

# The Watchhorn

March 2009

Holiday Harbor/Cabrillo Marina

I might be jumping the gun here, but I think the boating season has begun. It is early I know, and that fat groundhog promised a gloomy end of winter, but as I look out my office window I can't help but be reminded of the warm days of spring that are just around the corner. The streets are clean again, thanks to a very wet February, and fresh westerly breezes are replacing the unstable northerly winter winds that threaten our fun during short hops to the island. Even the yachting races have begun, and although most of them have required the protection of foul weather suits and lots of warm coffee, wide grins can be found in every cockpit. Soon the chilly nights of December will be a distant memory, and ice cold beverages will decorate the decks of every boat in the marina.

But as you prepare your boat for another summer of use and attention, remember that our waters host a very fragile ecosystem. Oils, varnishes, thinners and other hazardous materials can easily find their way to the water, killing organisms and harming our beautiful ocean for future generations. Out of tune engines emit more pollution and reduce efficiency, creating larger gas bills and more smog. Cleaners containing bleach kill organisms in the water when they are rinsed off the boat, and detergents such as dish soap reduce oxygen levels in the water. If you have any questions on how to keep the marina clean or to properly dispose of hazardous materials, feel free to stop by the marina office and look at the information provided free of charge. You can also go to our website at [www.holidayharborcm.com](http://www.holidayharborcm.com) to read past issues of this newsletter and to view our Clean Marina Tenant Manual. Good luck on preparing your boat for the New Year and have a happy boating season.

*D.H. Jr.*

## **SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT**

### **Marina Best Management Practices**

The Marina provides several dumpsters for refuse and separate well-marked dumpsters for recyclables conveniently placed throughout the property. These containers are emptied and contents disposed of by a commercial refuse company licensed to do so and the dumpsters are switched-out with freshly maintained units on a scheduled basis. Our trash enclosures are swept and cleaned weekly and kept clean of litter and debris.

### **Tradesperson Best Management Practices**

1. No waste of any kind may be dumped in the harbor. Land-side receptacles are provided for non-hazardous solid waste and separate containers are available for recyclables.
2. Contaminated liquids, used oil and batteries may not be placed in the dumpsters or in the trash enclosures. As third-party refuse, these become hazardous items by definition and cannot be handled by Marina maintenance personnel. Oil disposal is readily available in the harbor.
3. Expired zinc anodes are often left on the dock by divers for inspection by the boat owner. This is not a preferred practice and the used zincs need to be properly disposed of on land.

## **Real News**

- For those of you who use the older Emergency Distress Beacons please beware. As of February NOAA will no longer be using its satellites to monitor the analog 121.5 MHz frequency. For those of you with the older analog system, you will need to update your beacons with models that function on the 406 MHz frequency.
- During the powerful storms of February many boaters received calls from the marina informing them of water on board their boat. Please remember that although our boats are designed for the water, without proper maintenance of bilge pumps and clean cockpit drains even the most dry of boats can become an oversized rain gauge. Please replace needed fuses, check all electrical wires, and make sure sumps are free of debris.