

# *Gal' Warnings*

## **COMMODORE'S QUARTERS**



*By Laura Guggenheimer*

The sailing season is in full swing in SoCal. The weather is fantastic and WSA members are well represented out on the water in

Marina del Rey. I hope that you are getting out on the water as much as possible.

I would like to welcome 5 new members to WSA who joined during our May 20<sup>th</sup> membership drive which happened to be cancelled Friday, May 18<sup>th</sup> due to a lack of public response. I would like to thank current WSA members, Wayne Brandow, Chris Tarantola, Avghi

Constantinedes and Diane Larson for making the effort to go to the SCCYC in the morning of May 20<sup>th</sup> in case someone showed up. As it turned out, 5 people did show up and we were able to convince them to join WSA! Welcome to WSA.

Argh!!!!!! Our summer party is coming up next month during our normal monthly meeting. The theme is a "Pirate Party". It will be a potluck dinner costing you nothing but the price of a dish to share. Never fear, if you don't have time to cook something or pick something up... it will just cost you the price of a non-member general meeting



*Michaela Draper jumping a halyard on the way to Ensenada*

charge of \$10. WSA will supply grilling items such as hot dogs, burgers, veggie burgers and the fixins'. Think of your favorite dish to share and sign up at the June meeting. We are also encouraging people to dress up for the evening as a pirate or wench.... It should be a great time! We are also planning to have a raffle with great prizes... There will be other games for the evening, including a treasure hunt...

### **Email List Sign-Up**

Did you know that WSA has

email lists that you can subscribe to? WSA

has two email lists, one for General Announcements and the other for Racing Announcements. There is another one for the Board of Directors which is only for the Board of Directors.... If you would like to get on

that one, please see Patti Eagan for available board positions for the 2008 board ☺. Anyway, it is really easy to get on these lists but you have to sign up yourself. Please go to the following links and follow the directions. If you have any questions regarding this procedure please contact me, Laura Guggenheimer at [commodore@wsasmb.org](mailto:commodore@wsasmb.org)

General Announcement List:

[http://wsasmb.org/mailman/listinfo/announcements\\_wsasmb.org](http://wsasmb.org/mailman/listinfo/announcements_wsasmb.org)

Racing Announcement List:

[http://wsasmb.org/mailman/listinfo/race-events\\_wsasmb.org](http://wsasmb.org/mailman/listinfo/race-events_wsasmb.org)

**June 12: Highlights of the PV  
race and the Baja Bash  
By Paul DeLuca**

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

## News from the Race Co-Chair

By Joan Chandler

May - a busy racing month to be followed by June - an even busier racing month! WSA member sightings on the race courses - almost too numerous to mention.

Evening racing is now in full swing - CYC's Sunset Series on Wednesdays and Sunstroke and Starlight on Thursdays. Friday, May 18<sup>th</sup> marked the first of the season's DRYC Sundown Series, with a good turn out of boats starting and finishing in the harbor.

If you missed this year's Yachting Cup in San Diego, start planning now for next year - but it would be hard to duplicate the perfect racing conditions: consistent breezes in the low teens all weekend and sunshine (and of course kelp).

Closer to home, the 3<sup>rd</sup> of the DRYC Berger Series Pt. Dume race was held May 12<sup>th</sup> - perfect conditions and a quick finish for most racers.

On the weekend of May 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup>, CYC hosted the prestigious Cal Cup with ten "sleds" racing. Others took time away from spectating to participate in the first Man/Woman race of the year and the Duke Jones OD regatta hosted by Santa Monica Windjammers YC. WSA members abounded in the Man/Woman: Kelly Cantley on the winning boat, Kim Stuart 3<sup>rd</sup> place and Mary Stuyvesant and Wayne Brandow in 4<sup>th</sup> (please forgive and correct me if I left anyone out☺.)

June kicks off with Cal Race Week - a big, fun event! If you are looking for a "ride", be assured there will be people looking for crew. ALSO, great opportunities to help with race committee - ask at CYC if you want to help.

