



# SAUVIE ISLAND YACHT CLUB NEWSLETTER

P.O. Box 2524, Portland, OR 97208-2524

[www.siyc.org](http://www.siyc.org)

No. 366, January , 2016

## SIYC OFFICERS '15 -'16

Commodore  
Richard Sandefur

Vice Commodore  
Gabrielle Dowding

Secretary  
Charing O'Shea

Treasurer  
Jenny Bruning

Rear Commodore  
Craig Johnston

## COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Membership  
Ray McCracken

Music  
Terry O'Shea

Database Editor  
George Stonecliffe

Newsletter Editor  
Alicia Watkins

Website  
Mark Nerczuk



## February Membership Meeting

Speaker: Mary Ann Warner  
Clean Water Organizer for the  
Columbia River Keepers

February 5<sup>th</sup> 2016, 7:30pm  
Sauvie Island Academy

More information on page 2

## Upcoming Club Events

February Valentine's Day Cruise  
February 13<sup>th</sup> - 14<sup>th</sup> 2016

March Membership Meeting  
Friday, March 4<sup>th</sup> 2016

Cruising Reports Start on Page 11

## Commodore's Comments, January 2016

Hello friends,

It's boat show time! Back in the early 90's when I was new to sailing, I heard about SIYC. I thought it was some exclusive club and one had to be a more experienced sailor to belong. After some



hinting on our part a club member finally invited us to a meeting. At that time there were so many prospective members that there was a maximum of 120 dues paying boats. We currently have 47 boats, which is up from a few years ago. I'm not sure why the interest in the club waned but glad to see it's on the upswing.

Unlike some boating clubs our focus includes open ocean sailing and that might tend to limit the number of prospective members. We need to find those people who are a good fit and would benefit from our activities and presentations. We had a very good response at last year's boat show and were able to make contact with several prospective members. Thanks to all of you who will be volunteering your time to staff our booth this year and fingers crossed we'll be able to dredge up a few more candidates who have aspirations of leaving the dock for adventures near and far.

Cheers,

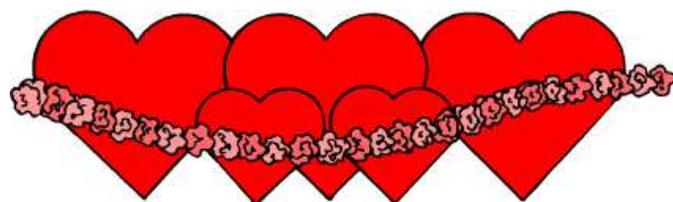
Richard Sandefur  
Commodore



## Feb. Membership Meeting

Date: February 5<sup>th</sup> 2016  
Time: 7:30pm  
Location: Sauvie Island Academy  
Speaker: Mary Ann Warner

Mary Ann Warner, Clean Water Organizer for **The Columbia River Keepers** will give an update on Toxics Program and talk about environmental justice issues on the Columbia River.



## February Valentine's Cruise

Date: February 13<sup>th</sup> - 14<sup>th</sup> 2016  
Location: Coon Island, East Dock  
Multnomah Channel  
Hosts: Gary Weber  
S/V Cambria  
Theme: Food for a Healthy Heart

Bring your sweetheart, boat and/or person, and come enjoy a lovely weekend with your fellow SIYC members.

We will ascend upon the East Docks of Coon Island the weekend of the 13<sup>th</sup>. Boats will be arriving Friday – Saturday. Saturday evening there will be a potluck dinner. Please bring your favorite dish to share.

Sunday Morning we will enjoy a lovely potluck together. Afterward maybe a hike around the island before we all head our separate ways home.

## **Dec. New Year's Cruise** **The Earnest Shackleton Memorial Cruise** By, Kim Taylor



We arrived at the Coon Island East Dock early on New Year's eve. A quiet, calm run, and, once we were at the dock there was no wind, at all, all weekend. Paul on Openwater arrived at 9:00p.m. The New Year was celebrated quietly in common with the East Coast and we were all down and out early.



