

# Gal' Warnings

## COMMODORE'S QUARTERS



By Laura Guggenheimer

WSA was as busy as ever in August, WSA's members were out on the water contributing in many of the on the water activities in the Santa Monica Bay and beyond. Many of our members were seen participating in the many regattas held in the bay as crew members and some were seen helping out on the race committee boats; and still others were taking it easy on a cruise or day sail.

Although the marina's popular Wednesday night Sunset Series draws to a close September 5<sup>th</sup> there are still plenty of activities to keep us going through fall. And while Labor Day marks the end of the summer for much of the nation, it doesn't seem to affect us here in Southern California. We may have a more relaxed racing schedule but we still are out enjoying the water and the wind.

A special recognition goes out to Diane Larson our communications director. Diane put together a membership drive August 18<sup>th</sup> at the South Coast Corinthian Yacht Club and



*Chekkerrrs* out for a lovely day sail

although the results weren't as expected we still were able to snare a couple new members. Thank you Diane for going out of your way to make a difference to WSA!

### Save the date for Coastal Clean up

**Day Saturday, September 15th**

Santa Monica Bay Restoration Foundation is heading up the cleaning efforts this year in the marina...The goal is to clean out trash and debris from the waterways within the marina using kayaks for transportation! They expect about 80

volunteers so save the date and be one of the volunteers to help keep our marina clean! Contact Justin Bilow for more information or to RSVP contact [jbilow@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:jbilow@waterboards.ca.gov) or call him at 213 576 6614

## Sept 11: Charles Pasqual: Communication at Sea

**6:30pm social hour, 7:30 business meeting, 8pm speaker**

### Boys and Girls Club of Venice starts the fall after school program mid September

Join the kids for the after school sailing program that meets Tues, Wed and Thurs from about 3:30 to 5:30. They sail 20 ft boats and need adult volunteers to help harness all that kid energy!! 50% of the kids are young women,

this is your chance to be a role model for a young woman who is interested in sailing. Contact Fran Weber-Melville at 310 738-3205 or email [cptfran@aol.com](mailto:cptfran@aol.com)

## Report on WSA Cruise to Cat Harbor

By Nicco Ardin

On Friday, July 27th, *Lightning* (Cpt. John Melville) and *My Time II* (Cpt. George Maronich) cast off for a fun-filled stress-free weekend in Cat Harbor, Catalina. Fine winds allowed for a smooth and speedy sail across the cobalt blue waters.

As the most novice sailor, I took the helm first and gave the crew cause to stay alert with a beautifully curvy s-shaped wake! Cpt. John set me straight with some excellent pointers (and I mean that literally as the image of his finger has been permanently imprinted on my brain!) and I don't anticipate a visit from the Coast Guard any time soon! Our 7 ½ hour journey sailed by with charming stories and gourmet sandwiches prepared fresh by Brennen Gray. Well nourished and invigorated by the gorgeous trip, *Lightning* pulled breezily into the mooring and was even able to sweet talk a neighboring spot for *My Time II*!

The adjacent moorings made it possible for the boats to kiss sterns and share drinks and laughter with friends new and old... the perfect end to a perfect day!

The boat hopping continued Saturday morning with a lovely breakfast, courtesy of Ada Maronich, before going ashore for a picnic lunch at the Isthmus. Some of us headed out on a leisurely hike to the USC Marine Center where we toured the Hyperbaric Chamber and sat in on a lecture about stingrays, sharks, and other local marine life. It was almost as informative as John Melville's lesson on true vs. apparent wind! Our trip to the center ended at the touch tank where we poked and caressed spiraled shark eggs, slimy sea cucumbers, and prickly sea urchins.

The adventure continued Saturday night with a tasty and lively taco party aboard *My Time II* and ended with everyone dancing the night away on shore. Nothing beats watching George and his lovely wife Ada getting their groove on while learning to tango from Cpt. Twinkle Toes himself. WSA's July cruise to Cat Harbor proved to be a well rounded adventure and awesome opportunity to bond with fellow member.

