

# DockLines

Vol. XV, No. 2

SANTA BARBARA WATERFRONT DEPARTMENT

March 2016

Editor: Mick Kronman  
Art Director: Dominique Samario



## Dredge Update

Army Corps to the rescue

## Dock Modifications

Ask us first

## 2016 Operation Clean Sweep

Start of a new era

## 2016 Harbor Nautical Swap Meet

Registration starts April 11th

## Stearns Wharf Fishing Areas

New signs, clear regulations

## Business Activity Permits

Check before you hire

## New Child Life Jacket Law

Keeping kids safe

## Harbor Patrol Boat 1

In with the new...

## 2016 Waterfront Parking Permits

Get your permit now!

## Mark Your Calendar

Event and Harbor Commission schedules



## HARBOR CLOSURE—ARMY CORPS TO THE RESCUE

Karl Treiberg, Waterfront Facilities Manager

As the 2014 harbor closure edged toward a distant memory, we faced the same dilemma again. Relentless westerly swells produced the best winter for surfing in years at the expense of the harbor entrance.

As Harbor Patrol saw the entrance getting steadily shallower and narrower, Waterfront staff contacted the Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) in early February expressing our concerns. It was obvious that routine spring dredging of 120,000 cubic yards (c.y.) wasn't going to begin soon enough or dredge enough material to keep the harbor open during spring and summer.

To the Corps' credit, they immediately contacted their dredge contractor, Pacific Dredge, directing them to mobilize five weeks earlier than normal and begin dredging as soon as possible. Realizing the extraordinary amount of shoaling, the Corps also requested additional funds to dredge another 80,000 c.y. Their efforts occurred just in time, as large swell after large swell deposited so much sand in the channel that the Coast Guard declared a Safety Zone requiring vessels entering or exiting the harbor to get prior permission and obtain a Harbor Patrol escort. Even as the dredge worked 24 hours a day, sand entered the harbor as fast as it could be removed. But Pacific Dredge persevered and managed to create an opening a few days after the Safety Zone declaration.

Despite these tremendous efforts by the Corps and Pacific Dredge, nature added another challenge with more swells and more sand deposited in the channel. Once again, staff expressed concern to the Corps that even the additional dredging wouldn't be enough to maintain a safe channel. The Corps successfully put in a request to their Washington, D.C. headquarters to fund an additional 100,000 c.y. of dredging. This is unprecedented for Santa Barbara Harbor and by the time dredging is complete, 300,000 c.y. will have been removed.

Despite the inconvenience of a few days of a harbor closure, it could have been much worse. Santa Barbara and its boaters owe a debt of gratitude to the Corps.

## DOCK MODIFICATIONS—ASK US FIRST

Karl Treiberg, Waterfront Facilities Manager

Ever wonder why dock cleats aren't in the right place to tie up your particular boat or tie up or store your kayak or dingy? Santa Barbara Harbor's double slips don't allow for much dock storage—plus obstructing the dock is illegal—so boaters sometimes modify docks themselves to accommodate their permitted vessels or human-powered craft. Though undertaken with good intentions, dock modifications can cause problems that cost considerable staff time, materials and money to repair.

All Harbor docks are designed with load limits in mind related to the size of boats in each slip, as well as forces on those boats by wind and waves. It's hard to believe that 100 mph winds or 2'-3' seas could roar through our harbor but those are typical design standards. Besides, anyone who has been in the marinas during a strong sundowner or southeaster knows how rough it can get. The 2011 tsunami, for example, created currents at the harbor entrance that generated forces on docks probably exceeding those design standards (look what happened in Santa Cruz Harbor that day).

With those forces in mind, cleats are placed where they have the most structural integrity, straddling through-rods to which wooden wales are attached. Relocating cleats often reduces that additional reinforcement, compromising the cleat's ability to hold a vessel in the slip during high winds or waves. Adding attachments for storing dinghies, kayaks and such penetrates the wood and accelerates rot or overly stresses other dock components.

