

Gal' Warnings

The Monthly Newsletter of the Women's Sailing Association of Santa Monica Bay

August 2011

Volume XXVI, Issue 8

Commodore's Corner

by Christina Tarantola

Hello Sailors!

Welcome to August! I don't know about you, but I need a moment to catch my breath ...

July got off to a roaring start with Transpac 2011. A few of our members went down to Long Beach Yacht Club on July 2 to help with hospitality at the big pre-race celebration. The first batch of boats started on July 4. This is when the smaller/slower boats start in hopes that everyone will land in Hawaii at about the same time. Staff Commodore Sue Service was among those handing out gifts and selling raffle tickets and said, "I know the racers who bought my raffle tickets were extra-lucky!"

Many of you know that my husband, Scott Meyer, is a regular on Pendragon VI, John and Sue MacLaurin's 70-foot, red ball of fire. My husband was not part of the Hawaii crew, but we snagged a spot on MacLaurin's powerboat Storm on July 8 to watch PVI and the rest of the big boats at the second start. Seeing that many grand yachts cross the line together in good breeze was very impressive.

(Continued on page 3)



August: Cruising in Belize

by Midge Costin, Education Chair

Belize, known for the second largest Great Barrier Reef in the world, is a virtual playground for adventurers drawn to the ocean, both on and below the water.



Come hear about a Belize sailing adventure during our August meeting at SMWYC. Fellow WSA members Jeannea Jordan, Susan Bonner, Karen Kuchel, Patricia Rose, Carolyn Cohen and

Diane Destiny will share their pictures and tales of the sea. They set sail out of Placencia Harbor aboard SS *Tonic*, a 41 foot Beneteau sailed by five women and SS *Zoof*, a 40 foot Catamaran with a crew of four women and two lucky men.

Read Patricia's blogpost, *Sailing and Cooking in Belize*: <http://freshfoodinaflash.com/tag/belize/>



WOW! What a weekend of sailing for Women on the Water / Women at the Helm. (More photos inside)

Photo credit: Bob Congdon



If it's July, then it must be WSA's annual summer BBQ with Fran and Mike cooking up a tasty storm!

Meeting Agenda for August 9, 2011

6:30 pm—Social Hour begins

7:30 pm—Business meeting and light dinner

8:00 pm—Program begins: Cruising in Belize

WOW/WAH 2011 MOMENTS...

(Photos by Nora Feddal and Bob Congdon)



(Commodore's Corner continued from page 1)

For those of you who want to see what I mean, Pierson Jacquelin, owner of the J/24 "Slippery When Wet," also out of CYC, shot an amazing video. Here's the link: <http://vimeo.com/26273781>.

Fresh on the excitement of that, it was time for the WOW/WAH Regatta. This year we had a great turn out, with 17 boats racing. As always, the Race Committee did a great job, the racing was close, and the hospitality was fantastic. Congratulations to everyone who participated in the event and everyone who worked so hard to make the event such a success.

A special thanks to Mary Stuyvesant who organized and ran the event. Super Special thanks also go to Tim Clark and West Marine for donating a portion of the proceeds from sales on June 30 to WSA.

We kept the celebration going on July 12 with our Summer Party. The place was packed – not only did our members turn up in great numbers, but we had 31 guests. We ate every bit of food there was and it was standing room only when Social Director Jennifer Zannelli started the Nautical Bingo.

There will be plenty more racing in August and our next cruise will be August 5-7. So far we have two boats cruising to the Isthmus. For details, contact Fleet Captain Diane Larson at fleetcaptain@wsasmb.org.

Also this month, we have our Hollywood Bowl outings – on Wednesday the 10th, we'll be heading east for Blues Night with Robert Cray, Keb' Mo' and Mavis Staples. We'll be going back on Thursday, the 18th, for Beethoven's Ninth Symphony and the Choral Fantasy with the LA Philharmonic and the LA Master Chorale. For tickets, contact Jennifer at social@wsasmb.org.

While thoughts of a Transpac race surely conjure up visions of white sand beaches, fruity rum drinks and clear blue water, it's not all unspoiled beauty. In an interview, Chuck Skewes, who crewed on "Katana," Laura Schlessinger's Keman 47, said, "We saw more trash in the ocean than I have ever seen before. We were as far from civilization as you can get, and three times we had to back down to get trash off the rudder. And it's going to get so much worse before people wake up to it."

Enjoy the summer and let's keep our beaches and water clean! Happy Sailing!



