

Gal' Warnings

COMMODORE'S QUARTERS



By *Laura Guggenheimer*

January has been a great month for sailing. Where most of the country is blanketed in snow, or is at least too cold to sail; we lucky Southern Californians are out on the water enjoying our favorite sport. The year started off with the Berger 1 race – Malibu and Return. I was not in town to participate but I heard it started out promising and turned into a drifter where most boats retired early from competition. Kudos are in order for Wayne Brandow who finished the race AND managed to sail back to his slip! Nice work Wayne! Later on in the month the Champagne Series began with races held on the 13th and 27th. Not bad for January.

Dianne Christman is getting settled into her job as the new Day Sail Chair. She organized sails for Wayne Brandow and John Melville this month. Dianne has a lot of energy and is going to do a great job.



2006 Daysail captains honored at the Installation dinner

The board started off the New Year with even more energy than I even expected. We made a lot of progress with developing formal guidelines for boat selection for the Linda Elias Memorial Women's One Design Challenge race held every October in Long

Beach. Thanks to Tina Claps for

drafting the original document and recognizing that WSA needed guidelines for this process. The board at our first meeting of 2007 reviewed this document, made corrections and the board will vote on this issue in February. I was impressed with the

vigor and efficiency of Karen Kuchel, Sue Service and Kim Stuart for attacking this issue, making excellent points and getting this issue wrapped up so early in the year. The 2007 WSA board cannot be stopped! Thanks to all.

WSA is in need of a hospitality chair. Milka Alexandrino is our Social Director for 2007 and without a hospitality chair Milka needs to recruit someone to volunteer to provide us dinner at every general meeting. This seems like a large task but it is surprisingly enough pretty easy to feed ~60 people. Please consider volunteering to bring

**February 13: Learn to Sail:
Resources in Marina del Rey to
help you learn to sail or improve
your skills!**

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

the dinner for the general meeting just once this year. We cannot depend upon Karyn Jones to pick up the slack for us. WSA has a guide of where we go to get food, recipes that are easy to prepare in SMWYC's galley and instructions. And of course, everything is reimbursable. The board and the members would be so grateful. Please contact Milka Alexandrino for details at events@wsasmb.org

Renew your membership for 2007 muy pronto!

A friendly reminder that WSA memberships expired in 2006. Renew before February's general meeting (13 Feb) to avoid a \$10 late fee!! At WSA's web site (www.wsasmb.org), look on the left for "membership" and you can find a pdf of the membership form, and an address to mail in your completed form and check. Or, just renew at the January meeting!

News from the Race Co-Chair

By Joan Chandler

Ah, the 2007 racing season has begun! Time to start practicing for and thinking about the WOW regatta!

Personally, I did not race on the first 2007 Berger race held on January 6th. DRYC was happy to see it was a beautiful day with record attendance. But the wind apparently was a bit of a disappointment and several fleets had some DNF boats.

The following Saturday was the first of the three days in the Champagne series. The wind saved up for that day apparently as we had plenty! I personally was aboard the Schock 35 *Voodoo Doll* with WSA Race Co-Chair Kim Stuart and the rest of the crew including WSA member Michaela Draper. We started the day at the dock with a re-naming ceremony for the boat formerly known as *Booyaa*, complete with the necessary steps for such a ceremony, including the requisite bottle of champagne smacked across the bow. Appropriate for the Champagne Series after all, no?

The day brought unusual wind conditions with a strong cold breeze coming over the hill from the northeast. The forecast predicted a shift to a more normal WNW direction expected to settle in at 10-15. We started the first race in a goodly amount of breeze, maybe 15 to 17 knots, and choppy water. After the first loop, the wind shifted and shut off and the SBYRC race committee wisely abandoned the race. Aha! we think – the wind is doing as expected – now shift west and we will be happy. But no – it came back with a vengeance – a cold, strong breeze from the north. Fellow sailors reported puffs over 20, including our pal Kelly Cantley, braving the bow on *Power Play*.