We took a nice walk around the island in the morning and then Terry & Michelle arrived on Conch Friday afternoon. Paul brought his easy-up, we brought the tarp to wrap it with and Terry & Michelle brought the giant heater to keep us warm. It made a perfect

conversation spot. We had a nice potluck breakfast Saturday morning and the rest of the group started showing up. Richard arrived on Moon Shadow, Garry on Cambria towed in Dave on Hawksbill, then Craig & Barbara arrived on Sequoia. There was lots of fun and hilarity with a wonderful potluck on Sequoia. We are most thankful for the warmth and comfort offered by Sequoia. We woke up early on Sunday to snow. A yummy potluck was hastily assembled on Sequoia and then everyone was on their way for a snowy return to their docks.



A great, if chilly, time was had by all and it was the perfect way to start the New Year. It can only get warmer from here!



# HOLIDAY PARTY

We had some technical difficulties with the pictures from the Holiday party. But I wanted to share them now with you. Thank you to Michael Dowding for taking these beautiful pictures!



*Sue Stonecliffe playing beautifully*



*Diane & Dar Nelson, and Gabrielle Dowding*



*Richard, Anita, Ed, Sarah, and George*



*Alicia Watkins and Charing O'Shea*



*Tim, Ray, Hosts: Rudy & Susan*



*Ed Daugherty*



*Ray McCracken*



*Dinner with dear friends.*



*Richard & Anita, Ed & Sarah, Geoge*



## Recipe of the Month

By, Barbara Johnston

### Easy boat appetizers

Cruisers like to get together for appetizers, drinks and pot-luck dinner wherever they find each other. It's good to have a supply of ingredients ready to go for making appetizers at the drop of a hat. The recipes that follow can be made, without resupply, after a 23 day passage to your tropical destination. The "fresh vegetable" referenced in the second recipe may be whatever actually survived your 23 day passage without being eaten or spoiling. Maybe a sliver of carrot, a piece of cucumber or a shred of cabbage?

Here's what you need to have on hand:

- Canned small smoked oysters in oil.
- Artichoke hearts, quartered, canned in oil or in water.
- Small glass jars of canned pimentos.
- Small cans of sliced olives
- Small cans of jalapeno peppers.
- Pickles
- Cheese of any sort (try canned Cougar Gold from Washington State University).
- Yogurt that you purchased or made yourself from dried milk powder.
- Bread of any sort that you purchased or baked yourself.
- Crackers

### Appetizer #1

Cut sliced bread into 1 ½" squares. Top with a piece of artichoke heart and then a small smoked oyster. Secure with a toothpick.



### Appetizer #2

Cracker topped with one of these:

- Yogurt (drained in cheesecloth and squeezed to remove most moisture)
- Cheese or cream cheese

And then with one or more of these:

- Pimento strips
- Olive slices
- Jalapeno pepper strip
- Thin pickle slice
- Small pieces of fresh vegetable such as cucumber

And then sprinkled with paprika.

Enjoy!

## SIYC Clothing & Accessories For 2015 to 2016

We have a new Merchandise Chair, Charing O'Shea. She is working on getting a possible new vendor with new items available.

Stay tuned for new options and pricing. If you are interested in ordering something please contact Charing O'Shea at a membership meeting or by email:

## Social Media



The club has decided to create a SIYC facebook page! If you haven't yet liked our page please do so. We will be posting upcoming events and cruises, sharing pictures and connecting members.

## New and Returning Members

We would love to learn more about you. Please submit bio's with pictures to Alicia at:

## SIYC Portland Boat Show

Thank you for volunteering to represent SIYC at the Portland Boat Show this year

Those who have signed up to volunteer at our booth have passes waiting the Will Call booth located in the D Hall Lobby. Identify yourself as being with the Sauvie Island Yacht Club. They have our list of volunteers and we do not have to pay entrance fee. Please note that we DO have to pay for parking. \$8.00 per day.

We encourage you to bring your iPad or albums of your sailing adventures. This allows us to easily engage possible members and folks loved it last year!

Our booth is **equipped with one 600 watt 120 volt outlet.**

### Schedule is as follows:

Wednesday January 13<sup>th</sup> 2016  
11:00am – 3:00pm Ed Daugherty  
3:00pm – 6:00pm **OPEN**  
6:00pm – 9:00pm Cayton & Jenny

Thursday January 14<sup>th</sup> 2016  
11:00am – 3:00pm Richard & Anita  
3:00pm – 6:00pm Gary Weber  
6:00pm – 9:00pm Ray & Alicia

Friday January 15<sup>th</sup> 2016  
10:00am – 2:00pm George & Sue  
2:00pm – 5:00pm Craig & Barbara  
5:00pm – 8:00pm Tim & Dennis

Saturday January 16<sup>th</sup> 2016  
10:00am – 2:00pm Alicia & Ray  
2:00pm – 5:00pm Terry & Charing  
5:00pm – 8:00pm Paul W & Kim T

Sunday January 17<sup>th</sup> 2016  
10:00am – 2:00pm Terry & Charing  
2:00pm – 6:00pm Rudy & Susan

Let's have a great show and get some folks interested in our great club!