The following weekend, the Berger 4 and 5 - Cat Harbor and Return. Yeah - that's a lot of fun! The weekend of June 22-24<sup>th</sup> is another stellar regatta - Long Beach Race Week. And in June, there is a rumor about some WSA members participating in the June Cup (Women at the Helm) in Redondo Beach☺

And don't forget - the WOW and WAH in July - get ready and race! Personally I am getting my little J/24 on the road to the WOW and the J/24 North American's to be held at CYC in July - with the aid of Kelly Cantley, Sue Service, Gwen Able

and Monica Antola (Monica have you joined WSA yet??)

Now - very important! Let's take time out of our racing schedules to wish best of luck to some local sailors made good. After winning the Sundance Cup at the Ft. Worth Boat Club, Liz Hjorth, Marylyn Hoenemeyer and Karyn Jones are on their way to the Boat U.S. Santa Maria Cup regatta in Annapolis. This is an invitational match racing regatta - the big show. The event starts May 31<sup>st</sup> and we will be watching - go get 'em!!

Sail fast AND go the right way!

## Day Sail News

By Dianne Christman, daysail chair

Hello all day sailors and future day sailors! This is a make up article as I unfortunately missed last month's newsletter!

April and May were a lot of fun, but a bit slower than usual for the day sail program, due to a heavy racing schedule, an unfortunate injury to one of our day sail skippers, along with some unusual and rough weather conditions, causing cancellations to some day sails.

During the months of April and May Wayne Brandow on *Agua Cheetah*, John & Fran Melville on *Lightning*, Jeannea Jordon on *Chekkerrs*, Karyn Jones on *Outrageous* and Kay Miller on *Shalako* all generously hosted day sails. I personally had the opportunity to go out on a couple of these sails (a job perk ☺) and as always, it was a great time on the water!!

I can't even tell you how much fun it is to be out there on the water, hearing the sounds of the water, watching the trim of the sails, looking at the beautiful coastline, cleaning the bay by picking up stranded balloons (careful not to go overboard) and seeing an occasional dolphin or two! We are all really lucky to have such a wonderful program available to us!

Also, we are certainly looking forward to Wayne's speedy and 100% recovery so that he can get back to a full day sail schedule. I might add that even after his injury, prior to and immediately after surgery, Wayne and *Agua Cheetah* were out on day sails whenever humanly and physically possible.

I know I speak on behalf of all the members of WSA, when I say what a joy it is to have the opportunity to get out on the water and what a great day sail program WSA offers to our members!

### Priceless!

A huge thanks to all of our skippers and day sailors who have participated this year in the day sail program and I look forward to your continuous and enthusiastic contribution in the upcoming months!

### WSA Summer Party: AARRGGH



WSA's annual summer party will be held on 10 July in conjunction with the general meeting. Bring a covered dish (salad, appetizer, side dish or dessert), or pay \$10 at the door. Come ready for good food and

swashbuckling fun, including a treasure hunt.

Be sure to dress up, and before arriving, find out your true pirate name, go to

[www.piratequiz.com](http://www.piratequiz.com).

### WSA Cruise Change of Plans...

#### June cruise is Cat Harbor June 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> The end of June cruise had to be cancelled

Attention all WSA cruisers...I am thinking that Murphy is in full view for our cruise schedule in 2007..first the May cruise was cancelled due to high winds...and now we need to change the date of our June cruise due to another issue in life to detailed to go into..just trust that Murphy is doing his magic to the max!!!

But have no fear!!! Being the creative cruise chair that I am...we have an extravaganza that cannot be beat!!! Please do not tell the WSA racers about our plans since we are going to sneak in on one of their races and the best BBQ of the year at Del Rey Yacht clubs BBQ area...

So the game plan is to get skippers and crew together for a Saturday exit around 9am from MDR

on Saturday June 9<sup>th</sup>...then we stealthfully sail over to Catalina Harbor (which is the back side of Two Harbors) and snag a mooring can...Party a bit on the WSA cruising boats while watching the racers come into Catalina Harbor after a hard day of racing...then when the time is right...dingy over to the BBQ area with our BBQ stuff and some stuff to share with the racers (ie beer, ears of corn to share, chocolate cookies, etc) and when the eats are done...take a stroll over to the dancing area and dance the nite away!!!

