

# Gal' Warnings

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

December 2011

Volume XXVI, Issue 12

## Commodore's Corner

by Christina Tarantola

Hello Sailors and Happy Holidays!



How did it get to be December already? Thanksgiving came and went in a blink and here we are. As I pause for just a moment to look back and think about the year that is about to become history, I smile, especially as I think about my year as Commodore of WSA.

The club has had a great and vibrant 2011. We started it off with a bang when Santos Kreimann, director of Beaches and Harbors, spoke at our January meeting and told us of all the approved and pending development plans for the marina. I am hoping that he will come back again in 2012 to update us. Whether you support or oppose the projects, you have to have true and accurate information before you can form a valid opinion and choose if or how to get involved.

The rest of the year was smoother sailing as we cruised the world from Belize to Belgium. And lest we forget about safety, TLJG Stew Sibert, Commanding Officer of the U.S. Coast Guard Cutter Halibut, was here

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## January Speaker:

by Midge Costin, Education Chair

Our December meeting will feature our annual installation of the 2012 Board of Directors and a festive holiday dinner.

Our January Speaker will be Nancy Erley, Captain of two global circumnavigations. In 2006 Nancy was presented with the Leadership in Women's Sailing Award sponsored by BoatUS and the National Women's Sailing Association.

Her talk will be "One World, Twice Around," in which she will share the adventures of her all-women crews aboard her beloved Orca 38, *Tethys*, on two five-year circumnavigations of the world.

Nancy holds her USCG 50-ton Master of Oceans and 100-ton Master Near Coastal licenses, is an Instructor Evaluator-Ocean for the International Sail and Power Association, and an advanced scuba diver and delivery skipper. A life-long boater and instructor, Nancy currently works and resides in the Bay Area.



WSA's Holiday Elves were hard at work on this year's decorations for the boat parade.

Photo credit: Diane Larson



Bob and Coco's beautiful *Coco Puff* will be WSA's entry in this year's holiday boat parade.

Photo courtesy of: Coco Leigh

## Meeting Agenda for December 13, 2011

6:30 pm—Social Hour begins

7:30 pm—Holiday Dinner

8:30 pm—Installation of 2012 Board of Directors

## Mark Your Calendars, Upcoming WSA Race Clinics

By Mary Ho, WSA Race Chair

For many of us, the coming of the holidays means that we get really busy with family, friends, parties, and holiday get-togethers, and that often means that sailing falls on the wayside somewhat. I wanted to talk about some upcoming workshops in the next few months, so we can all have them in mind for the post-holiday season.

On January 14<sup>th</sup> is the annual WSA Race Clinic. We are still working on the theme, but it is looking like it will be about sail trim. Sail trim is one of those areas that you can tweak endlessly, and is so detail-oriented that it can really be a mystery to people. Small differences in sail shape and trim can make a big difference in how fast or slow a boat will go through the water. So if you happen to be one of those mystified by the nuances of sail trim, or you simply just want to learn more, attend our racing clinic on January 14<sup>th</sup>. More details will be upcoming on the website and through the WSA email lists.

On February 11<sup>th</sup>, WSA and Del Rey Yacht Club will be co-hosting a North U racing clinic. I'm sure everyone has heard of North Sails, one of the major sailmakers in the United States (and probably the world). North Sails is also dedicated to racing, and they have a line-up of rock star instructors who can give clinics on racing, and even cruising. The clinic we are having will be focused on the most current practices in racing trim and boat handling. These clinics are all-day affairs from 9am-4:30pm, and there is a cost. More details will upcoming once I can get flyers.

Here is a short bio on Steve LeMay, who will be teaching the North U racing clinic on February 11<sup>th</sup> at Del Rey Yacht Club:

Steve LeMay comes to us from Dallas, Texas. His experience in the J 80, J 105, Melges 32 and Mumm 30 class is extensive. Steve's campaign as trimmer on some of the leaders in these classes only enhances his teaching ability.

Steve has sailed and coached on several One Design, PHRF, IMS and IRC boats. More specifically, Steve helped write the original Melges 32 tuning guide with Harry Melges and Eric Hood formerly of North Sails Zenda.