## Boat U.S. Membership

The SIYC is a participating member of the Boat U.S. Group program, which allows SIYC members a 50% discount on their individual Boat U.S. membership dues. To take advantage you will need our group code: **GA81077Y**. Use the code when renewing your individual membership. There are numerous savings available with a Boat U.S. membership, on a few of which include:

- A 4% rebate (\$10 for every \$250 spent) at West Marine
- Marina fuel and service discounts
- Towing discount, Insurance and many more.

See the whole list at [www.BoatUS.com](http://www.BoatUS.com)

## 2016 Boat Shows

### Portland Boat Show

Dates: Wednesday January 13<sup>th</sup> 2016 to Sunday January 17<sup>th</sup> 2016  
Location: Portland Expo Center  
Time: Wed – Friday 10:00am – 9:00pm  
Saturday 10:00am – 8:00pm  
Sunday 10:00pm – 6:00pm  
Admission: \$10.00 – Adult, Kids Free

### Seattle Boat Show

Dates: Friday January 29<sup>th</sup> 2016 to Saturday February 6<sup>th</sup> 2016  
Location: CenturyLink Field Event Center  
Chandler's Cove S. Lake Union  
Time: Mon – Thurs 11:00am – 8:00pm  
Friday 11:00am – 9:00pm  
Saturday's 10:00am – 8:00pm  
Sunday 10:00pm – 6:00pm  
Admission: \$12.00/day Adult

I know there will be a group of SIYC folks heading up the first weekend for the Seattle boat show. If interested you might see some friendly faces.



## SIYC Club Business

Submitted by Terry O'Shea

**Attendees:** Richard, Annette, Ray, Alicia, Jenny, Craig, Barbara, Gabriel and Terry

**Hosts for the next meeting:** Jenny will bring the food for the next meeting. Next meeting is 3rd of February.

### **Committees:**

**Newsletter:** Alicia reported that the cruisers had sent her cruising reports. There was a technical issue in getting the Christmas photos into the Newsletter. Alicia is having issues getting new members to write lengthy bios into the newsletter. This is despite emails, voice calls and personal reminding.

**Treasurer:** Oregon Food Bank collections \$670.00. There is \$3440.08 in the account, spending was \$45.94 for a budget of \$1712 for the year.

**Membership:** Tim and Sherylann joined last meeting from Victoria Ann. Ray needs membership pamphlets that he will pick up at the school on Friday.

**Vice Commodore:** Next month's meeting will be Lori from Columbia River Keepers speaking about environment issues, oil refineries, coal shipments and general pollution.

**Rear Commodore:** Richard asked: "How is the Website being updated?" They are being post from Mark.

**Music:** No music from the January cruise. Christmas party had Sue leading a sing along.

**Website:** No updates

**Database Committee:** No Updates.

**Clothing Committee:** No Updates.

### **Old Business:**

**Coffee Mugs:** Ray to contact Tim to have some made for Friday's Meeting. Ray to bring the two existing ones to the committee.

**November CRYA Meeting:** Gilbert River Docks and the JJ Collins Marine Park (Coon Island) disrepair as an issue was brought up by Richard. Richard called the Columbia County Parks Advisory Committee. The responded it was going to cost between \$250,000 to \$300,000 to repair the docks which is sizable for their parks budget. The Committee member responded the repair of both parks would be at the top of the list in the next facilities meeting. CRYA said the Oregon Marine Board has a proposal to place mooring buoys along the Columbia River. Additionally, making the bowl downtown a non-anchor area and swimming only. Next CRYA Meeting will be next Tuesday at PYC.

**Portland Boat Show:** Gabriel said she had all the materials she needed for show. She will pick the materials at the school. Terry will supply the large banner and an old rug.

**ABYC Membership:** Discussion will occur on the January Meeting, and voting in February's meeting. Membership is \$255 for the YC and will give one single sign on access.

