

The Watchorn

May 2008

Holiday Harbor/Cabrillo Marina

I think it would be fair to say that we humans are creatures of habit. Although throughout history we have seen examples of various individuals that have come forth from the crowd, eager to go the extra step to be innovative or courageous, for the most part we try to follow the path that others have cut for us. The other night I was performing *my* evening ritual of scanning through hundreds of channels on the television when I came to an episode of Huell Howser's "California's Gold." Although I enjoy the show, I was about to skip over it when I realized that the focus of the show was on my hometown of Chico, California. Eager to revisit the area that I have grown to love, I began watching. It is amazing to see how much of a town you can miss if you don't go the extra mile to find it, and I was shocked that all but one of the places he visited I had never heard of! The most amazing of all was the annual National Yo-Yo Competition, which has been held in Chico for over twenty years. "Twenty years?" I questioned myself, as I had lived there for most of those years and had never heard of the competition. What other events take place within reach of my vehicle that I have somehow broken loose from? Thinking back now, the list is quite long. I haven't celebrated the 4th of July since I was eighteen, as I have always worked on that day. I also haven't gone to a Thanksgiving in numerous years, only see family on Christmas every other time it comes around, and haven't been awake to see the clock tick into the New Year since I realized counting down in East Coast time was just as fun and allowed me to pamper myself with some needed beauty sleep. "What happened to me?" I kept wondering, as somehow I had skipped right past being a creature of habit and into being a creature of laziness.

I needed to break loose from this grip that has come over me, if only in baby steps. Then, as I perused through some old files, the answer hit me. THE F.E.A.R. REGATTA! For those of you who are unfamiliar with the F.E.A.R. Regatta, it is a sailboat race run by Holiday Harbor, and is put on *for* Holiday Harbor tenants. This is why I am now asking each tenant reading this to please come in to the Holiday Harbor office and let me know if you are interested in either participating in the regatta, helping me out on the sidelines, or both. Following the F.E.A.R. race, which stands for "Feed Everyone After the Race," will be a BBQ full of tasty food hot off the grill, courtesy of Holiday Harbor, as well as gourmet dishes brought by tenants. It will require the talents of many volunteers, and we are eager to hear any suggestions you may have regarding the staging of a race in the harbor. Unfortunately the regatta has not been held in several years, and with your help we could re-establish a tradition that has long been enjoyed by many people. So please drop by our office or e-mail me at Kyle@holidayharborcm.com to give your opinion, as the F.E.A.R. Regatta can not be done without the help and support of people like you.

D.H. Jr.

Real News

- Many of you have inquired on the possibility of WiFi internet here at the marina. We would like to know just how many of you would benefit from this option, and if so, when and how often? Also, would it still be worth it if there was an additional fee associated with it, as making that option available does create an additional cost to the marina. If enough people are interested, we will investigate it and let it be known what the cost, if any, would be.
- There is currently an invasive aquatic plant known as Caulerpa that has made its way to the West Coast. It has devastated many parts of the Mediterranean, all from what scientists predict came from a public aquarium that was dumped into the ocean. Although we urge you to go to www.sccat.net to find out more information on the plant, in short it is characterized by a bright green coloring, feather-like fronds, and long, horizontal runners. If you see this, either by diving or pulling some up with your anchor, please notify the California Department of Fish and Game (858-467-4218).
- Although the raccoon problem seems to be diminishing, we still have had several reports of them in the marina. Please make sure that when you leave your boat all of your hatches are closed tightly, that you shut our dumpsters when you use them, and that anything edible is not left on your boat where they can get at it. If they have no food here, they have no reason to come bother us.