Here are some of his recent victories:

- ◆ 3 time J80 North American champion (2000, 2005, 2008)
- ◆ Numerous J105 victories on the boats *Hoss*, *Wet Leopard* and *Trickster*
- ◆ 2006 Mumm 30 Great Lakes Champion on USA 55
- ◆ Top 4 finishes in Key West race week for 4 years straight on various boats
- ◆ 4th at 2005 J80 Worlds in Falmouth, England. Top US boat

- ◆ 2002, 2005 and 2007 J 80 Southern Circuit champion team
- ◆ Extensive experience on the Melges 32 . Read Steve's article on the North Sails website
- ◆ Numerous national, state and local championship wins. Farr 40, IMS, PHRF and Beneteau 33.7's

Steve also enjoys teaching our cruising classes. Having spent several months as a live-aboard, he loves the cruising aspect of the sport. In his off time, Steve is a private hot air balloon pilot and a critical care paramedic.

## Join SMWYC For Cool Jazz and Hot BBQ Every Sunday

If you aren't spending your Sunday afternoons at SMWYC, you're missing out. Every Sunday, Santa Monica Windjammers Yacht Club presents top notch jazz groups in the lounge. There is no cover charge.

The barbecue is fired-up with a menu that includes steaks, pork loin, chicken breast, Italian sausage, Bratwurst, hamburgers, hot dogs, and veggie brochettes; with prices ranging from \$7.00 to \$14.00. Add in all the extras and you have excellent food at excellent prices.

SMWYC provides the food and the BBQ grills and you cook for yourself (in rainy weather, the club will offer cooked hot dishes instead). The cash bar opens and food is available beginning at 3:00pm and music runs from 4:00pm until 7:00pm

View the sunset, listen to superb jazz musicians, have a couple of drinks and a great meal; what a perfect way to end a day of sailing. This is a standing invitation to all WSA members and their guests.

### ***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](http://www.overlandcafe.com)

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

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

— Send them to [Newsletter@WSASMB.org](mailto:Newsletter@WSASMB.org) —

*(Commodore's Corner continued from page 1)*

to tell us all about what we can do to stay safe on the water and what the Coast Guard does if we don't.

And so, here we are. The Holiday Boat Parade is this Saturday, December 10, and the WSA entry, under the leadership of Vice Commodore Coco Leigh, is shaping up to be a winner. The decorations are built and by 5 p.m. on parade day, *Coco Puff* is sure to be dressed up in all her Christmas Carnivale glory for a gorgeous and festive debut at the parade. It's not too late to be a part of all this fun. Join us on parade day, beginning at 8 a.m. to decorate the boat, located at Dock G700 off Bali Way, next to the Marina del Rey Hotel. Bring scissors or a box cutter if you can.

On Tuesday the 13th, I hope you'll join us at the Holiday Party and Installation Dinner where I will pass the gavel to Coco and welcome the talented group of Officers, Directors, and Chairs we elected in November. It is sure to be wonderful and delicious evening.

Giving back to WSA by accepting a position is a big job, but it's also fantastically rewarding. And so it has been for me. I thank all of you for your support and guidance during my year as Commodore. I look forward to continuing to serve WSA in other ways and helping my successors to keep WSA healthy and energetic.

I see only great things ahead for 2012. We have a

great leadership team and the membership is as talented and diverse as ever.

I wish everyone a happy and healthy holiday season and a safe and prosperous 2012.

See you on the water!



Women's Sailing Association of Santa Monica Bay  
2012 Commodore Coco Leigh

### **Contribute to the Santa Monica Bay Sailing Foundation while Shopping at Ralphs**

*By Fleet Captain Diane Larson*

If you are a Ralphs' grocery store shopper, please note that you can 'connect' your Ralphs Rewards Card to the Santa Monica Bay Sailing Foundation (SMBSF) through their fund-raising "Community Matters Program." It's a simple way to make a huge impact on a local foundation dedicated to the sailing community.

If you don't have a rewards card, they are free - just ask at the register next time you shop.

