

The Watchhorn

February 2009

Holiday Harbor/Cabrillo Marina

I'll be perfectly honest; I cheated on this month's newsletter. Normally I spend several days thinking of a topic, branching off to various tangents along the way until I come up with what I consider to be a great piece of literary work. Then I type the complete opposite on to a word document and send it to you in your monthly statement. I know it seems like a rip-off, but if you want to view perfection you have to grease a few palms first. I consider beer a perfectly acceptable form of currency.

But this month I found myself perusing Bill Gribble's old newsletters, written with a flair and humor I could only hope to acquire. In this case it answers a question that people ask me on an almost daily basis, and in lieu of coming up with my own answer that could only be considered 100% bull-\$\$!*, I have decided to let Bill speak for me this one time. I think it will answer the question perfectly.

"Someone stopped by the office the other day with a question, one that has crossed my mind many times as well. I was asked where the term 'Dockmaster' came from. The obvious answer of course would be from a Marina Manager in need of an ego charge. The term 'master' has always scared me a bit however, creating images of large gorilla types hoarding all the bananas. Our job, of course, contains no such powers. But for some managers, I suppose the job title is a bonus of sorts. Personally, I would rather accept the raise thank you, and remain the humble manager, service person, boat-monkey that I am. For those who would like to be referred to as Dockmaster, I think it only fitting they share the 'master' term with others working within the service industry, raising their stature as well.

Those who sweep for a living could be bestowed the title of 'broommasters,' for those who create our ice cream cones, we could call them 'scoopmasters,' and to the man who sells us our fishing bait, he could forever be referred to as the 'masterbai...' (perhaps not). There would have to be some guidelines (as I have just discovered), but something worth our consideration. Just think, we could all be shipmasters in our own mind."

Dock Holiday and D.H. Jr.

Real News

- Interested in sharing your mooring with other Holiday Harbor boaters? Don't have a mooring of your own and want to know who does or are looking to make a trade? Anyone interested in such opportunities can visit the marina office and view current postings. Any agreements made will be between the boater and mooring owner.
- Please remember to put all dock carts back at the base of the gangways when not in use. The more our carts are left in the parking lot, by the bathrooms or along the public walkway the more likely they are to end up in the hands of boaters from other marinas. Taking a few extra seconds to put the carts back where they belong saves marina staff and other boaters a great deal of effort and time.
- There will be a FREE hazardous waste and e-waste roundup on Saturday, February 14th in Hawthorne from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. The roundup will be held at the Betty Ainsworth Sports Center, on the corner of El Segundo Blvd and Doty Ave. This will be a great opportunity to rid yourself of those containers full of varnish, gasoline, used oil and anything else hiding in your locker. For information on future Roundups, call the L.A. County Dept of Public Works at 888-CLEAN LA or visit their website at www.lacsd.org.