Special thanks to our captains and all who joined for making the trip so memorable: Rosemary Donato, Mike Gitchell, Brennen Gray, Susana Hernandez, Diane Larson, Ada Maronich, Cpt. George Maronich, Cpt. John Melville.

And a very special thanks to Cpt. Fran Melville for organizing the trip. We missed you!

*From the editor: WSA's cruise program has been busy – they also went to the Channel Islands over Labor Day Weekend, but we couldn't get a report back in time for the newsletter – plan to read about it in the October newsletter! And if you haven't been on a cruise yet this year, there are still others planned – Oct 5-7 at Catalina for Buccaneer Days and a surprise destination cruise (!) on Nov 2-4. Contact Fran for more information: [cptfran@aol.com](mailto:cptfran@aol.com)*

## WORSА Women's Regatta!

WORSА is sponsoring a women at the helm regatta in Newport on September 16, 2007. There will be 3 buoy races off the Newport Pier, and all boats with female drivers are welcome to enter. Cruise to Newport and then race, sounds ideal! Go to [www.worsa.org](http://www.worsa.org) for more information or contact their commodore Annette Cook at [captaincookrn@cs.com](mailto:captaincookrn@cs.com).

## Magic Holiday – Marina del Rey Boat Parade December 7/8

*By Sue Service, Vice-Commodore*

As Vice-Commodore, one of my primary responsibilities is to organize WSA's entry into the annual Marina del Rey Holiday Boat Parade. If you've ever participated in or watched the boat parade, you know this takes a lot of work.

This year the parade will be held both Friday night 7 Dec and Saturday night 8 December. Judging of the entries is done only on Saturday night, but all entrants must join the parade *both* nights in order to be qualified for judging on Saturday (although the boat does not have to be fully decorated for the Friday parade).

While it might seem crazy to talk about the holidays in September, putting together our entry will take plenty of prep. Some of what needs to get done includes:

- Finding a boat to use
- Finding a generator to use
- Finding a sound system to use
- Decorating the boat in line with the announced theme
- Finding persons to ride on the boat during the parade itself
- Cleaning up the boat afterwards

This year's theme is "Magic Holiday". Being a Los Angeles Lakers fan, I naturally thought to decorate our boat using the theme "Magic 'Johnson' Holiday" and have all of us wear #32 Lakers jerseys, set up some basketball hoops, and use purple and gold lights all over the boat! Think that's a stupid idea??? Then please give me another idea, and please oh please help me decorate! You can contact me at [vicecommodore@wsasmb.org](mailto:vicecommodore@wsasmb.org), or look for me at the next meeting. Also, skippers if you'd like to volunteer your boat to be decorated for the parade, please contact me! THANKS

## Race Report

*By Joan Chandler*

The endless summer is coming to an end. Funny, when I lived in the Pacific Northwest, it was sad to see summer behind us and months of rain and cold ahead. But HEY! We live in sunny SoCal – so the sun and the racing go on!

August saw some great sailing action including the Schock 35 Nationals with our own Kim Stuart at the helm (and a WSA filled crew). The Schock regatta intersected in time and space as the boats sailing in the Jennifer Diamond Charity Regatta found that the rhumb line from one mark to the other just happened to cross the Schock starting line! A good time was had by all.

Other August events included the PHRF Championship hosted by Cabrillo Beach YC. Fun regatta with tons of wind and more than a few exciting moments.

September kicked off with the "Outlaw" Regatta –with boats racing from MDR to Seal Beach on a beautiful sunny day. More is yet to come! CYC will host the Harris Series the weekend of September 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> – buoy racing for OD and PHRF fleets.

In September, the next in the series of Man/Woman races will be hosted by SBYRC on September 23<sup>rd</sup>. (Two more events will follow in October).

At the end of the month, the ASMBYC Championship regatta will be held in MDR for boats that qualified.

September will see the end of the season for the Sunset Series. The last full race day is Wednesday the 5<sup>th</sup> with the King of the Hill race the following week for the top boat in each fleet. Sniff☺

For those who enjoy the summer evening sailing and are sad to see it end for the season – fear not. DRYC is hosting some casual evening sailing on Saturdays in October. And there are rumors of CYC presenting a similar format on some fall and winter Sunday afternoons – stay tuned for more information.