Sunday, leave the mooring and go over to the start line at Eagle Rock near West End and watch our racing buddies start the race back to MDR...then we stealthfully sail back to MDR in our casual cruiser mode and arrive around 5-6pm at the marina!!!

Skippers please notify me asap if you are available for taking crew over on this event and how many crew members you want on your boat...and wsa crew...please let me know if you are interested in going and will try to match you up with a skipper!!

I would like to have this all arranged by June 5<sup>th</sup> so we can make provisioning plans for the weekend!!!

I must also warn you that it may be a bit wild so...the adage remains true..what happens on the island stays on the island..unless the cruise chair hears about it...then she is obligated to put it into the July newsletter!!!

Any questions/comments please feel free to contact Fran Weber-Melville at [cptfran@aol.com](mailto:cptfran@aol.com) or call me at 310 738-3205!

### Marina del Rey Bildge Pad Exchange Relaunched

The Bildge Pad Exchange Program at Del Rey Fuels in Marina Del Rey is up and running!!! Boaters can now pick up new absorbent pads and recycle used ones at the Marina del Rey fuel dock!

*Just ask the guys in the Aloha shirts*

To help with the funding of the bilge pads..if boaters pay the charge (which I think is \$3.00 per pack of 5) then this helps the Santa Monica Bay Foundation keep the program afloat (so to speak)! When exchange on of your yucky oily pads at the

station..you then get a new clean one for free!!!  
Such a deal!

What happens to the used yucky pads and why should you put out the effort to put pads in your bilge??? Every two months, CRI Recycling Services Inc. picks up drums of oily bilge pads and sends them to the recycling plant. CRI's recycling process has no wastewater effluent, requires no landfilling of any residual material, and has no air emissions from the oil contaminants reclaimed. The used oil is reclaimed and refined and the absorbents are recycled into new absorbents. Composed of polyethylene absorptive fibers designed to absorb fuel and oil while "repelling" water, boaters use these pads to catch drips while fueling up and cleanup spills during engine maintenance.

A pad in the bilge of the boat will soak up any petroleum products when bilge water, often contaminated with oil, diesel, and other hazardous substances is pumped overboard along with the water. With the help of a bilge pad, only clean water is pumped overboard and not the oil. What an easy way to keep oil out of the water!!! Absorbent pads can collect from 12 ounces to 1 gallon of oil. On average, absorbent pads placed in the bilge can last up to six months.

Any more questions this program please feel free to contact Grace Lee at [glee@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:glee@waterboards.ca.gov) or call (213) 576-6648.

## Ensenada or Bust

*By Michaela Draper*

*Michaela recently sailed with a mostly WSA crew aboard Race Co-Chair Kim Stuart's "VooDoo Doll", a Schock 35, in the Newport to Ensenada race April 26-29. She's outlined their adventures in this article. Photo credits: Mary Stuyvesant.*

How long does it take to get to Ensenada on a Schock 35, that is the question! After getting off to a slow but steady start in less than ten knots of breeze with the wind out of the southwest we were holding our own against the rest of the fleet. With the wind forecast to remain light and out of the south we knew we were looking at close hauled or tight reaching for most of the race instead of the usual downhill run. The wind held steady but light for the afternoon so at six we ate dinner and started

