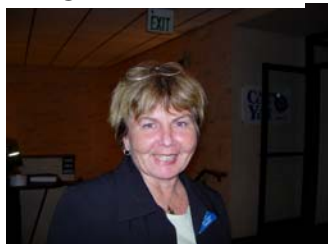


Gal' Warnings

COMMODORE'S QUARTERS



By Patti Eagan

Exciting Racing at the 2006 Mayor's Cup

Last year was the inaugural regatta for the Long Beach Mayor's Cup, a women's match racing event. WSA member Liz Hjorth won the 2005 regatta, and was invited back to defend her title in 2006. This year's regatta was now a Grade 2, and as such attracted the top women's match racing teams in the world. Many WSA members were out racing in the regatta, both on Liz's team and others, and several other members made it to Long Beach to watch the racing. Liz will be speaking at the August meeting about the 2006 regatta, and match racing in general. Liz says "if fleet racing is a foot race, then match racing is a boxing match". Come to the WSA meeting on Aug 8 to find out what she means. This is a great way to learn a little more about match racing, and you'll be ready to watch the America's Cup broadcasts in 2007!



Liz's team going upwind, just ahead of the Brazilian team

August 8: Liz Hjorth "Match Racing and the 2006 Mayor's Cup"

Sept 12: Cruising Panel

Social Hour 6:30, Business Mtg 7:30, Speaker 8pm

An Introduction to Cruising – WSA Style

By Leda Whitmer

When you were in school, I'm sure you dreamed of having the test answers in advance of a particularly challenging final exam.

As a new sailor, at times I feel overwhelmed by all of the new words and procedures. So when I was recently invited to cruise to Catalina with Fran Weber-Melville and John Melville on their Erickson 35 "Lightning", I was delighted to discover that they are certified ASA instructors with decades of

experience. They gently guided my friend Pam and I through the exercises we would face in our next class at the same site.

Simultaneously, they introduced us to magnificent snorkeling, prompted us to kayak to wondrous locales, hiked stupendous windswept trails, and regaled us with exotic tales of sailing the high seas.

John is an enthusiastic sailor and eagerly anticipates the opportunity to change the headsail as if a chocolate sundae was awaiting him at the bow. Fran patiently explains each task and impressed upon me the wisdom of not

trying to sail into the washing machine surrounding Point Conception.

Although we experienced sub gale force winds, Fran and John's extensive knowledge provided a secure anchor of confidence so that I could focus on learning how to best prepare for our predicament. To my surprise, this included advanced techniques in the cha-cha, swing, and contemporary dance moves at the local restaurant at the Isthmus.

However, during a spectacular lightning storm, I dubiously accepted their assurances that ours was not the tallest mast in the harbor. It seemed more likely that an errant thunderbolt might seek out its namesake.

Yet as the clouds broke, John captivated my attention by pointing out Mars amid a myriad of constellations. The next morning, Fran's blueberry pancakes soothed nerves that the Flopper Stopper could not.

In sum, this was an excursion that delighted all the senses, from sumptuous meals to frolicking dolphins. Thank you, Fran and John. I expect top scores in mooring this September when we take our ASA Bareboat Chartering class.

Cruising is definitely the way to go!

Some photos from this WSA cruise:



New Cruisers at the helm



Sailing *Lightning* off Catalina



Fran and John, dancing the night away

Calling All Leaders to Next Year's Board of Directors!!!

By Karyn Jones

Yes-it's that time of the year again when the Jr. Staff Commodore gets to go out into the membership and collect the names of all those who want to be a part of the action for next year's Board of Directors. For those of you who are new to WSA, this is one of the better ways to get to know what the club is all about. For those of you who are short to long term, and haven't been on the board, this is your opportunity to share your experience and knowledge with your club. Either way, it would be great to see more of the membership

involved in running WSA and any help, as always, would be greatly appreciated.

Here're the rules:

#1) you can't be Commodore unless you've held a board position for at least two years (one of those years as Vice Commodore).

#2) after a year on the Board in any position you can run for Vice Commodore.

#3) you must be a member in good standing. That's it-oh and did I mention that you don't have to be Commodore if it's not your thing (at least not right away...☺)?