From my point of view, I see lots of sailing opportunities coming up. Get out there!

Sail fast ☺

## Member Spotlight: Libby Gill

By Sue Service



Libby Gill has been a member of WSA for 9 or 10 years, but she has been sailing since she was a teenager growing up in Florida. She was a chemistry major at the University of Florida, in Gainesville, and was in the first class of women graduates from that institution. Upon graduating, she thought she'd work in the field of chemistry, but was upset to find out that firms paid women half the salary they were paying the male graduates (and many of those were guys she had been helping with their classes!). A Navy WAVE officer saw that she was exasperated with speaking with chemical companies at the University's job fair, and called after her saying "We pay women the same amount we pay men!". Libby joined the Navy and served as a cryptographic officer. She was stationed in San Diego and Boston and was able to pursue sailing in both locations. After four years in the Navy she married, and started a family. Sailing went by the wayside for a time, until her divorce, when she resumed sailing again in the San Francisco Bay area. After moving to Santa Monica to work at RAND, a former WSA member, Francine Scarantino, introduced her to our club, and Libby has been actively involved ever since. She counts among her favorite sailing adventures two sailing trips around Hawaii, and a 15 day voyage off Belize, where they caught all their own food! She hope to do more long-distance sailing in the future – Transpac 2009 look out!!!

## ASMBYC Awards

Annually ASMBYC presents three awards to outstanding adult members of the local sailing community. The **Sportsman of the Year** award is for "exceptional and consistent fairness, courtesy, gracefulness and/or heroism in yachting activities". The **David Poe Service Award** is "presented for outstanding contributions of time and/or talent to yachting beyond the recipient's normal obligation". The **Yachtsman of the Year** is "presented for

creative contributions and exemplary accomplishments to the sport of yachting in Santa Monica Bay". WSA will nominate persons for each of these awards. If you have suggestions for nominees, please contact Laura Guggenheimer at [commodore@wsasmb.org](mailto:commodore@wsasmb.org)

## Day Sailing on Aqua Cheetah

A few shots from a beautiful day on the bay August 18, 2007



Karyn Jones shows new member Kathy Nguyen around the bow, while Wayne Brandow observes from mid-ship



Sue Service trimming the spinnaker as Wayne steers and Diane Larson tends to the pit.

## Upcoming Calendar of Events

### September 2007

5 <sup>th</sup> Weds	Last Sunset Series
8 <sup>th</sup> -9 <sup>th</sup> Sat/Sun	Harris Series – CYC
11 <sup>th</sup> Tues	WSA General Meeting
14 <sup>th</sup> Fri	Sundown Series, DRYC
23 <sup>rd</sup> Sat	Man/Woman Series #2 “Two’s Company”
25 <sup>th</sup> Tues	WSA Board Meeting
29 <sup>th</sup> -30 <sup>th</sup> Sat/Sun	ASMBYC Championship of Champions (by invitation only!)

### October 2007

6 <sup>th</sup> -7 <sup>th</sup> Sat/Sun	Buccaneer Days at Catalina!
7 <sup>th</sup> Sun	Man/Woman Series #3 “Guys and Dolls”
9 <sup>th</sup> Tues	WSA General Meeting
13 <sup>th</sup> -14 <sup>th</sup> Sat/Sun	Linda Elias Memorial Women’s One Design Regatta – LBYC
20 <sup>th</sup> Sat	Man/Woman Series #4 “Two 4 One”
21 <sup>st</sup> Sun	Heather Perkoff Series PMYC
23 <sup>rd</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  
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### *Cruise Chair*

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

### *Daysail Chair*

Diane Christman  
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### *Membership Chair*

Libby Gill  
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### *Education Director*

Karyn Jones  
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### *Communications Director*

Diane Larson  
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### *Newsletter*

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### *Race Co-Chairs*

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### *Social Director*

Milka Alexandrino  
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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**