a watch system of three hours on , three off, with three on deck and three sleeping. The forecast called for three knots, gusting to five for the night so we were set for a long slow night. Oh how wrong we were. At three am we were screaming along, tacking down the rhum line with seven and a half knots of boat speed. No mean feat with just three on deck!! Great we thought , maybe this won't be so slow after all, but the wind gods weren't in our favor and at eight am the wind shut off. There we floated off the upper Coronadas island for four hours, searching for wind. Around noon there was a hint off breeze, steadily filling in and we were finally able to set a chute. If this holds we'll be done by nine pm we thought, but once again the wind gods decided we were having too much fun so late afternoon they decided to shut the wind off again. Out came the red wine and pizza as we prepared for a second night at sea. We didn't have that far to go , but with no wind it may have well have been China! For the next few hours the wind gods played with us, sending us a puff and then snatching it right back again, but we were making steady progress towards Ensenada. Around ten pm, off the coast around Salsapuedes the wind suddenly blew so hard it was all hands on deck, we needed weight on the rail! We'll be done by one am we thought. Wrong! At midnight we were floating off Punta San Miguel with around five miles to. There we stayed till about nine am, covering about a mile and a half, trying to float away from the beach and avoid a passing cruise liner. At nine am there was a slight puff, but we had to finish within the next two hours. So near yet so far! A few chutes appeared in the distance behind us so we popped ours and suddenly we were headstay reaching to the finish. We crossed the line at twelve minutes after ten Sunday morning after forty five hours, twenty two minutes and forty seconds. As we crossed the committee boat yelled "chicks rule", a proud moment for all of us. Only five others finished after us before the eleven am cut off. Overall we were 236 to cross the line out of 241 finishers, with 191 DNFs. We corrected out to 171 overall, 3rd in the all female category, 4th in the Schock class and 10

in our PHRF class. It was long, it was slow, but we survived and finished, learning a lot along the way. I'd like to thank my fellow sailors for an amazing race, Kim Stuart, skipper/owner, WSASMB members Kelly Cantley, Laura Guggenheimer and Mary Stuyvesant, and TeriLyn Humphreys of Newport Beach, you all rock.



Our fearless commodore before the start



The intrepid crew



Michaela looks pretty cold!

### ***Member spotlight: Karen Kuchel***

*By Sue Service*



Karen Kuchel is our WSA treasurer. She took time off from the books to answer a couple of questions so we can all get to know her better!

1. *When did you join WSA?* I am remembering that I joined WSA in October 2003 thanks to the recommendation of Carolyn Cohen. We crewed on a cruise to Two Harbors and talked about the club.
2. *When did you start sailing?* My first sailing experience was taking a two week Chesapeake Bay cruise on a 47' yawl as a high school junior. Then my life became land locked and busy with kids and jobs. I had to wait until I got my AARP card and moved to LA before the sailing bug bit me again. I joined a single sailor's club and mostly learned to be deck fluff. When I heard about WSA, I loved the idea of empowering women to become competent sailors.
3. *What's your coolest sailing adventure to date?* My coolest sailing adventure to date was probably taking a 4 day cruise to this year's sailing convention in Newport. Everything went so

well...great company, the weather, the wonderful dinner at our stopover in Long Beach, getting the longer quarter berth at night, and tons of laughs.

4. *What are your sailing related goals for 2007?*

One of the lectures I attended at this year's convention was about boat safety. The presenter had many good tips...the best one for me... "Slower is faster". My goal for next year and probably for several more, is to put that adage into practice in all areas of my life. Patience has never been one of my long suits!

5. *What do you like to do (or have to do – ie job) when you're not sailing?* When I am not sailing on the water, I like to be in the water. I joined Master's swim about 8 years ago and love doing my laps. My goal is 3 to 4 miles a week minimum. I also work part-time for the City of Santa Monica in the Revenue division. After 15 years working in school finance, it's a good fit. My two sons and grandkids are in San Jose and Santa Cruz, so I try to drive up north every couple of months. My mom is here in LA. She has the cruising bug, so we have taken over a dozen cruises together. She tells me she had her own wooden speed boat up at Lake Arrowhead when she was a teenager back in the 30's.

6. *What's up with this Watiki thing on Chekkerrs anyway?* Watiki is the mascot of Jeannea Jordan's boat, *Chekkerrs*. Jeannea created Watiki out of a couple of empty coconuts...added a grass skirt, modest sports bra and headdress. Her name comes from the Hawaiian word "wahine" meaning woman combined with "tiki" which is the carved image of a god. So Watiki is the goddess of women sailors!!



Watiki I and II share a toast after racing

### Survey and Kayak in Marina del Rey this summer!

The Santa Monica Bay Restoration Foundation is seeking summer volunteers to support a first-of-its-kind study on recreational boating and environmental quality in Marina del Rey.