Once again, here's the breakdown:

There are eight positions on the Board of Directors: Commodore, Vice Commodore, Communications Director, Membership Director, Fleet Captain, Treasurer, Secretary, Vice Commodore, Commodore, and Jr. Staff Commodore.

Not sure if you want to go to Board Meetings but still want to help? No problem! There are twelve positions in which you help the Board of Directors without having to go to board meetings: Newsletter, Publicity Chair, Historian, Webmaster, Membership/Database Chair, Social Chair, Education Chair, Cruise Chair, Daysail Chair, Race Chair, Skipper Liaison, and Quartermaster. Each one of these positions is crucial in helping WSA achieve its top potential and each position comes with specific duties designed to promote the club to the public and keep the club up to date within its own structure. Each one also gets to voice their ideas to the Board of Directors through the specific board member that they report to. It's that simple. You have an idea, you email or call the board member and they report it at the next board meeting.

So how about it? Are you willing to get on the boat and sail-or are you going to stand on the shore and watch the action from a beach chair-commenting on what you would do if it had been you in similar circumstances. Here is the chance for it to be you now-get on the WSA Board and carry your opinion into action. Make

WSA strong, riding out all stormy weather to fair winds and following seas

I hope to see an outstanding participation next year under the excellent guidance of Laura Guggenheimer. Please feel free to contact me via phone (in the roster) or email (kahunagecko@earthlink.net) should you have any interest or questions regarding the 2007 Board of Directors. Thanks for your participation!

Member spotlight: Liz Hjorth

By Sue Service



Liz Hjorth (member #13) has been a WSA since 1990. Liz was introduced to WSA by MdR sailing denizen Mike Priest. She was born into a sailing family, and has been sailing since childhood, but didn't get into keelboat racing until 1989, aboard a Martin 242. Her sailing accomplishments are legion, she's won the WOW, the Linda Elias Memorial Women's One Design Regatta (twice), she's done Transpac twice (and in 1997 achieved 3rd overall on *Stealth Chicken*). This year she won the Cruising Class for the SDYC Puerto Vallarta race, aboard *Free Range Chicken* (ba-CAWK, guess Liz likes poultry ☺), and went back to PV with the WSA team to win the women's regatta in the Capri 37's. She first got into match racing in 2001, when a crew member suggested they attend a clinic in Texas as prep for their Rolex Women's Keelboat Championship campaign. It turns out the clinic was about match racing, and after the clinic their team participated in the Sundance Cup, where they got second place. Since then Liz has been learning as much about match racing as she can, and she'll be sharing that knowledge with us at the August meeting.



Liz's crew for the 2006 Mayor's Cup. From left to right: Karyn Jones, Denise George, Shala Lawrence, Sue Service, Liz Hjorth, Marylyn Hoememeyer and Stine Cacavas. All but Shala (who lives in San Diego) are WSA members!



Commodore Patti Eagan and Stine Cacavas at post-race hospitality during the 2006 Mayor's Cup. Patti crewed on Katy Lovell's team. Katy skippered the WSA entry in the 2005 Linda Elias Memorial Women's One Design Regatta, and is a WSA member also. WSA Race Chair Kim Stuart crewed for Charlie Arm's team, but at press time we didn't have a photo ☹.

Race Report

By Kim Stuart WSA Race Co-Chair

Did someone get that flag?

Wow, July's pretty much over and what a busy month it's been around SoCal for racing. The first weekend of the month heralded the Marina del Rey to San Diego race, *Survive the Night*, and *Sparta* apparently cleaned up on all the hardware fronts, actually beating the race committee to the finish line.

Next up was the WOW/WAH Regatta and the Martin 242 helmed by Stine Cacavas took top honors overall again this year. Karyn Jones, Kathy Patterson and Barbara Duker rounded out the team. What a great weekend on the water, since contrary to the usual fluky winds in the Marina, we had a steady breeze of around 10 kts with some medium chop. All the races were run with some very hot competition in the classes.

