

CITY OF SANTA BARBARA WATERFRONT DEPARTMENT

MEMORANDUM

Date: March 15, 2012
To: Harbor Commissioners
From: Scott Riedman, Waterfront Director
Subject: Harbor Operations Report

Boat Grounded on East Beach

On February 26th, a 43' sailboat dragged anchor and grounded on East Beach, only the second grounding during a very mild winter that is quickly turning to spring. The vessel's owner promptly contracted with Marborg Industries to have the vessel removed from the beach. The job was completed less than 24 hours after the boat ran aground, paid for by the owner with no expense to the City.

Yacht Club Ceremony Marks Opening of Boating Season

The Santa Barbara Yacht Club marked the traditional start of boating season with opening ceremonies and a local regatta on Sunday, March 3rd. Wet Wednesdays, a staple of the Yacht Club racing season, begin March 14th and conclude October 17th. Wet Wednesday races are open to any boat entered by a member of a U.S. Sailing Association-recognized club. Locally, this means Santa Barbara Sailing Club and Santa Barbara Yacht Club boats, with occasional out-of-town visitors invited to participate. Also, anyone can participate as crew aboard an eligible boat. Wet Wednesday courses vary with wind conditions and boat size, and vary in length from 2-8 miles. The first start is at 5:10 p.m., followed by six other classes spaced five minutes apart. Following the races, an "after party" barbeque open to all racers and their guests is held at the Yacht Club. For more information, contact the Santa Barbara Yacht Club at 965-8112 or visit their website at www.sbyc.org.

Senate Bill 623 (Copper Bottom Paint Regulations) Faces Uphill Battle

Senate Bill 623 (Kehoe), a proposed law that would limit and eventually ban the use of copper in vessel bottom paints statewide, remains stuck where it was last year, in the Assembly's Appropriations Committee. According to a Sacramento lobbyist familiar with boating-industry issues, the bill faces a tough road due to the state's budget woes, as it depends on Regional Water Quality Control Boards and the Department of Pesticide Regulation for some degree of testing and analysis. Currently, the bill's author is talking to affected agencies to see if there is a way to reach the bill's objective and reduce state costs. Action on the bill is not expected until summer.

Safety Training for Commercial Fishermen

On March 26th and 27th, the Alaska Marine Safety Education Association (AMSEA) will host a free safety course for commercial fishermen, providing practical information on survival equipment found on most commercial vessels, plus training on how to conduct emergency onboard drills. The course features a hands-on format, both in the classroom (Waterfront Center Community Meeting Room) and in the field. Examples include how to don an immersion suit in less than 60 seconds, on-board firefighting, life-raft deployment and man-overboard drills. This course meets training requirements for commercial fishermen operating on documented vessels beyond three nautical miles from shore. Everyone who successfully completes this course is issued a Drill Conductor Card that serves as proof of compliance with USCG training requirements. The cards are currently valid in perpetuity. The cost of the class is free for commercial fishermen or \$200 dollars for the general public. Register online at www.amsea.org or call AMSEA at 1-888-508-3287.

Karl Halamicek Joins Harbor Patrol

Karl Halamicek joined Harbor Patrol as a new officer on February 25th. He replaces Officer Wendy Cummings, who recently retired following careers with the City of Santa Barbara (harbor patrol), the City of Avalon (harbor patrol) and the City of Los Angeles (firefighter) to pursue her passion for paddling outriggers and sailing the 30-foot Pacific Sea Craft she calls home.

Karl was previously employed as the Department's Harbor Operations Assistant, providing a range of services from the front counter. He also served as a Reserve Officer with Morro Bay Harbor Patrol before joining our team. Karl's resume includes a Bachelor's Degree in Studio Art and Business from the University of Baker (Kansas), Emergency Medical Technician certification and a U.S. Coast Guard "6-pack" passenger-carrying license with a commercial towing endorsement. To date, he has completed 184 hours of Department of Boating and Waterways training in Boating Safety and Enforcement, Marine Firefighting, Boat Handling, Rescue Boat Operations and Boating-Under-the-Influence Enforcement.

Outside of work, Karl enjoys bicycling, exercising at the gym and paddling his stand-up paddleboard with his wife and friends. Last year, they spent seven days paddling down the Colorado River from Hoover Dam to Davis Dam (Lake Mohave), camping at night and exploring during the day.

Karl's helpful, professional demeanor, combined with his familiarization with the Harbor, ensures that the Waterfront community will continue to receive the highest level of service. Please join the Department in welcoming Karl to his new position.

Prepared By: Mick Kronman, Harbor Operations Manager