[CORRECTION: In the July Newsletter, the Article entitled "Dateline Isthmus Harbor" was written by Nicola Lamb and photographs were submitted by Diane Hubner.]

WOW/WAH NOTES

Every year since 1980, women (and men) have participated in the Women on the Water / Women at the Helm Regatta. It all began in the early 1970s with the "Ladies Got Guts Race" to the Isthmus at Catalina Island. Organized by Stan Lieberman and sponsored by [Del Rey Yacht Club](#), the regatta's purpose was to interest women in learning more about boat handling.

Women's growing interest in racing prompted other yacht clubs to sponsor their own "Women Only" events. These regattas came together as a single series in the late 1970s when then-California Yacht Club Commodore Robert S. Wilson donated an antique silver loving-cup to be awarded to the top woman sailor in Santa Monica Bay.

Thanks to volunteers and sponsors, the regatta grew in popularity each passing year. In 2002, WSA donated a crystal sailboat perpetual trophy for the winner of the WAH division with the most entries. In 2005, another perpetual trophy was dedicated in memory of Cheryl Rembert, who was an active Santa Monica Bay area sailor. This trophy is awarded to the top placing Martin 242 in the WOW division.



Volunteer regattas like this take place because of a lot of hard work by the organizers and participants, but it also takes dedicated and generous sponsors, including many local businesses like West Marine, Hinano Cafe, Charlotte Tarantola, the Overland Cafe, Baja Cantina, Tony P's, the UCLA Marina Aquatic Center, The Restaurant at the California Yacht Club, Abbot's Habit, The Golden Lion, Harken, North Sails, the Ship's Store, C&O Trattoria, David Girard Hairstyles, Christine Valmy Spa, Stella-Dot Jewelry, Get Pilates Fit, and Beyond Physical Therapy.

Many thanks to everyone who made this year's WOW/WAH Regatta such a special weekend!

It was a perfect sunny day: WOW/WAH 2011

By Mary Ho, Race Chair

The annual WOW/WAH regatta is one of the highlights of the sailing calendar in Marina del Rey. This event highlights women in sailing and was created to encourage and support their participation in this wonderful sport.

The WOW/WAH acronym stands for Women on the Water/Women at the Helm. This year's regatta had three divisions: WOW (all-women crew), WAH Performance (co-ed, with a woman at the helm) and WAH Cruising.

This year's WOW fell on a super nice weekend. The weather was sunny and warm. Even the winds were cooperative, not too light and not too heavy, but just right. A total of 17 boats participated in the three divisions, and judging by the results, it was a great weekend for all.

Perpetual trophy and class winners were:

- ◆ Alice Leahey skippering "Grace O'Malley," winner of the Robert S. Wilson Perpetual Trophy for the WOW
- ◆ Mary Stuyvesant skippering "305," winner of the Cheryl Rembert Perpetual Trophy for the top Martin 242 in WOW
- ◆ Sherri Hunt skippering "Prometheus," winner of the WSA WAH Perpetual Trophy
- ◆ Jennifer Arrington skippering "Dean," winner of the WAH Performance Class
- ◆ Karen Mahmalji skippering "Transformer," winner of the WAH Cruising Class

One of the challenges of the WOW is getting boats — most skippers have to borrow boats and there is the additional challenge of getting crew together. So a big thank you goes out to all the boat owners who were willing to let their boats be used for the WOW!

The post-race parties were full of enthusiasm and excitement. Women encouraged each other and thrived on the supportive atmosphere. One of the big raffle prizes of the evening festivities was a paid membership to WSA! The lucky winner was Susan Purcell, owner of the Hunter "Just Add Wine."

Susan had never raced her boat before, and had a blast skippering her first race. That is ultimately what the WOW is all about—encouraging women to get out there and skipper boats in a race and to help them realize that they really can do this.

Last but not least, a big thank you to Mary Stuyvesant for organizing this year's WOW/WAH and making it happen!

Have any race news or photographs you'd like to share? Contact me at Racing@wsasmb.org

WOW/WAH 2011 Moments...

(Photos by Nora Feddal and Bob Congdon)



How do you get to the WOW/WAH?

By Mary Stuyvesant—ASMBYC Women's Sailing Coordinator

For some, the road to the Women on the Water / Women at the Helm Regatta starts with an impulse the week before the Regatta. For others, it's a little longer. For WAH performance racer and WSA member Jennifer Arrington it started in January and ended with a win in July!