Mid-month brought the Mayors Cup to LBYC, and some of the top female match racers in the world were present for the tight racing off Belmont Pier. Day 1 saw 4 teams with tied records – Australian Katie Spithill, Frenchwoman Claire LeRoy, SoCal's Liz Hjorth and Newport RI's Sandy Hayes. The French skipper is currently ranked 1st in the world, so it was somewhat of a surprise to see her soundly in second place behind the Aussie team on Friday's end. Winds were lighter than usual for Long Beach on each day (and certainly nothing like the 22 kts plus of sustained wind that Long Beach Race Week saw on two different days) and racing so close to the pier meant the chop and current weren't as important in the overall race prep either.

Mayors Cup is a match race – meaning that only two boats race each other at one time. There are 8 boats in the Catalina 37 fleet owned by the Long Beach Sailing Foundation, creating 4 starts and 4 separate matches during each flight. The regatta was scored as a double round robin, where each team faced off twice, something that would definitely come into play for the final standings on Saturday.

Saturday. Breakfast at Gladstone's, one of the event sponsors, had everyone wondering

aloud about the wind, which seemed to be building early. So much for hoping, since the wind died about the time the boats left the dock to head to the race course, and we spent the next 3 hours scanning the water, the sky and the start of the LBYC Catalina race going on outside the breakwater. The sun was blistering, the sails weren't moving, and most of the boats resorted to motoring around the venue to try and keep cool. A group of Mdr spectators made a quick trip to the grocery and tossed boxes of popsicles and ice cream cones from the pier to the boats as they passed by. What a treat that was!

Finally racing got underway on a very shortened course around 1.30 in the afternoon and it seemed like the first race was over (mercifully for some boats) before it had really started. With 10 races finished by Friday afternoon, Saturday's final 4 was a welcome break.

The last start of the last flight on Saturday, to finish the regatta, was between the Aussies and the French, and interestingly enough, the French girls trailed the Aussie team by 1 point, and had also lost to the Aussie team in the first flight. Sailing the twice up and down course was a near dead heat for the two teams.

Match racing is also about rules, and the rules for match racing are slightly varied from the RRS for fleet racing. There are umpires for each match who watch the boats and call the penalties. If a boat fouls but the umpires do not flag it, then it's like no penalty actually occurred. Baiting the opponent into making a mistake is half the game, and having control of the racecourse is paramount to winning the match.

In the last downwind leg of Saturdays final match, the French managed to come up just ahead of the Aussies in a gybing duel to the finish. LeRoy crossed the finish line ahead of Spithill and in doing so, tied up the scoring. On the tie-breaker, the French had won the last

match over the Australians and in doing so, won the overall regatta.

The month wasn't over yet, though, SCCYC hosted their annual One Design Weekend the third weekend of the month and endured the same sort of conditions on Sunday as we had in Long Beach during the delay on the last day of Mayors Cup. Little wind, less wind, no wind. Mercifully they abandoned the second race on Sunday and we enjoyed their excellent hospitality at the club afterwards!

Last but not least, please remember that we are accepting resumes for those who wish to be considered for the WSA team being fielded for the Linda Elias Women's One Design Regatta in October. Please email those to me directly (kim.stuart@comcast.net).

WSA Skipper of the Month....Andy Fried

By Fran Weber-Melville



Andy Fried is our skipper extraordinaire who hides out in Oxnard with his almost new sail boat...he put a bunch of unexpected funds into his boat project last year... statements from the boat yard personnel. 'Oh, Andy...and one more thing...' kept his boat out of the water and kept him working a lot of extra hours...but now...he has a boat that is worth shouting about...so when you see him at the meetings...make sure you ask the details about his refurbishing project and be ready for some chat time!!!

Other than sail boating, Andy is an avid cross country skier, has kayaked to some great places. Andy, John Melville, Diane Hubner and myself had a spectacular time kayaking around Santa Barbara Island last October...we could have not done it without our buddy Andy. He also has a home up in Mammoth that he has done a lot of work to and it is perfectly gorgeous! In his spare time he also makes his own version of Two Buck Chuck! So if you ever have a desire for purple feeties and want to help him with his wine making...Andy is your man!