### **New Business:**

**February Valentines Cruise:** East Dock on Coon Island we need a volunteer from to lead.

**Life Sling Training:** Craig asked if people would like to do LS training again in the July timeframe.

**Nominating Committee for Next Years**

**Officers:** Ray and Craig will lead the "nomination for the officers committee". Positions are Secretary, Vice Commodore, Commodore, Treasurer, Newsletter Committee, Desert Committee, Database Committee, Website, Clothing, Communications, and Music.

**Archive for Club Materials:** Craig suggested there is a should be archival type device to keep the clubs passwords and accounts numbers. Richard committed to setting one up for the officers meeting in February.

## 2015-2016 Planning Calendar

GENERAL MEETINGS		BOARD MEETINGS		CRUISES	
Date/theme	Location	Date	Location	Dates	Where/theme
September 4 Potluck	Sauvie Island Academy	September 2	TBD	Sept. 12-13	Gilbert River Docks
October 2	Sauvie Island Academy	September 30	TBD	Oct. 24-25	Annual Halloween cruise – Government Island E.
November 6	Sauvie Island Academy	November 4	TBD	Nov. 21-22	Annual Thanksgiving cruise – Hadley's Landing
December 12	Christmas Party - TBD	December 12	At party		
January 8	Sauvie Island Academy	January 6	TBD	Jan. 2-3	New Year's cruise – Coon Island
February 5	Sauvie Island Academy	February 2	TBD	Feb. 13-14	Valentine Cruise
March 4	Sauvie Island Academy	March 2	TBD	Mar. 19-20	Anchoring Cruise
April 1	Sauvie Island Academy	March 30	TBD	April 16-17	Navigation Cruise
May 6 Annual Meeting/ Dessert Potluck	Sauvie Island Academy	May 4	TBD	May 21-22	Annual Race/Drift Cruise – Sand Island
June 4 Annual Picnic	TBD				

## SIYC CRUISING BOATS

Boat Name	Owners' Names	Location
<i>Adagio</i>	Jeff & Jane Woodward	Banderas Bay, MX
<i>Casita</i>	Devon Quinn & Rowan Madix	Alameda, CA
<i>LunaSea</i>	Frank & RaeAnn Haynes	Santa Catalina, CA
<i>Nashira</i>	Mike Floyd	La Paz, BCS, MX
<i>On The Bright Side</i>	Taunya	Fajardo, Puerto Rico
<i>Penelope</i>	Peter & Susan Gierga	Bahia San Gabrielle, Mexico
<i>Pied-A-Mer III</i>	Eric & Pam Sellix	Sydney, Australia
<i>Shameless</i>	Jay & Carolee Tyson	San Jose del Cabo, MX
<i>Silvergirl</i>	Bob Hulegard & Robin Fouche	Newport Beach, CA



## Member Websites



<b>CarolMarie:</b>	<a href="http://www.svcarolmarie.com/">http://www.svcarolmarie.com/</a>
<b>Julia Max:</b>	<a href="http://www.sailblogs.com/member/juliamax/">http://www.sailblogs.com/member/juliamax/</a>
<b>Penelope:</b>	<a href="http://cruisingwithcaptainpeterandtheadmiral.com/">http://cruisingwithcaptainpeterandtheadmiral.com/</a>
<b>Moonshadow:</b>	<a href="http://www.voyagemoonshadow.blogspot.com/">http://www.voyagemoonshadow.blogspot.com/</a>
<b>Moontide:</b>	<a href="http://www.svmoontide.com/">http://www.svmoontide.com/</a>
<b>On the Bright Side</b>	<a href="http://www.svonthebrightside.wordpress.com">http://www.svonthebrightside.wordpress.com</a>
<b>Pied-a-Mer III:</b>	<a href="http://www.sailblogs.com/member/sesesail/">http://www.sailblogs.com/member/sesesail/</a>
<b>Ranidan:</b>	<a href="http://persimmonsky.wordpress.com/">http://persimmonsky.wordpress.com/</a>
<b>Rowena:</b>	<a href="http://www.sailblogs.com/member/rowena/">http://www.sailblogs.com/member/rowena/</a>
<b>Sequoia:</b>	<a href="http://www.svsequoia.com/">http://www.svsequoia.com/</a>
<b>Shameless:</b>	<a href="http://svshameless.com/">http://svshameless.com/</a>

SIYC members : Do you have a website or blog for your boat that isn't listed above? If so, please get the information to your trusty editor, Alicia Watkins, and we'll make sure your website or blog is included in future issues of the newsletter.



