download legacy versions of these products until October 21st.

For any questions or assistance, please visit our [Contact Us Page](#), select 'LNMs or Light Lists' from the Subject dropdown, and submit your inquiry.

Thank you for your continued support as we work to improve the safety and efficiency of maritime navigation.

U.S. Coast Guard Navigation Center (www.navcen.uscg.gov)

Submitted by Cmdr Virginia Johns

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The Signal Hoist is the official publication of the Santa Barbara Sail & Power Squadron. Articles of interest to the membership should be forwarded in writing via email to the Editor by the 20th of the month in order to be included in the next issue. We solicit the submission of your articles on safety, boating, cruising, racing, and squadron activities. Accompanying relevant photos are appreciated. We encourage articles by our members. Send us your true or tall tales. Articles, opinions, and advertisements published herein do not necessarily reflect squadron policy or endorsement unless so designated.

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