Using Course Chart 16, we had to study to see what mark "R" was – a not often used position for an inflatable. So the 24 boats in five fleets were off again in strong breeze for what was the first scored race of the day. Kim did a valiant job of keeping the boat under the spinnaker in the shifty, puffy breeze. There was a second race, however, we did not compete in that one as said chute had a mishap in a takedown.

A fun day was had by all! The racing community is looking forward to the next two days of the Champagne Series, January 27th and February 3rd. Then, the 78th Annual SCYA Midwinter Regatta – a major Southern California regatta held in harbors from Santa Barbara to San Diego on February 17th and 18th. Thirty-two yacht clubs are involved in this event - last year there were 612 entries in 56 one-design and 25 PHRF fleets (not to mention predicted log racing and model boat competition). Note to racers: keep on the lookout for boats needing crew and racers looking for rides for that busy weekend.

Other shoreside activities are coming up as well: Women's Sailing Convention on February 3rd at Bahia Corinthian, Race Management Seminar on February 10th at California Yacht Club, and Performance Racing Seminar on February 22nd at Santa

Monica Windjammers. And don't forget SMWYC is also running a Start Clinic on February 24th. All sorts of opportunities to learn and tune up skills.

Member spotlight: Diane Larson

By Sue Service



Diane Larson is WSA's 2007 Communications Director. Diane started sailing in 2005 by taking lessons at UCLA's Marina Aquatic Center. She joined WSA in 2006, and immediately started pitching in to help where it was needed.

She has been active in day sails, and is starting to get involved with racing, with 3 regattas under her belt. One of her favorite experiences thus far as racing with Wayne Brandow on his Olsen 30 for the Turkey Day regatta in Long Beach in November. It was her first time in the "pit" position. Her goals for this year are to keep learning and to get more active in the sailing community in any way she can (day sails, racing, volunteering for race committee – Diane is going to be a popular gal!). She also looks forward to her year on the board of WSA, and helping to make it a great year for all members.

Diane and her yellow lab, Haley, moved here from Minnesota three years ago. She works for the SPAR Group merchandising company as a Client Services Director. When not working or sailing, you can find her walking/biking/worshipping the sun at the

beach. She also volunteers to clean the beach whenever she can!

A message from the Board about General Meetings and Nametags

As we are guests of the SMWYC, we must at all times identify ourselves with nametags while we are using their facility. Libby has graciously offered to make new name tags for all members joining this year. They will be the type that we had before with the heavy paper card in the plastic sleeve. For the February meeting, those members who have paid by January 31 will have a name tag waiting for them at the desk in the notebooks we used in the past. Those who have not yet paid or who paid after January 31 will be given a handwritten, stick-on name tag.

Members must either put the name tag back in the notebook after the meeting or be personally responsible for wearing it at the next meeting. Beginning with the March meeting, there will be a \$1 charge to issue a stick-on name tag if you have forgotten your nametag, or if a replacement must be made.

February's Program: Learn to Sail Night at Women's Sailing Association (WSA)

By: Karyn Jones, Education Director

Have you ever wanted to learn how to bring a boat into the dock under sail but don't have the boat or the dock to practice with? Have you ever thought "I can do this" until you take the tiller? Do you know what a tiller is? Do you have a log book filled with hours but no Captain's license?

Do you want to learn how to sail?

Come to the Women's Sailing Association's "Learn How to Sail" Expo. Yes it's true and it's not our club that will teach you how. This lucky February the 13th the local sailing school talent of Marina del Rey comes

to WSA as a panel of experts to explain the “ins” and “whys” of sailing school. Come hear sailing made easy through training from Blue Water Sailing, Blue Pacific Sailing, Fairwinds Yacht Club, UCLA, Marina Sailing and California Sailing Academy and find out how to get on board and start sailing.