Day Sail Daze

By: *Laura Guggenheimer*

July was a great month for WSA members out on the water. In July we had a total of 6 day sails! Jeannea Jordan went out for two sails; one sunset cruise on Friday, July, 21st and another day sail on Sunday, July 31st. Kay Miller was also out on the water for two day sails; one on Saturday, July 1st and the other on Saturday, July 15th, Antoinette O'Connor was day sail captain on both trips. Kay was going for three day sails in the month of July but unfortunately had to cancel her July 29th sail due to a lack of experienced sailors on the crew ☹. George Maronich was back in the day sail program this month after being away for a while and had a sunset cruise on Friday, July 28th. And last but not least, Wayne Brandow went out on the water for a sail on Saturday, July 15th.

The following day sails are scheduled for the month of August...

Wayne Brandow – Olson 30'

August 12 (Saturday @ 12noon)

August 13 (Sunday @ 12noon)

Kay Miller – Catalina 38'

August 12 (Saturday @ 11am)

That is all for now but keep your eyes peeled on your email for more day sails to come for the month of August.

BayKeeper Beach Party

By *Fran Weber Melville*

Founded in 1993, the Santa Monica Baykeeper's mission is to protect and restore the Santa Monica Bay, San Pedro Bay and adjacent waters through enforcement, fieldwork, and community action. Join us for a Beach Party and Cleanup on August 20 with a catered lunch on the beach by the Library Alehouse. Bring your friends and family and join Santa Monica Baykeeper for a beach party and cleanup at Dockweiler State Beach. After a quick 30-minute beach cleanup, and some good old-fashioned beach frolicking Southern California style, we'll enjoy a delicious lunch catered by Library Alehouse. Bring your Boogie boards, frisbees, volleyballs, etc., and join us on August 20 for a day of fun in the sun on the beautiful Santa Monica Bay. Date: Sunday, August 20 Time: 10:00am - 2:00pm Location: Dockweiler State Beach, just north of Imperial HWY. Look for the Baykeeper sign near lifeguard tower 53. Parking: You can park in the Dockweiler State Beach parking lot for a flat rate of \$7. Free parking is also available on the east and west sides of Vista del Mar, north of Imperial HWY. There's a stairway down to the beach near lifeguard tower 53. **RSVP: by calling Kathleen at 310-822-4522. Please let us know by August 16 if you'll be joining us, and if so, how many folks you'll be bringing.** We wish to thank the Library Alehouse in Santa Monica for selecting Santa Monica Baykeeper as its next non-profit organization of the month. During the month of August, 1% of all sales will be donated to Santa Monica Baykeeper to support our efforts to protect and restore the Santa Monica and San Pedro Bays and surrounding waters. Go to www.smbaykeeper.org for more info!

Upcoming Calendar of Events

...August 2006

4-5 Fri/Sat	Santa Barbara to King Harbor Race
8 th Tues	WSA General Meeting
13 th Sunday	Jennifer Diamond Charity Regatta
24-27 th	J/105 North American Championships – sponsored by CYC
End of July	WSA Cruise to Shoreline Marina in Long Beach

...September 2006

6th Weds	Sunset Series Ends
9-10th Sat/Sun	Harris Series Regatta – CYC
12th Tues	WSA General Meeting
15th Fri	Sundown Series Race – DRYC
16th Sat	Man/Woman Series #1 – SBYRC
17th Sun	Inverted Start Cruiser Handicap #5 – SMWYC
24th Sun	Man/Woman Series #2 - SBYRC

Racers – be sure to review a copy of the 2006 ASMBYC calendar – you can get a copy at <http://www.asmbyc.org>

Daysails: Daysails take place on Saturdays and Sundays, and are not listed on this calendar – contact Laura Guggenheimer (wsadaysails@gmail.com) for up to date information!

2006 WSA BOARD and COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Commodore

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commodore@wsasmb.org

Vice Commodore

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Secretary

Barbara Marbach

Treasurer

Karen Kuchel

J/S Commodore

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**WOMEN'S SAILING ASSOCIATION
Of SANTA MONICA BAY, INC.
P.O. Box 10034
Marina del Rey, CA 90295**

MISSION STATEMENT:

- To promote and support women's Sailing based on the following principles:
- To provide education 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; and
- To enhance networking opportunities.

<http://www.wsasmb.org>.....Women's Sailing Assoc of Santa Monica Bay