*Picture by Barbara Johnston of the St Helens Marina*

## ***CRUISING REPORTS***

### ***Taunya Coutts & Rusty Gesner, S/V On the Bright Side***

Last we spoke I was in Luperon of the Dominican Republic...

There were a lot of things I liked about the DR and some things that I didn't. It enjoyed being someplace where it really felt like the culture and place were different from what I'd experienced in Florida. That's not to say that Bahamas and Turks and Caicos are not different, but they felt a lot more similar to Florida than I'd expected. To me, being in those areas felt more like a tourist to a fabulous resort - whereas I'd prefer to go places that aren't a tourist haven.



Of course, there's a reason that DR is not a tourist haven, and that definitely was part of the reason we left so quickly. The administration for dealing with Cruisers is challenging. There are a lot of rumors about extra charges that aren't appropriate and being asked to pay again after you'd already paid when you enter a new port. The charges I was given did not seem to follow what I understood was owed. But what do you do?

In other places, I check into the country and that's all I hear. At the DR, every place we would go, we were visited by the military. You are expected to only go to the port you told the last military official who visited your boat. At Luperon, the harbor closes at 6:00pm... so even though the best time for sailing upwind in DR is at night, you have to leave earlier than is ideal (11 pm or later would be ideal).

These issues, combined with a perfect weather window for getting to Puerto Rico caused us to go ahead and bail out that night. We left intending to sail the full length of DR and cross over to Isla Mona. Our engines behaved themselves and after 36 hours of motoring - we tucked in at this sweet little nature preserve. Going in was scary, because there was a lot of surge, the entrance is narrow and surrounded by coral and my boat is WIDE (28'). Pat was at the helm and got us in neatly - we hooked up to a mooring ball and enjoyed some amazing beauty.

We only stayed one night because we were concerned about losing the weather window... so after a fabulous day of snorkeling (and diving for Pat and Jay) - seeing amazingly beautiful fish and corals I'd never seen before (antler, staghorn, black trigger with electric blue outline etc) we went ahead and left at dark. Getting out was trickier than getting in - because of the surge against us. The first attempt didn't go so well and we had to hard reverse to prevent ourselves from being beached on the coral.. but the second was a success and we were glad to be out with no scrapes to speak of.



We continued on to Ponce, Puerto Rico - and after one night of anchoring out, we decided to get a slip. The prices at this marina were better than most, and it enabled us to get the batteries delivered, get our alternators repaired, pick up foam block which we will need for the haul out and bottom painting, and provisioning. In addition to this, we'd have unlimited electricity so that Jay could repair our sail (which was in bad shape and needed a large area for working on it... make our dodger and finish the hatch covers he'd started... Plus there was an upholstery store in town - so if he needed anything, it was right there.

This was also the time Pat had decided to leave and spend the holidays with his family - so we said goodbye (sadly) to him. And we spent the next two weeks getting all this stuff done. Unfortunately- we did have some power fluctuations from the city, which did seem to cause some damage to our inverter and our tank monitor. When we left the marina, I presented them with one of our courtesy flags, and they kindly reciprocated with one of theirs. What fun!

We continued on to Caja de Muertos (Coffin - because it kinda looks like one from the side) - which was quite pretty. We headed up halfway to Vieques Island and got there a couple nights later. Vieques was nice, there was lovely snorkeling and a lively little tourist town for wifi and a small store. But we had to leave there in a

hurry when we realized we are having power problems. We motor-sailed over to Fajardo, and were extremely pleased to encounter an electrician the next dock over. He's going to check out why our alternators are not charging the batteries (even after we'd gotten them repaired) and help us figure out what's going on with the inverter.

Boat problems are getting pretty old, but lovely places are still always a delight. It's shocking how quickly the time has been passing... I'm already halfway through my trip and starting to worry if I'm going to have enough time for the few things I've planned to visit before we leave the Caribbean. I'm learning lots and growing my capabilities all the time... from practicing docking, to helping replace alternators...