If you would like to learn more about SMBSF, check out their website at [www.smbfsf.org](http://www.smbfsf.org)

Here are instructions of how to connect your Ralph's Reward Card to this program:

- ◆ Go to [www.ralphs.com](http://www.ralphs.com)
- ◆ Log in to your Ralphs Rewards account or Create an Account
- ◆ once logged in, click on My Account, click on Community Rewards, enter Organization # 82356 for Santa Monica Bay Sailing Foundation



- ◆ Save.
  - OR, once you are logged in:
  - ◆ Click on Services
  - ◆ Click on Community Contributions
  - ◆ Click on "Participant Enroll," and complete information and enter Organization # 82356 for Santa Monica Bay Sailing Foundation (or choose Edit organization if you already have an organization selected), save.
- Thank you for your support!



**Happy Holidays from WSA!**

**Deadline Extended Until December 9th to Sign Up For the December 13th Holiday Party and Installation and Awards Banquet**

**But you can only sign up online!**

Go to [www.wsasmb.org](http://www.wsasmb.org) and click "2011 WSA Holiday and Installation Dinner." You can also buy Additional Raffle Tickets here too. We cannot sell dinners or raffle tickets at the door; only Online.

**FUN! FOOD! PRIZES!**

Come celebrate with Friends and your new WSA Board of Directors for 2012 on Tuesday December 13! The Location is the Santa Monica Windjammers Yacht Club – 13589 Mindanao Way; Marina del Rey, CA 90292. Cocktails and Social at 6:30pm. Dinner at 7:30pm.

We have a fantastic Holiday Party planned this year. We are continuing the Boat Parade theme of "Christmas Carnivale". We also have some great Raffle Prizes!

Our wonderful sit-down dinner is being catered by the Overland Café and includes:

- ◆ Gorgonzola Salad
- ◆ Choice of Entrée: Tri-Tip or Salmon or Chicken Carnivale
- ◆ Smashed Potatoes
- ◆ Garlic Green Beans
- ◆ Bread and Butter
- ◆ Festive "Carnivale" Cake

Dinner is only \$25 and includes 1 Raffle Ticket. You can purchase Additional Raffle Tickets when order your meal. Additional Raffle Tickets will be sold in sets of 5 for \$5.00 per set. Buy Extra Tickets!! We will be raffling off some great prizes!

**Please RSVP by December 9, 2011.** Dinner and Raffle Tickets must be purchased in advance. We cannot sell them at the door.

Payment option: Credit Card through Paypal on WSA website [www.wsasmb.org](http://www.wsasmb.org) ; click on Holiday Party button

**Holiday Boat Parade Volunteers Needed!**

*By Vice Commodore Coco Leigh*

Bob Falisey and Coco Leigh have offered their 50' catamaran, "Coco Puff," as the WSA entry in the Annual Marina del Rey Holiday Boat Parade. Fifty feet is a lot of boat, so we are going to need lots of hands to help decorate and sail on her!

This year's theme is "CHRISTMAS CARNIVALE". If you ever wanted to go to Rio for *Carnivale*, this is your chance. Our WSA team needs Planners, Designers, Decorators and enthusiastic party types to sail with us. We need all kinds of people with all kinds of skills. But, even if

you have NO Skills we can use you too.

Do you have Construction Skills? Electrical? Stage Craft? Music Mixer? Light String Untangler? Just Love Glitter? Or stand on deck and wave like the Queen? We can use you!

Guaranteed Fun and Free Food for All Volunteers! People who help with construction get first preference to sail on the boat the night of the parade.

**Schedule:**

Saturday, Dec. 10th, Boat Parade Day Decorating!

8:00a.m. until done or 5p.m (whichever comes first).

Dock G700 – Off Bali Way Next to Marina del Rey Hotel. Bring scissors or a box cutter if you can.

The Holiday Boat Parade starts at 5:55pm on Dec. 10 with fireworks and the parade begins at approximately 6:00pm. If you wish to ride on "Coco Puff," be sure to get on the list as space is limited and you must be at the dock before 5:00pm.

