

# Gal' Warnings

## COMMODORE'S QUARTERS



By Laura Guggenheimer

What a year it has been? It is hard to believe that another year has passed and my term as your Commodore is coming to a close. It has been a good year and I couldn't have done it without all of you. Thanks to the 2007 Board of Directors and Chairpersons for outstanding effort this year and a job well done. We didn't have any drama and I think that the overall spirit of the club is alive and very happy. I look forward to 2008 under the capable leadership of Sue Service.

2008 is already shaping up to be a phenomenal year. We already have a couple clinics in the works for early next year and I there are several new programs that have been pitched to the board ranging from mentoring programs to interesting speakers. You don't want to miss out. Let's make 2008 even better than 2007 by all of us making an effort to volunteer whatever time we might have in our



*The men of WSA – anyone for calendar ☺*

**Dec 11: Installation Dinner and Holiday Party!**

**6:30pm social hour and appetizers, dinner and program to follow**

tight schedules to make WSA the best club it can possibly be.

Let's not forget to enjoy the rest of the year with WSA. The boat parade is Saturday, December 8<sup>th</sup> and the Installation Dinner follows shortly afterward on the 11<sup>th</sup>. The it's on to

2008 with our first meeting scheduled for Tuesday, January 8<sup>th</sup>. As always, the second Tuesday of every month.

Just a reminder... Please try to renew your membership for next year early! The deadline to renew dues for next year is by the

February meeting without a late penalty of \$10. This penalty only exists to motivate you to pay early. WSA relies on your dues to operate the club.

Have a safe and happy holiday season and I look forward to seeing you next year!

## Race Report

By Joan Chandler, Co-Race Chair

It's hard for me to believe, but as of spring 2008 I will have lived in Southern California for ten years! This time of the year – peak gloominess in my home town of Seattle – I am

always reminded how lucky we are to live here. In those almost ten years, I have become accustomed to the rhythm of the racing season ..... this time of year is the quiet low .... almost hibernation.

Some new events have come along attempting to infuse some life into the season. CYC's inaugural race of its Winter Sunset Series was held on November 11<sup>th</sup>. Future Winter Sunset races are scheduled for December 9<sup>th</sup>, January 12<sup>th</sup> and February 9<sup>th</sup>.

November 11<sup>th</sup>, I watched from the Owen Churchill, x-flag in hand, as about 25 boats in four fleets drifted over the start line in light breeze. The PRO wisely set a short course and almost the entire fleet managed to make it around J mark and ghost down the channel to finish at the club. I saw soon to be WSA Commodore Sue Service on the newest Mumm 30 in town, the Schmidt/Powers *Frequent Flyer*, finishing in second place in the A fleet. WSA members close behind included Marylyn Hoenemeyer on the third place boat and Monica Antola in fourth on her Mumm *Clockwork*. Other WSA members were out as well – including Paula Cameron in the B fleet on her boat *Trust Me* – reported to soon be a two boat owner with new entry into the Martin fleet.

And speaking of the Martin fleet, the Homeport Regatta was again won by a Martin 242 in the PHRF fleet. Wait! The same Martin, Jim Durden's *Zip* has won the PHRF fleet the past three years with a series of new drivers. This year, WSA's Mary Stuyvesant was at the helm and her crew included WSA's Kelly Cantley, the prior year winning driver. Quick someone get in touch with Jim and sign up to helm the boat for Homeport next year – it's a good one!

And Kelly Cantley, never one to sit still, took 3<sup>rd</sup> place in the Lido B fleet at ABYC's Turkey

Day regatta. WSA member Michaela Draper was her crew.

So, December will also be a sleepy month as far as racing goes. But don't neglect to watch the boat parade to be held on both December 7<sup>th</sup> and December 8<sup>th</sup>. WSA's entry is sure to be terrific!

And enjoy the Holidays! Also known as the calm before the racing storm that begins again in January.

### WSA remembers: Dorothea Brandt

*By Sue Service*



*Dorothea at the 2006 Installation Dinner, with longtime friend and WSA member Richard Jensen*

I am sad to report that WSA member Dorothea Brandt passed away last month. Dorothea was a wonderful person, and participated in many WSA activities.

Dorothea led a rich life. After graduating from Mt Holyoke college, and decided to travel the world, initially for a few months to a year. That turned into five years, and she spent much of her time in the middle east. Dorothea was an intrepid adventurer, and she caused quite a stir by being the first female gas station attendant in Lebanon.

After she returned to the US she worked in nursing, and then real estate. She was relatively new to sailing, but I remember the enthusiasm with which she took to a Schock 35 for a sail trim clinic with Pease Glaser. We'll all miss her spirit and grace here at WSA.