Staff understands that each boat is different and boat owners want to make the most of their limited slip space. So, if you want to make modifications, please call us first. We can let you know if your proposed modifications will compromise the dock (read: are acceptable) or perhaps offer a better way to secure your boat.

Thanks for your cooperation. Maintenance staff can be reached at (805) 564-5522.



City of Santa Barbara Photo:  
Please call before modifying docks!

## DockLines

City of Santa Barbara  
Waterfront Department

### Office Hours

Monday through Friday  
8:00 a.m. to noon  
1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Business Office: 564-5531  
Harbor Patrol: 564-5530  
Maintenance: 564-5522  
Parking Services: 564-5523  
Office Fax: 560-7580

Local area code (805)



## Clean Marina Corner

### OPERATION CLEAN SWEEP MAY 7TH

Beginning a second “circumnavigation” of the harbor, the 10th annual Operation Clean Sweep, a volunteer seafloor cleanup program, will take place on Saturday, May 7th. Over the first nine years, volunteer divers and dock workers removed an astounding 16 tons of debris from beneath docks throughout the harbor. On May 7th they'll return to the project's place of origin in Marina 4, where volunteers removed two tons of debris in their initial effort. Hopefully, and one would expect, this year's haul will be less, exhibiting both the program's ongoing success and boaters' increased sense of responsibility when it comes to discarding items into the harbor.

Interested in participating in the May 7th Clean Sweep event? Contact Mick Kronman, Harbor Operations Manager, at (805) 897-2587, or via email at [mkronman@santabarbaraca.gov](mailto:mkronman@santabarbaraca.gov).



City of Santa Barbara Photo: Diver hands off debris to a dock volunteer at 2015 Harbor Clean Sweep

### HARBOR NAUTICAL SWAP MEET AND HAZMAT TURN-IN DAY MAY 14TH

Mick Kronman, Harbor Operations Manager

The tenth annual Harbor Nautical Swap Meet, an event that continues to gain popularity, takes place on May 14th. A benefit for the Harbor Merchants Association (HMA), the Swap Meet allows boaters to buy and sell marine items (kayaks, surfboards, fishing tackle and all manner of boat rigging) before boating season begins in earnest. Applications for \$10 vendor spots (each the size of a parking stall) will be available at the Harbormaster's Office and on

the Waterfront Department's website beginning Monday, April 11th. As usual, a Hazmat turn-in will accompany the Nautical Swap Meet, an opportunity for slip permittees to clear their dock boxes of petroleum products, varnish, paint cans and such.

And remember—there will be free coffee, donuts, bagels and fruit for vendors and the public, thanks to Santa Barbara Roasting Company, the Berry Man and HMA. So whether buying, selling or just perusing, this is a Harbor event you don't want to miss. Questions? Contact Mick Kronman, Harbor Operations Manager, at 805-897-2587.



City of Santa Barbara Photo: 2015 Harbor Nautical Swap Meet

## HARBOR NEWS

### DESIGNATED FISHING AREAS ON STEARNS WHARF

Mick Kronman, Harbor Operations Manager

For decades, recreational fishermen have enjoyed wetting their lines and catching everything from mackerel to halibut off the seaward end of Stearns Wharf. In order to ensure safe pedestrian and vehicle traffic, much of the rest of the Wharf (with the exception of the shoreward finger beyond the Sea Center), has been off-limits to fishing. There were plenty of signs to that effect, saying, “No Fishing.”

There was only one problem. Though right-minded and well-placed, the signs had no Municipal Code ordinance associated with them and were therefore unenforceable. Last August, City Council changed that by adopting an Ordinance designating where anglers may and may not fish on the Wharf. The “No Fishing” signs have been aesthetically upgraded, reduced in number, and now include the Municipal Code section making them enforceable.