As a Regatta Chair, there are a couple of things you always want to make happen:

- ◆ You want to provide the elements that make a good race – WOW/WAH PRO Andrew Cleveland and South Bay Yacht Racing Club did an excellent job of that.
- ◆ You want a good party (or parties) – a big thank you to Pacific Mariner's Yacht Club and Candy Brown for Saturday night's fiesta (great margarita bar!) and Marina Venice Yacht Club and Patricia Sanders for a great trophy party.

And then you need racers and boat owners willing to lend boats and women who are ready to step up and say, "I want to drive." The last part can be a little tricky to find. A lot of women want to crew – but many are nervous about driving. A big part of the WOW/WAH is to encourage women to step forward and become comfortable leading a boat.

This year we really worked to make resources available to interested women as early as January so they could prepare for the WOW/WAH. The first meeting was at SCCYC for anyone interested in an opportunity for racers to get matched up with coaches, crews and skippers.

There are many great stories of new racers and veteran racers in this year's regatta. One of them is Jennifer Arrington. Jennifer came up to me after the meeting and said, "I want to learn to race a Martin." I said, "Great send me an email and I will hook you up."

Many people don't take the time to actually follow up. Jennifer did, and we were able to connect her with WSA member Denise George and her husband Mike George. Jennifer started filling in for Mike's regular crew and started to learn the Martin 242. On top of that, she attended other clinics – like SBYRC's Crew Clinic. There, she hooked up with Paula and Duncan Cameron who own a Martin 242, "Dean," and a Soverel, "Trust Me."

Here's where Jennifer was really smart! She stayed in touch with the Camerons and said, "Yes!" to every crew opportunity and built relationships all through the spring. She also kept sailing with Mike George on "All In."

Fast forward to July and suddenly Jennifer is driving a Martin 242 ("Dean") and the Camerons are now crewing for Jennifer! Fill in veteran racer Christine Perakis (who now, by the way, wants to drive next year) and you have a winning team!

As a regatta chair – this is one of the WOW/WAH stories that makes me happy and makes all the work and

labor needed to organize WOW/WAH worthwhile. I know Jennifer will be out next year and I can't wait to race against her in the WOW!

Congratulations to all of our winners! We had 17 boats on the line and about 130 racers. Awesome!

Congratulations also go out to all of the skippers who put a crew together and drove this year... Alice Leahy, Carole Walsh, Kristy Lenihan, Mary Stuyvesant, Michelle Ondrey, Simone Staff, Erika Heeb, Jennifer Arrington, Mary O'Halloran, Midge Costin, Morgan Costin, Jeannea Jordan, Karen Mahmalji, Rosalie Green, Sheri Hunt, Sue Purcell, Patti Eagan.

A huge thank you to all of the club members of ASMBYC who pulled together to host and run the Regatta and events, South Bay Yacht Racing Club, Marina Venice Yacht Club, Pacific Mariners Yacht Club, Women's Sailing Association, California Yacht Club, Santa Monica Bay Sailing Foundation and South Coast Corinthian Yacht Club. Thank you to Denise George for running WOW Wednesday's at Sunset Series this summer. And a big thank you to Tim Clarke and crew at West Marine for jumping in this year to support Women's Sailing!

Let's do it again next year!

"ON THE LINE"



"WHO LET THE BIRDS OUT?"



2011 Summer Party Recap

By Jennifer Zannelli, Social Director

This year's party brought out a big crowd and the weather cooperated with a cool breeze and a perfect sunset to end a wonderful evening. Overland Café did an amazing job catering all the food — Greek salad, chips, green beans and the most amazing potato salad, which was a big hit considering both bowls were scraped clean.

Fran Weber-Melville and Mike Gitchell were stationed at the grills cooking up corn on the cob, burgers, hot dogs, turkey burgers, and veggie burgers to the hungry bunch.

After there was no more food to eat everyone moved into the main room to start the raffle and play a few rounds of Nautical Bingo!

A big thanks goes out to everyone who volunteered and helped bring it all together – it was a FUN evening!



This year's BBQ was packed with current, new, and prospective WSA members.

July's Successful Bow/Foredeck Clinic

by Diane Larson, Fleet Captain

WSA extends a HUGE thank you to Karyn Jones and Wayne Brandow for leading a beginner level bow/foredeck clinic on Sunday, July 17 to members. Also, thanks to Mary Ho and Nancy Marino who attended as volunteers to assist them. We had a great turn-out and appreciate attendees making this event.