### Surprise Cruise Report

*Article by Janet Davis, photos by Mike Gitchell*

After receiving final instructions by radio the morning of November 8, four boats took off on this year's WSA Surprise Cruise- to King Harbor (no!, not the closed hospital!). After an easy sail down the coast, "Farr Gone", skippered by Rick Ruskin (crew Mike Gitchell and Janet Davis), labored to put out bow and stern anchors in the teflon mud just behind the breakwater.

Tying up alongside were "Lightning", skippered by intrepid Cruise Planner Fran Weber-Melville (crew John Melville, Pamela Grimes and Rosemary Donato), "My Time II" with Captain George Maroncich (crew Brennan Gray, Susanna Hernandez and Diane Larson), and Captain Matt Farnsworth's boat (crew Diane Destiny and Ken Brown).

We all met in Rick's spacious cockpit for Happy Hour, enjoying our potluck hors d'oeuvres, the beautiful sunset and our tranquil anchorage. We had pizza and salad delivered for dinner. Regrettably there is no water taxi pizza delivery there, so John and George rowed the damp and dangerous inflatable to shore, protecting their tasty cargo from the depredations of seagulls, harbor patrol and harbor seals on the journey back.

After dinner entertainment included DVDs on Rick's big screen tv. The vintage Avengers episode may have been funnier than Ellen Degeneres' stand-up show. Better yet, was

Fran's fashion show; sock monkey pajamas and traffic cone headgear (see page 5 for a fabulous photo of Fran!)

We met the next morning on "My Time II" for the quick hop to shore and breakfast at King Harbor YC. Upon finding the galley there unexpectedly closed, we walked up the bikepath to Scotty's at Hermosa Beach Pier. With good appetites from our hike, we enjoyed both our hearty breakfasts and each others' company. Afterward, Fran worked in an educational element, urging us to tour the Redondo Beach Aquarium.

Thank you, Fran, for organizing this fun event! Thank you, Captains Matt, George, Rick and John for having us aboard! We all enjoyed both the sailing and the camaraderie.





## Women's Sailing Convention February 2, 2008

The Southern California Yachting Association's Women's Sailing Convention will be held in Marina del Rey this year, at Del Rey Yacht Club, on 2 Feb 2008. The convention typically draws about 250 women from all over SoCal and beyond. The day includes numerous dockside and on-the-water clinics, all geared towards a variety of skill levels and subject matters. You can register on-line starting Dec 20. Register early, as the convention **always** sells out quickly! Go to <http://wsscya.scyaweb.org/> starting 20 Dec to register and choose your classes. This is a great day of camaraderie and learning, don't miss it!

## SMWYC Toy Drive

*The Women of SMWYC* hope you will open your hearts to our annual **Firefighters' "Spark of Love" Toy Drive**. Please bring an unwrapped new toy to the club for your holiday donation. You may drop it in the big box at our Installation Dinner, or if you can't make that, you may drop it off any other time SMWYC is open.

## 45<sup>th</sup> Annual MdR Holiday Boat Parade



Above is our entry from 2006, Karyn Jones' boat *Outrageous* decorated as a winter wonderland. Come out this Sat, Dec 8, and see what we do to Rick Ruskin's boat!!

## Upcoming Calendar of Events

### December 2007

8 <sup>th</sup> Sat	Marina del Rey Boat Parade
11 <sup>th</sup> Tues	WSA Installation Dinner and Holiday Party

### January 2008

5 <sup>th</sup> Sat	Berger #1 Malibu & Return DRYC
8 <sup>th</sup> Tues	WSA General Meeting
12 <sup>th</sup> Sat	Champagne Series 1-3 SBYRC
13 <sup>th</sup> Sun	Winter Sunset Series CYC
26 <sup>th</sup> Sat	Champagne Series 4-5 SBYRC
29 <sup>th</sup> Tues	WSA Board Meeting

**Racers** – be sure to review a copy of the 2007 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 Dianne Christman ([wsadaysails@gmail.com](mailto:wsadaysails@gmail.com)) for up to date information!

**Cruise Chair Fran Weber Melville enjoying breakfast at the surprise cruise**



## 2007 WSA BOARD and COMMITTEE CHAIRS

### *Commodore*

Laura Guggenheimer  
[commodore@wsasmb.org](mailto:commodore@wsasmb.org)

### *Vice Commodore*

Sue Service  
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### *Secretary*

Avghi Constantinides

### *Treasurer*

Karen Kuchel

### *J/S Commodore*

Patti Eagan  
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### *Cruise Chair*

Fran Weber-Melville  
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### *Daysail Chair*

Diane Christman  
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### *Membership Chair*

Libby Gill  
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### *Education Director*

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### *Communications Director*

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### *Race Co-Chairs*

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### *Social Director*

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### *Webmaster*

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### *Skipper Liaison*

John Melville  
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### *Historian*

Sandra Canalis

**WOMEN'S SAILING ASSOCIATION  
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#### **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**