Meanwhile, “Designated Fishing Area” language has been artfully painted on the deck at the seaward and shoreward ends of the Wharf, showing exactly where fishing is permitted, even encouraged, with added language saying, “Good Luck!”

So if you live locally or contact visitors to the Waterfront, the new signage should clarify where to fish or not fish on the Wharf. The Ordinance also includes language allowing the Waterfront Director to temporarily change these designated areas to accommodate special events (like, say, a fishing derby that would expand a fishing area or a special event at the Sea Center that might shrink it).

If you have questions about the designated fishing areas, please call Mick Kronman, Harbor Operations Manager, at 805-897-2587.



City of Santa Barbara Photo

### BUSINESS ACTIVITY PERMITS—LEGIT?

Patrick Henry, Property Management Specialist

The Santa Barbara Municipal Code requires anyone providing a business service in the Harbor to first obtain a permit from the Waterfront Department. The permits are called Business Activity Permits (BAPs) and cost \$20 per year.

An important goal of the BAP program is to ensure that vendors performing work for boat owners in the marinas have proper liability insurance, as well as a City of Santa Barbara Business License.

If you're looking for someone to work on your boat, please check with us before you start. We keep up-to-date insurance certificates on file for every vendor authorized to work in the Harbor.

Call me during working hours to check if the vendor you wish to hire has a current Certificate of Liability Insurance on file, so we can confirm that their insurance has not expired or lapsed, even if they have a BAP identification card.

If you wish to hire a vendor who is not (yet) authorized to work in the marina, send them over to the Waterfront Administration Office and we'll assist them with getting a BAP. We also cover “Clean Boating Guide” principles to ensure best practices are followed to avoid polluting the Harbor or wasting water.

A current list of all permittees qualified to work in the marinas is available at the Waterfront Department office front desk, or by calling me directly at (805) 897-1961.



## NEW LIFE JACKET LAW FOR CHILDREN

*Steve McCullough, Harbor Patrol Supervisor*

A new law regarding requirements for children wearing Personal Floatation Devices (PFDs—commonly called life jackets) took effect January 1, 2016. Previously, children under the age of 13 were required to wear PFDs on sail or power vessels 26 feet long or shorter while underway, unless the child was in an enclosed cabin. Over the years, however, power boats—especially speedboats operated on inland lakes and reservoirs—have grown longer and faster, prompting safety concerns for children aboard those craft.

Legislative bill AB 638, authored by Assembly Member Jim Frazier, whose district covers much of Contra Costa and Sacramento counties, and sponsored by the California Sheriffs Association, prompted a change in the law, now found in the amended Section 658.3 of the state's Harbors and Navigation Code. The new law applies to power or sail vessels of any size, not just 26 feet long or shorter. Licensed passenger-carrying vessels are exempt.

Though staff anticipates infrequent contacts where this law would apply, the Department will begin educating boaters on the requirements. We encourage boaters, as well, to spread the word about this new requirement, intended to make boating safer for children.



*City of Santa Barbara Photo: Blaze Wiegand demonstrates proper PFD use*

## PATROL BOAT 1 REPLACING THE FLEET'S WORKHORSE

*Karl Treiberg, Waterfront Facilities Manager*

Built in 1983 by local boatwright Ron Radon, Patrol Boat 1 has been in constant use ever since. At 20', it's our smallest patrol boat but has covered the most miles and undertaken the most tows, rescues, patrols and everything else expected of a Harbor Patrol boat. It was even used to tow in a horse that was swimming out to sea. After 33 years, however, it's time to put Patrol Boat 1 itself out to pasture.

Overall, our patrol-boat fleet is relatively old. Patrol Boat 1 is our oldest, with our newest vessel, Patrol Boat 3, built in 1998. Staff has done a great job maintaining all the boats with engine replacements approximately every five years and periodic hull work to keep them reliable for Harbor Patrol to do its job.