Pictures are -

- Annika and I holding an Egret that had been rescued from the water at the marina - it was drenched and we dried it off.
- Isla de Mona
- Jay making repairs to the sails - desperately needed

Taunya, Fiona Annika and crew (Laura and Jay)  
*S/V On The Bright Side*  
Fajardo, Puerto Rico



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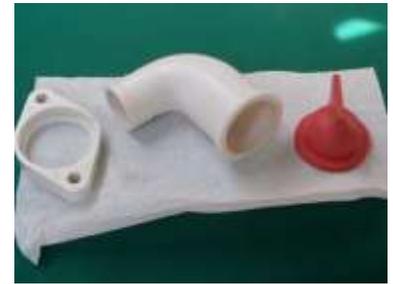
## ***Jeff & Jane Woodward, S/V Adagio***

Hi Everybody,

We left San Carlos a little before Christmas, 12/23/2015. We had been having trouble with the toilet. First we found a leak in the toilet base. The plastic pipe to which the bowl and pump are attached. A friend was making a fast round trip up to Tucson, and so we had the part shipped to a motel in Nogales, AZ. Our friend picked up the part and brought it back to San Carlos. We installed it, then re-installed the toilet into the boat only to find another leak. The toilet came out of the boat and back in at least a half dozen times before we found the source of the second leak, a plastic elbow at the exhaust hose.



This time we had to make the trip to Nogales to pick up the part ourselves. We drove the five hours up on Monday 12/21. Spent the night. Met the UPS guy the next day, then drove back to San Carlos. While Jeff was installing the new elbow, Janie took the car to the storage lot. It was after dark before the toilet was back in the boat. Thank goodness we had no more leaks!!! We left early the next morning, Wednesday 12/23 for Agua Verde, arriving around noon the next day. We spent Christmas eve in Agua Verde with a half dozen boats. Three of the boats had Christmas lights in the rigging, and one boat was playing Bing Crosby Christmas carols over his stereo. Later that evening when Bing was put to rest, we could hear live music coming from the village of Agua Verde. It was still going when we left in the predawn hours of Christmas Day.



The wind was light, and the sea was flat as we sailed to Isla San Francisco on Christmas Day. We were pushing hard to make Isla San Francisco because one of the Sea of Cortez Northers was forecast to arrive the next morning. And sure enough we watched big white buffalos (steep tall wind driven seas) stampede out in the channel as we lay in the protection of Isla San Francisco's tall cliff. The Norther blew for four days. We were not lacking for entertainment. The Luxury Motor Yacht Sherakhan arrived the next morning. At first we thought she was a small cruise liner, but later learned that this 228 foot yacht was chartered by the Thomas family for a ten day excursion. The

ship came from Holland just for the Thomas' and sailed back through the Panama Canal after the charter was complete. There is a lot of information to be had about the ship if you Google M/Y Sherakhan.

Shortly after the Sherakhan left Isla San Francisco, a 46' sailboat came crashing through the Norther seas into the anchorage. The seas were 6 or 7 feet tall and very close together. The sailboat was kicking up quite a bow wake as she shouldered the big seas. A few minutes after the anchor was set, we noticed all sorts of bedding and clothes being taken out of the boat and hung on the lifelines to dry. Then the V-berth mattress was drug out of the cabin and set against the shrouds. We figure somebody forgot to close the portholes and hatches. A little after sunset all the stuff went back into the boat. A little after sunrise the next morning it all came out again. And then, in the dark, with the wind still howling, and the buffalos still stampeding they up-anchored a set out to sea. Dragging their dink. Only to return an hour or so later minus the dink. There are some obvious lessons to be learned from this tale.



We left Isla S.F. for Ensenada Los Muertos at 0200 on the 29th of December. We had a waning, but still very bright moon to help us as we set off. We left early both to get underway while the wind and sea was at its calmest, and because it is a long way between the two anchorages and we wanted to arrive in daylight. When we arrived in Muertos we were surprised to see M/Y Sherakhan again. And now she was in company with a support vessel very similar to an oil rig supply boat. A 50 foot sport fishing boat was also part of the fleet with much coming and going between the vessels.

We just spent the night in Muertos, getting underway for Frailes at 0200 the next morning, December 30. And sure enough as we rounded the cape to enter the anchorage in Los Frailes, the Sherakhan was there on the hook waiting for us. Complete with the support vessel, and the Sport Fisher. But now the support vessel had two helicopters coming and going. When we woke on the 31st the Sherakhan and the support vessel were gone and the sport fisher was just picking the hook. We were left alone in the anchorage with just the campers on the beach to keep us company. We didn't make it to see what transpired at the magic hour of 2016's arrival in Los Frailes, but we stayed up long enough to see some pretty spectacular fireworks displays before the calendar page was turned.