All left with a better understanding of the foredeck and bow position, as well as some new skills to keep fine tuning with practice. Karyn and Wayne's knowledge and patience have assisted many WSA members over the years so we are all lucky they continue to offer their time and talents.

Thanks to all for your contributions!

"Gal Warnings" is always looking for photos of WSA activities and members!

— Send them to Newsletter@WSASMB.org —

A Special thanks to Overland Café

Every month, the Overland Café caters WSA's dinner with a wonderful variety of menus. Serving great food since 1974. Visit their website at www.overlandcafe.com

OVERLANDCAFÉ
3601 Overland Avenue, Culver City, CA 90034 • PHONE: 310. 559. 9999



Many of us have been following Bob and Coco's "adventures" with their beautiful new cat'. Great to see "Coco Puff" sporting a mast!

Photo by John Nelson

MEMBERSHIP NOTE

If you know of someone interested in joining WSA, please direct them to www.wsasmb.org (click on Join WSA Today) for information on membership dues and easy instructions on how to join. New member discounts are available throughout the year!

WSA Policies:

- ◆ -Guests are allowed to attend up to 2 general meetings per year (excluding December due to paid event)
- ◆ -Only current WSA sailing members with a signed Waiver can participate in on-the-water events including day sails and cruises
- ◆ -Only current WSA sailing members can race under the WSA Burgee
- ◆ -Membership runs from January 1 – December 31 for current year. Memberships are valid until December 31, regardless of date you join
- ◆ -The membership renewal process begins each year on January 1. You can only join one year at a time – the current year
- ◆ -Membership Application and Waiver forms must be submitted every year

Recruiting Skippers for Linda Elias Memorial Women's One Design Regatta

WSA of Santa Monica Bay intends to promote Women's Sailing and the Linda Elias Memorial Women's One Design (sponsored by the Long Beach Yacht Club and the Long Beach WSA), through seeking to maximize opportunities for participation in this event, by both existing members and potential members that may choose to join the WSA. Further information about the regatta can be obtained from www.lbyc.org. This year the regatta will be held October 22-23.

The WSA of SMB plans to budget funding for up to 50% of the cost for up to 2 entries to include boat charter and entry fee, which will be open to any qualified skipper to apply. Final decision on funding will be at the sole discretion of the board. The skipper and/or crew will need to fund the remaining balance of the boat charter and entry fees, the damage deposit and any incidentals.

Should only one boat qualify for funding, at the discretion of the board, the balance of the budgeted funds may be donated to an organization or cause which promotes women's sailing such as the Linda Elias Scholarship fund, which provides funding to qualified women skippers to participate in other sailing events. Should more than 2 qualified boats apply for funding, it will be at the discretion of the board to define selection criteria and decide which entries will receive funding.

Interested skippers must submit a written request, including the skipper's racing resume, to the WSA board to qualify for consideration of funding. Requests will be accepted beginning 30 March; no requests will be considered after 15 August. Only applications from current WSA members will be considered. More information about the WSA of SMB, including a membership application, can be found at www.wsasmb.org. Requests for funding can be mailed to The Women's Sailing Association of Santa Monica Bay, PO Box 10034, Marina del Rey CA, 90295.

The WSA board will evaluate requests based on the following factors: (a) The skipper's overall sailing experience. (b) The skipper's racing history in terms of number of races entered and overall record. (c) The skipper's ability to recruit and train crew.

Requests for funding will be reviewed at each month's board meeting (the 4th Tuesday of every month), beginning with the April board meeting. Exceptional candidates may be accepted for funding at any board meeting. Skippers accepted for funding will be notified on the 30th of that month. Requests that are not accepted at a monthly board meeting are held over to be reviewed in upcoming board meetings, along with any newly received requests.

The last possible date to submit a request for funding is 15 August, and the last review of requests will occur at the August board meeting. Should two skippers be selected for funding prior to 15 August, however, no further

applications will be accepted after their acceptance. Final authorization for funding from the WSA is contingent upon approval of the skipper(s) by the Long Beach Yacht Club Sailing Foundation, the organization administering control of the boats used in this regatta.

The skipper is entirely in charge of who will be on her crew, with the sole proviso that all crew members be members of the WSA at the time of the regatta. Skippers who have been accepted for funding by the WSA board will be announced to the general membership by email announcement, in the following month's newsletter and at the following month's general meeting (the second Tuesday of each month). WSA members are encouraged to contact skippers in order to seek a crew position.