The Santa Monica Bay Restoration Foundation is a non-profit organization dedicated to protecting and preserving the resources of Santa Monica Bay. This summer, we will be working in the field and on the water to assess the effectiveness of education and outreach programs focused in Marina del Rey. In particular, we are looking at how the community of recreational boaters in Marina del Rey are being served by current educational programs and environmental services.

In order to make this study possible, we need the help of volunteers to reach the Marina del Rey boating community. Volunteers will interview boaters about their boating habits, knowledge, attitudes, perceptions, and their use of sewage pump-out stations located within the marina.

Volunteers will also get to:

- kayak around the marina to collect data on recreational vessels; and
- participate in a series of educational field trips to wetlands, coastal regions, and local watersheds

We seek volunteers who can commit to at least two weekends per month and between 6-12 hours per weekend starting at the end of May and lasting until the end of the summer boating season (sometime in mid-to late-September). No direct cost is involved for volunteers and transportation will be provided for those who need it. We will have a training meeting for all volunteers to prepare for the project and **lunch will be provided**. If you would like to join our team or have any questions, please contact Justin Bilow at (213) 5766614 or [jbilow@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:jbilow@waterboards.ca.gov). We look forward to joining with our volunteers for this valuable and exciting summer study.

## Upcoming Calendar of Events

### June 2007

2-3 Sat/Sun	Cal Race Week – CYC
9 <sup>th</sup> Sat	Berger Series #4 – Cat Harbor and Return
12 <sup>th</sup> Tues	WSA General Meeting SMWYC
15 <sup>th</sup> Fri	Sundown Series begins – DRYC
16 <sup>th</sup> Sat	SBYRC Start Clinic
22-24 Fri-Sun	Long Beach Race Week – LBYC WSA Cruise to Geiger Cove (Catalina) with Long Beach Women's Group
26 <sup>th</sup> Tues	WSA Board Meeting
30 <sup>th</sup> Sat	Mac Jones #5 Cruiser Race

### July 2007

4 <sup>th</sup> Weds	Happy Independence Day – NO SUNSET SERIES RACING
7 <sup>th</sup> -8 <sup>th</sup> Sat/Sun	WOW/WAH regatta, WSA, SMBYRC, PMYC, MVYC, SMBSF
10 <sup>th</sup> Tues	WSA General Meeting and SUMMER PARTY
11 <sup>th</sup> -14 <sup>th</sup>	J/24 North American Championships, CYC
18 <sup>th</sup> -21 <sup>st</sup>	Mayor's Cup, Women's Match Racing LBYC
21 <sup>st</sup> -22 <sup>nd</sup> Sat/Sun	Chuck Stein 1 Design Weekend
24 <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!**

## 2007 WSA BOARD and COMMITTEE CHAIRS

### *Commodore*

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

### *Vice Commodore*

Sue Service  
[vicecommodore@wsasmb.org](mailto:vicecommodore@wsasmb.org)

### *Secretary*

Avghi Constantinides

### *Treasurer*

Karen Kuchel

### *J/S Commodore*

Patti Eagan  
[jrstaffcommodore@wsasmb.org](mailto:jrstaffcommodore@wsasmb.org)

### *Cruise Chair*

Fran Weber-Melville  
[ptfran@aol.com](mailto:ptfran@aol.com) or  
[cruising@wsasmb.org](mailto:cruising@wsasmb.org)

### *Daysail Chair*

Diane Christman  
[daysails@wsasmb.org](mailto:daysails@wsasmb.org)

### *Membership Chair*

Libby Gill  
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### *Education Director*

Karyn Jones  
[education@wsasmb.org](mailto:education@wsasmb.org)

### *Communications Director*

Diane Larson  
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### *Newsletter*

Sue Service  
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### *Race Co-Chairs*

Kim Stuart & Joan Chandler  
[racing@wsasmb.org](mailto:racing@wsasmb.org)

### *Social Director*

Milka Alexandrino  
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### *Webmaster*

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

### *Skipper Liaison*

John Melville  
[skippers@wsasmb.org](mailto:skippers@wsasmb.org)

### *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**