



VSC Meeting minutes

October 14, 2025

Hall opened the meeting and welcomed everyone. He provided the following updates:

- Ventura Caregivers Sailathon is this Sunday, with some VSC members participating, he encouraged everyone to try to participate, as it's for a very good cause (homebound senior citizens in Ventura County), and Akua Kai along with Bob Shirley will be trying again for the Cash Me If You Can Award (award for the most pledges gathered, which is what this is all about!). VSC will be trying for the Ugly Fish Award too, which is the club with the most boats entered.
- The Wild Turkey Plastic Classic sponsored by VSC is November 29, see details and registration on Regatta Network. We are working on a race committee boat for this. If anyone knows of someone with a powerboat that would like to anchor out at Mandalay Buoy and at least start the racers, please let VSC know. We'll come up with a couple of course options utilizing existing marks off Channel Islands Harbor and Ventura Harbor. Open to all boats and we will have a finish line for beach cats. Chris Hancock will handle the awards and there will be food available afterwards at either AYC or CIYC. Details to be worked out and will be announced.
- Bills are due around this time of year and we are paying for membership with Association of Santa Barbara Yacht Club (ASBYC) and Southern California Yacht Association (SCYA). Will Yount is helping us with insurance and has provided necessary information for renewals.
- Leo, our treasurer, wasn't available, but Hall reports that the club has plenty of funds.
- PCYC has held some races this Fall, four boats participated last week in race 2 of the TGIS Series, although some rating problems were noted, conditions were great. Chris Hancock reported a fun day on the water with excellent race management. Next race with PCYC is November 16, final race of the TGIS series. If we can get some beachcats out there, you might even see your commodore on an A Cat for the first time in a year.
- PBYC hosted the first race of the Two Harbor Series a couple of weeks ago. VSC members were representing with Jane and crew sailing Wailani in the spinnaker class, Ron Dietel singlehanded She Said No to a non-spinnaker class win, and Hall and Alicia Stratton, along with CeCe won the ORCA fleet. CeCe was at the helm upwind, Alicia helmed downwind, and Hall spent some time wrapped up in our new Big Beautiful Spinnaker.
- Jane Thomas reports that next year's sailing calendar for the Santa Barbara Channel is almost complete. Thank you, Jane, for all the hard work you put into that.

Eric discussed the website and welcomes updates to post. VSC secretary will provide monthly updates to him for our website. He'll be posting these minutes or a summary of the meeting each month from now on. Hopefully this will give people following the boating scene in Ventura/Oxnard a better look into what our club is up to.

Island Report, from Alicia:

- The usual whale sightings reported, abundant sardines currently providing feeding grounds for humpback whales mid-channel. Orca sightings this month at Anacapa and San Miguel Islands.
- Discussion of possible Santa Barbara Channel Aquaculture Opportunity Areas, based on Federal Executive Order 13921 to promote American seafood competitiveness and economic growth. September 19, 2025 NOAA identified 10 sites in So. Cal. federal waters, with 8 sites off coast of Ventura being reviewed. Not known if this is kelp or fish farms. Updates to follow.
- Possible change of Santa Barbara Channel demarcation line between east and west channel will take place. Updates to follow.
- Efforts underway by Santa Barbara Commercial Fishing Association to reduce purple sea urchins around islands to help with “urchin barrens,” bare seafloor resulting from urchins and help kelp forest health (90% of Northern California kelp has been mown down by urchins).

We had a return of the raffle. Lots of prizes and clearing out of our boxes of stuff stored at Victoria Pub.

Chris and Marisela provided us with another fun pub quiz that everyone enjoyed and there were even some surprises (trick questions perhaps?). Not too tricky for Eric Beck though, he took home all the marbles this month.

Next meeting November 11, 2025. Meeting adjourned.