

CITY OF SANTA BARBARA WATERFRONT DEPARTMENT

MEMORANDUM

Date: August 19, 2010
To: Harbor Commissioners
From: John N. Bridley, Waterfront Director
Subject: Harbor Operations Report

Information Distribution System

Following implementation of a Reverse 911 system at the Waterfront, the City has reached agreement with Blackboard Connect, Inc. for a web-based, voice activated information distribution (messaging) system for non-emergency uses. Examples might include temporary power outages or construction projects requiring emptying dock boxes or relocating vessels.

Staff will soon receive training on the system, which will allow the Department unlimited messaging privileges for up to 1,600 slip permittees and Waterfront tenants (up to three numbers per recipient) for one year, at a cost of \$4,800. After one year, the Department will assess the value of the program before deciding whether to enter into another annual agreement with Blackboard.

Expect to read more about this project in *Docklines* this fall. Meanwhile, the Department will make vigorous efforts to update its files, so it has the latest, most reliable phone and email contact information for slip permittees and tenants. *Slip permittees can help by alerting Waterfront administrative staff to any new or changed phone numbers at which they can be reached.*

By late winter or early spring, staff expects to test the system with a message sent to all recipients, followed by a survey to gauge recipients' satisfaction with the service.

King Harbor Race

One hundred fifteen sailboats departed Santa Barbara Harbor July 30th in the 38th annual King Harbor Race, an 81-mile course that terminates at King Harbor in Redondo. Racers encountered modest winds during much of the race, with no accidents or other safety issues reported. The best local finish belonged to Larry Leveille and *S/V Rush Street*, finishing 3rd overall and winning their class (as they did last year, as well).

One addition this year was participation by TransPac (TP) 52s, a new class of vessel for the King Harbor Race. The 2,800-pound TP 52s are high-performance, carbon fiber monohulls capable of racing in everything from local regattas to offshore events,

reaching speeds of 25 knots or more. Yacht Club officials hope to see more TP 52s, racing locally, as their popularity has risen dramatically over the past five years.

As always, the race was good for marina management revenues, generating \$6,700 in slip fees from visiting boats.

Bomb Scare Aboard the *Land Shark*

At 3:05 p.m. on Tuesday, August 3rd, report of a bomb scare aboard the *Land Shark* was forwarded to Harbor Patrol and City Police. While at sea aboard the *Land Shark*, an individual reportedly threatened passengers with a pair of scissors and claimed another passenger had a bomb in his backpack. Harbor Patrol Officers aboard Patrol Boat #3 came alongside the *Land Shark* as it approached the Launch Ramp. Harbor Patrol Officer Troy Kuhlman was transferred onto the *Land Shark* while both boats were underway. Officer Kuhlman proceeded to the back of the craft, where he detained and handcuffed the suspect as Police units arrived at the Launch Ramp Parking Lot.

After *Land Shark* passengers were safely escorted off the craft, the area was cordoned off and PD debriefed passengers and first responders. Police officers also secured the subject's belongings, in which they found no bomb, but confiscated illegal drugs (hallucinogenic mushrooms) and several knives, including a shaving-style straight edge. The subject was taken to jail and booked on a range of serious charges. The Launch Ramp Parking Lot and docks reopened to vessel and pedestrian traffic at 3:45 p.m.

Staff wishes to acknowledge the professionalism of both Harbor Patrol and City Police in their response to this dangerous incident. In addition, Harbor Operations Division staff will conduct a thorough de-brief of our response, a "lessons learned" session to best understand and fine-tune how we react to unusual, dangerous events like these.

Prepared By: Mick Kronman, Harbor Operations Manager