If you're interested in getting involved in any or all of these fun activities, contact me at [vicecommodore@wsasmb.org](mailto:vicecommodore@wsasmb.org) or 818-903-7685.



WSA's 2010 entry in the Holiday Boat Parade

**2012 Membership Renewal Reminder!**

Mark your calendar now to renew your WSA membership on January 1! This is a reminder that all memberships will expire on December 31.

Starting January 1, all membership forms and policies for next year will be updated on our website ([www.wsasmb.org](http://www.wsasmb.org) – click on Join WSA Today) and the renewal process will begin. Please do NOT use this year's forms for next year or they will be rejected!

As you can imagine, managing the membership process is a huge task for the WSA Board and Chairs. An effective date of January 1 allows us to keep the process as streamlined and efficient as possible, and it coincides with the turnover of the new Board/Chairs. For these reasons, we appreciate your understanding and patience to wait until January 1 to renew your membership.

We appreciate your participation in our organization and look forward to another fun year with all of you next year. If you have any questions on your membership, please contact the Membership Chair at [membership@wsasmb.org](mailto:membership@wsasmb.org).

*A few photos from the holiday boat parade preparation process...*



## NEW YEARS EVE AT SMWYC

### "PUTTIN' ON THE RITZ"

You are cordially invited to join us at SMWYC for our fabulous New Year's Eve celebration! Live Music and dancing by celebrated band "Wumbloozo" Please join us in formal 20s-30s speakeasy costume or contemporary formal, black or white tie. The ball will begin at 7:30pm cocktails, 8:30. Filet Mignon' and Shrimp Scampi dinner served at your table. Noisemakers, party favors and champagne at midnight.

Only \$75.00 per person

Mail check to Besim Bilman, 4260 Kenyon Ave,  
Los Angeles, CA 90066 by the Deadline

RSVP by December 15, 2011

By phone: 310.827.7692

By email: [reservations@smwyc.com](mailto:reservations@smwyc.com)

### Upcoming Calendar of Events

<i>December 2011</i>	
3rd Sat	Boat Parade Decoration Party—CHARLOTTE TARANTOLA office
10th Sat	BOAT PARADE—Dock G700
13th Tues	WSA Annual Installation Dinner and Holiday Party
<i>January 2012</i>	
7th Sat	Malibu & Return—Berger/Stein #1 DRYC
10th Tues	WSA General Meeting
14th Sat	WSA Race Clinic
21st Sat	Champagne Series—SBYRC
24th Tues	WSA Board Meeting

**Racers:** Be sure to review the 2011 ASMBYC Calendar at [www.asmbyc.org](http://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](mailto:wsadaysails@gmail.com) for up-to-date information!

**WSA Website:** [www.wsasmb.org](http://www.wsasmb.org)



**"Last Boat In"  
(December 2011)**

Photo credit: John Nelson

## 2011 WSA Board and Committee Chairs

**Commodore: Christina Tarantola**  
commodore@wsasmb.org

**Education Director: Midge Costin**  
education@wsasmb.org

**Treasurer: Fred Rossmeissl**  
treasurer@wsasmb.org

**Fleet Captain: Diane Larson**  
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**Cruise Chair: Diane Larson**  
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**Skippers Liaison: Karyn Jones**  
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**Social Chair: Kelly Weiss**  
events@wsasmb.org

**Communications Director: Michaela Draper**  
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**Newsletter Co-Editors: Sue Service & John Nelson**  
newsletter@wsasmb.org

**Historian: Christine King**

**Vice Commodore: Coco Leigh**  
vicecommodore@wsasmb.org

**Secretary: Patricia Rose**  
secretary@wsasmb.org

**Jr Staff Commodore: Susana Hernandez Araico**  
jrstaffcommodore@wsasmb.org

**Race Chair: Mary Ho**  
racing@wsasmb.org

**Day Sail Chair: Dianne Christman**  
daysails@wsasmb or wsadaysails@gmail.com

**Social Director: Jennifer Zannelli**  
social@wsasmb.org

**Membership Chair: Sharon Breitling**  
membership@wsasmb.org

**Publicity Chair: Barbara Palmer**  
pr@wsasmb.org

**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