Another Norther kept us in Los Frailes until the morning of January 2 when we got underway for the 30 mile hop to San Jose del Cabo. This was our first visit there. It is a beautiful facility and the easiest connection to pick up crew that we have found on the Baja Peninsula. Later that same afternoon our son-in-law arrived in a cab from the Cabo airport. We had a great dinner at a very fine restaurant and left the next morning for the Southern Crossing to La Cruz in Banderas Bay (near Puerto Vallarta).



We had a great crossing and are now enjoying the Bay. Day after tomorrow we will be heading south to Tenacatita Bay where we plan to spend several weeks in company with a couple dozen fellow cruisers.



We hope you enjoy the pictures. And we hope 2016 brings you good times, great health and many happy adventures.

Jeff and Janie

*S/V Adagio*

Marina La Cruz, Banderas Bay, Mexico

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## ***Eric & Pam Sellix, S/V Pied-A-Mer III***

Greetings from Down Under,

I still can't believe that we are in Australia. I still can't believe that we sailed here!

Having said that, and I often do, we are having a wonderful visit. It is so nice to be in one country for longer than 90 days.

Given my lack of discipline with writing about our travels I often end up with places and events out of order. This is a good example because my last letter was at least a couple of months ago. Since then we have repaired, replaced, toured, hiked & picnicked, anchored, enjoyed Australian rain and enjoyed the people of New South Wales. However, two events stand out as "note worthy"---the Rolex Sydney to Hobart Race and New Year's Eve Fireworks.



On Boxing Day ( Dec. 26) all of Sydney turns out, on land or water, to watch the start of the Rolex Sydney/Hobart Race, one of the world's most arduous open ocean yacht races. While "on the water" would have been nice and "close up" we didn't want to have to worry about weather and other boats so we watched from the South Head. Along with hundreds of people we walked from the bus stop at Watson's Bay, up a winding path through beach and bush passing several "good views" of the Harbour and the entrance to the Tasman Sea. Settling in on the ground we waited, visiting with all of the people sitting around us. The speed of these boats is like

lightning , watching them go around the marks was amazing and the energy of the crowds was exhilarating. After the race we sat on a stump and had a picnic lunch, hoping to avoid the masses that were winding down the path from South Head. Even after taking time to eat lunch we were walking with crowds. The path follows the water and at one point we saw a small power boat that had gone up on the beach with what looked like a good sized hole. This particular spot was a nude beach----lots of help, just no clothes!

Our second "Only in Sydney" event was the New Year's Eve fireworks shot off and around the Sydney Bridge. While Sydney is not the first city to celebrate New Year's Eve, actually Auckland, New Zealand holds that distinction, Sydney has the most explosive celebration to welcome the New Year. Again, folks gathered on land or on water. I couldn't believe how many people staked out their spot on land two to three days in advance with tents, umbrellas, kids, pets and food. Port-a-potties were put out in parks and fields. As was done for the Sydney to Hobart Race, the Roads & Maritime Agency had printed out Harbor navigation restrictions for the

firework displays. Again, we saw boats claiming their anchorage space two to three days ahead of New Year's Eve. We anchored in Snails Bay two days ahead of the fireworks and had a direct and unobstructed view. Never, in my life have I seen such a show. The frenzy of colors, the timing and the multiple locations were breathtaking----definitely worth a "two day camp out" on land or in an anchorage.



Happy New Year,

Eric & Pam Sellix  
*S/V Pied-A-Mer III*  
Sydney, Australia

Note: The third boat in the racing photo had it's spinnaker rap around the forestay. Within a minute of rounding the mark, in first place, it ended up in third with only 600 and some miles to go.

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## Let's Stay in Touch with our Cruising Members

*If you enjoyed the stories from these cruising members of Sauvie Island Yacht Club, please say so. Sometimes the cruisers comment that they feel like they are sending their articles into a black hole, and they never get any feedback. Let's all make an effort to let them know they are appreciated. If you see them, say something. If they are still out cruising, send them an email. If you have questions for them, do ask – it may be the seed for an interesting future report. – Ed*



*Picture taken by the Woodward's, motor-sailing toward San Jose del Cabo*