Whether it is learning how to step on a boat without falling in the drink, chartering a boat to Catalina and beyond, or obtaining your 50 ton Captain's license, these schools can make it happen.

2006 WSA Treasurer's Annual Report

by Karen Kuchel, Treasurer

Financially, 2006 was a good year for WSA. Our goal was to match our income to our operating expenses and we were able to meet that goal.

In round numbers, our revenues were \$10,523 and our operating expenses were \$10,387 for a net income of \$136. Our largest source of income is member dues which totaled \$8,659. Other income sources include racing clinics, logo wear sales and interest. The Summer Party and Installation Dinner generated \$1,475 in income. However, the cost for these functions was \$2,211, so dues monies were needed to support the additional \$736 cost.

Our ongoing support of two annual racing events, the WOW/WAH and Linda Elias Memorial, totaled \$1,310. This amount also included our annual fee to ASMBYC for buoy maintenance in the Santa Monica Bay.

Other expenses included the annual Boat Parade (\$475), storage facilities (\$978), membership dues and donations to various yachting associations (\$497), the annual insurance premium (\$975), website maintenance and license (\$190), P.O. Box rental and postage/printing costs for membership materials (\$997), newsletter printing and mailing costs (\$418), and the cost

of food and room rent for monthly meetings (\$2,336).

Hopefully, in 2007 we will be able to grow in membership and continue to match our income to our expenses. Growth would mean increased support for activities that promote women's sailing, be it day sails, racing or cruising. Growth also insures support for our ongoing programs that encourage women sailors to socialize, learn, and build lasting relationships.

Organization of the WSA Board

There has been some confusion about the organization and composition of the board of directors of the WSA. According to our by-laws, the Board of directors is comprised of the elected officers and directors. The officers are:

- Commodore
- Vice Commodore
- Junior Staff Commodore
- Secretary
- Treasurer

The directors are:

- Communications Director
- Education Director
- Fleet Captain
- Social Director

Each Director may have a number of chairs that report to them, however these chairs are not officially part of the board of directors. WSA chair positions include:

- Cruise Chair, Daysail Chair, Race Chair and Skipper Liason (all reporting to the Fleet Captain)
- Membership Chair and Hospitality Chair (reporting to the Social Director)
- Historian and Webmaster (reporting to the Communications Director)
- Quartermaster (reporting to the Treasurer)
- Newsletter editor – works with them all

The persons currently holding these positions are listed on the back of the newsletter!

Upcoming Calendar of Events

...February 2007

3 rd Saturday	Champagne series regatta #3 SBYRC Women's Sailing Convention SCYA
10 th Sat	Race Management – CYC
13 th Tues	WSA general meeting SMWYC
17 th -18 th Sat/Sun	SCYA Midwinters regatta – various venues
22 nd Thurs	Performance Sailing Seminar SMWYC
27 th Tues	WSA Board Meeting - SMWYC
24 th Sat	Start Clinic SMWYC

...March 2007

10 th Sat	Berger Series #2 Topanga and return – DRYC
13 th Tues	WSA general meeting SMWYC
17 th -18 th Sat/Sun	MdR Opening Day
21 st Weds	ASMBYC Racer's Forum – CYC 7pm
22 nd Thurs	NOSA Ensenada Race Seminar – SMWYC
24 th -25 th	Les Storrs regatta SCCYC
27 th Tues	WSA Board Meeting SMWYC
29 th Thurs	Racing Rules 102 Seminar – SMWYC
31 st -1 st Sat/Sun	Spring Keelboat Regatta - CYC

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) for up to date information!

2007 WSA BOARD and COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Commodore

Laura Guggenheimer
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

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Daysail Chair

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Membership Chair

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Education Director

Karyn Jones
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Communications Director

Diane Larson
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Newsletter

Sue Service
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Race Co-Chairs

Kim Stuart & Joan Chandler
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Social Director

Milka Alexandrino
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Webmaster

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Historian

Sandra Canalis

**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