

The Watchhorn

April 2008

Holiday Harbor/Cabrillo Marina

Today as I gaze out my office window I am saddened only by the fact that words could not possibly describe the beauty of what I see. The baby cormorants I have watched grow over the last couple of months are now fledging and will soon take their first flight into the skies, and the flowers on most plants in the area are in full bloom. Thanks to the gale force winds we had during the middle of March, the grey clouds that have seemed to bring rain only on the days *you* wanted to take your boat out have been blown clear out of Southern California. The only thing you have to bring is yourself, perhaps friends or family, a beverage of choice, and lots and lots of sunscreen. Still, I know there will be those of you who need more persuading than others, so the following are all the reasons I have for you to get out on the water now rather than waiting for the dead of summer.

- 1. The racing season has begun-** The racing schedules for every yacht club are up, and there are going to be plenty of opportunities to try your hand at both competitive and semi-competitive racing. Although 'Wet Wednesdays' won't start for another month, I can think of at least a dozen races put on by various yacht clubs that have already come and gone. If you are a power boater, there are numerous boats that go out on a weekly basis and are starving for crew. Get the word out that you are looking to see what all the sailing fuss is about and there will be half a dozen boats that would be happy to have your muscle aboard.
- 2. It is not hot-** According to www.weather.com, it is ten degrees hotter in June than it is in April. Couple that with humidity which reaches nearly triple digits in mid summer and the cool breezes of April will seem much more attractive.
- 3. Do you like Catalina Island?-** Getting a mooring on Catalina Island for the weekend in the months of July, August, and September is like finding gold on the moon. As the majority of the moorings on Catalina Island are first come, first serve, finding a mooring requires planning, a *very* early arrival, and a whole boat full of luck. But during the months of April, May, and the early half of June the demand is still low, and nearly any weekend you will find multiple moorings available for you to choose from. It also means that the island is not so crowded, offering you a much more relaxed and quiet getaway than during the busy summer months.
- 4. Fuel Prices-** As we all know, fuel prices skyrocket during the summer months as demand increases due to increased travel consumption. That price increase will follow you right to your favorite fuel dock, so fill up now while the price is low (in a relative way).
- 5. Because you can!!!-** If history has proven anything, it is that humans do not need a reason to have fun. So stop reading this newsletter and get out to your boat before the dust settles so thick you will need a shovel to dig out the cockpit!

D.H. Jr.

Real News

- We now have a recycle dumpster in the trash enclosure next to the ice machine. There is a list on it describing what can and can not be placed inside. Please take note and do not throw improper material inside of it.
- Celebrate Earth Day with CMA. There will be a Cabrillo Beach cleanup on April 19, 2008 from 8:00am-10:00am, followed by an Earth Day fair from 10:00am-3:00pm. Participate in cleaning your waterways and have a fun day at the fair without having to go further than a ten minute walk from your boat. Admission is free, so come and enjoy!
- Please remember to pick up after your dog. Our staff has noticed that more and more people are not picking up after their animals, both on the docks and along the walkway by the restrooms, and when that happens our staff is left to do your dirty work. Remember that animals are a luxury that the marina allows only if they are taken care of properly and to not negatively impact the enjoyment of others.