

# The Watchorn

January 2009

Holiday Harbor/Cabrillo Marina

I'm taking a deep breath now, winded from the December festivities. All the food has been consumed, gifts have been handed out to loved ones and the tree is starting to wither. Already the stockings, hung with so much care weeks earlier, have been balled up and thrown into the corner of the dusty box marked "X-Mas." It was a good month. Of course the lights are still hanging from my front porch; even Santa doesn't take his lights down until June, and he has elves to help him.

As for my New Year's resolution, I cheated. Rather than creating some unattainable goal for myself like "being a better person" (who wants to do that anyway?), I chose to go with something more fun, something I actually *want* to do. My goal for this year is to go boating at least once a week. I know, it's not exactly the most honorable of resolutions. I don't promise to lose weight or volunteer at a soup kitchen, but it will make my life happier, and is something I stand a chance of accomplishing. Last year I promised to drop ten pounds; I gained fifteen. The year before that I promised to start recycling. I still have those same ten aluminum cans sitting in the bin in my back yard; by the time I take them to the recycler's they will have turned to rust and recycled themselves. Do yourself a favor, make your resolution something that will bring joy to your life and leave your burdens for the other 364 days a year. Christmas lights can always be taken down *after* the fun has been had.

*D.H. Jr.*

## **SEWAGE CONTAINMENT & DISCHARGE**

Use of marine sanitation holding tanks in an improper manner can result in sewage entering the water. Both improperly installed marine sanitation devices (MSDs) and improper disposal practices are illegal. Sewage from boats is more concentrated than from either combined sewer overflows or sewage treatment plants because MSDs use little water for flushing. The livelihood or marinas and the recreational benefits boaters derive from use of the harbors are clearly linked to clean water.

Mobile pump out service at a reasonable cost is also readily available in Los Angeles Harbor; the Marina office can provide contact information. Illegal dumping in the harbor is viewed as one of the most serious infractions of boating law. Holiday Harbor-Cabrillo Marina enforces city, county, state and federal law dealing with illegal dumping and any observed dumping should be reported to the Port Police immediately.

## **Best Management Practices**

1. Make sure holding tanks and every component of an approved MSD system are operating properly and adequately maintained.
2. Encourage others to pump out their holding tank on a regular basis or contract with the mobile pump-out service. Never let the tank become over-filled.
3. Any illegal discharge should be reported to the U.S. Coast Guard or Port Police with all available details immediately upon being observed. Sewage discharge leaves no telltale evidence like an oil or fuel spill, so call quickly and they will respond quickly.

## **Real News**

- There is a new inspection for all liveaboards in the L.A. Harbor due to the recently passed Tariff 22. Basically an enforcement of Coast Guard regulations, all liveaboards will have to pass this inspection if they wish to retain their liveaboard status. Your marina manager will be calling all liveaboards to explain the inspection in detail.
- Please remember that many tenants sleep on their boats from time to time. Clanging halyards, loose hatches and flailing lines all make noise that can be burdensome on your neighbors. Please secure all loose objects on your boat and prevent any noise from bleeding over to nearby boats, it is appreciated by all.