Long Beach Sea Gals 2011 Program

By Judy-Rae Karlsen—Sea Gals Program Director

Events: Date / Time

1. Friday, August 05, 2011 5:00 -8:30 pm
2. Saturday, August 13, 2011 12:00-4:00 pm
3. Sunday, August 14, 2011 12:00-4:00 pm
4. Friday, August 19, 2011 5:00 -8:30 pm
5. Saturday, September 17, 2011 12:00-4:00 pm
6. Sunday, September 18, 2011 12:00-4:00 pm
7. Sunday, September 25, 2011 9:00 am-5:00 pm
Charity Regatta (racing)
8. Sunday, October 09, 2011 12:00-4:00 pm
9. October 21-23 Linda Elias Memorial Women's One Design (racing)
10. Saturday, November 05, 2011 12:00-4:00 pm

Contact "Sea Gals" at 562-355-8500 if you have questions and visit their website at: http://www.lbycsf.org/LBSF/LB_Sailing_Foundation.html



Gary, Rosalie, and crew enjoying a weekend cruise on "Green Dragon".

Photo by John Nelson

Honey Pot Day at Marina del Rey



**Got a holding tank?
Get emptied for FREE!**

**Mobile Pumpout Service
April - October 2011**

The Santa Monica Bay Restoration Foundation, in partnership with Department of Boating & Waterways, is providing free mobile pumpout service for boaters in Marina del Rey. Boaters must register in advance for a short, free informational seminar to receive a clean boating kit and a free mobile pumpout. The 30 minute seminars will be held weekday evenings and weekends.

We're raising awareness about mobile pumpout services as a viable and convenient option for sewage disposal and educating boaters about the adverse effects of sewage discharge.

To register, contact:

Victoria Ippolito
(213) 620-2271
vippolito@waterboards.ca.gov



bay restoration foundation
STEWARDS OF SANTA MONICA BAY

unding provided by the California Department of Boating and Waterways
Presented by the Santa Monica Bay Restoration Foundation



Upcoming Calendar of Events

<i>August 2011</i>	
3rd Wed	NO SUNSET SERIES
4th-7th Th-Su	Laser US Nationals—CYC
7th Sun	BBQ Race—SMWYC
9th Tues	WSA General Meeting
13th Sat	Tanneberg #2 Regatta—DRYC
14th Sun	Duke Jones One Design Regatta—SMWYC
19th Fri	Sundown Series—DRYC
23rd Tues	WSA Board Meeting
26th-28th Fr-Su	Martin 242 North Americans—CYC

<i>September 2011</i>	
3rd Sat	Outlaw Regatta, MdR to Seal Beach—SMWYC
7th Wed	Last Sunset Series—CYC
13th Tues	WSA General Meeting
17-18 Sat/Sun	Harris Regatta—CYC
21st Wed	After Sunset Series—SMWYC
24-25 Sat/Sun	ASMBYC Champion of Champions Regatta—ASMBYC/DRYC
27rd Tues	WSA Board Meeting
28th Wed	After Sunset Series—SMWYC

Racers: Be sure to review the 2011 ASMBYC Calendar at www.asmbyc.org
Day Sails: Day sails are usually on Saturdays and Sundays, but they are NOT listed on this calendar. Contact Dianne Christman at wsadaysails@gmail.com for up-to-date information!

WSA Website: www.wsasmb.org

WOW/WAH 2011...



WOW/WAH racers returning to Marina del Rey.

Photo by John Nelson

2011 WSA Board and Committee Chairs

Commodore: Christina Tarantola
commodore@wsasmb.org

Education Director: Midge Costin
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Treasurer: Fred Rossmeissl
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Fleet Captain: Diane Larson
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Cruise Chair: Diane Larson
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Race Chair: Mary Ho
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Day Sail Chair: Dianne Christman
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Social Director: Jennifer Zannelli
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Membership Chair: Sharon Breitling
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Publicity Chair: Barbara Palmer
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Webmaster: John Nelson
webmaster@wsasmb.org



**WOMEN'S SAILING ASSOCIATION
OF SANTA MONICA BAY, INC.
PO Box 10034
Marina del Rey, CA 90295**

WSA—on the water since 1985!

MISSION STATEMENT

To promote and support women's sailing based on the following principles:

- To provide educational opportunities;
- To provide information on gaining access to races, cruises and other Santa Monica Bay activities;
- To support "Youth in Sailing" community service programs;
- To support established sailing programs for women;
- To enhance networking opportunities