Despite constant maintenance, these boats—like any boat—don't last forever. Patrol Boat 1 was scheduled for engine replacement and significant hull work this year. Staff learned, however, that the boat could be replaced using money set aside for the engine replacement plus the Waterfront's recently created Vessel Replacement Reserve Fund. Anticipating the need to begin replacing our patrol boats, the Fund, accruing at \$75,000 per year, was included in the Waterfront budget beginning last year. It's already proving useful, allowing us to replace Patrol Boat 1 instead of the alternative—a costly, time-consuming maintenance project. Considering the replacement costs of our other patrol boats, the annual allocation for this fund will double next year and allow us to replace Patrol Boat 2 in about six years.

With a bid award pending, staff anticipates completed construction of a new Patrol Boat 1 late this year or early 2017.



City of Santa Barbara Waterfront Department  
132-A Harbor Way, Santa Barbara, CA 93109

## Free Oil-Absorbent Bilge Pads

Help prevent bilge-oil leaks, discharges, and spills in the harbor. Stop by the Harbormaster's Office and pick up your **free** oil-absorbent bilge pads funded by a grant from CalRecycle.

## Got Used Oil?

Find a certified Used Oil Recycling Center\* near you. A list of Recycling Center locations is also available at the Harbormaster's Office.

\*For a complete list of certified used-oil collection centers, hours of operation, and types of materials collected, visit <http://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/usedoil/certcenters/>

This publication of DockLines is funded by a grant from the Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery (CalRecycle).

To:



## 2016 WATERFRONT PARKING PERMITS—GET YOURS TODAY!

*Cesar Barrios, Waterfront Parking Supervisor*

Residents or visitors who frequent Santa Barbara's Waterfront Parking Lots are encouraged to purchase an Annual Waterfront Parking Permit. General permits cost \$100 and slip-permittee permits (one per slip) cost \$70. Permits are valid from the date of purchase through December 31, 2016. General permits are available at the Harbormaster's Office and all Waterfront parking kiosks (except Stearns Wharf). Slip-Permittee permits may only be purchased at the Harbormaster's Office. For Waterfront parking details contact the Parking Office at 897-1965.

## WET WEDNESDAYS

Following the Yacht Club's opening-day ceremonies on March 6th, complete with a wild and windy regatta, Wet Wednesday races began March 16th. A Yacht Club staple and harbinger of the upcoming boating season, Wet Wednesday races run through October 19th. The races are open to any boat entered by a member of a U.S. Sailing Association-recognized club. Locally, this means Santa Barbara Sailing Club and Santa Barbara Yacht Club boats, with occasional out-of-town visitors invited to participate. Also, anyone can participate as crew aboard an eligible boat.

Wet Wednesday courses vary with wind conditions and boat size, and vary in length from 2-8 miles. The first start is at 5:10 p.m., followed by six other classes spaced five minutes apart. Following the races, the Yacht Club hosts an "after party" barbeque open to all racers and their guests. For more information, contact the Santa Barbara Yacht Club at 965-8112 or visit their website at [www.sbyc.org](http://www.sbyc.org).

## 2016 Upcoming Events Schedule

|             |                           |
|-------------|---------------------------|
| May 7       | Operation Clean Sweep     |
| May 14      | Nautical Swap Meet        |
| July 4      | Fourth of July            |
| October 15  | Harbor & Seafood Festival |
| December 11 | Parade of Lights          |

Visit

[www.SantaBarbaraCa.gov/Waterfront](http://www.SantaBarbaraCa.gov/Waterfront)  
for more details

## 2016 Regular Meeting Schedule of the Santa Barbara Harbor Commission

|             |              |
|-------------|--------------|
| January 14  | July 21      |
| February 18 | August 18    |
| March 17    | September 15 |
| April 21    | October 20   |
| May 19      | November 17  |
| June 16     | December 15  |

Harbor Commission regularly meets on the third Thursday of each month at 6:30 p.m. in City Council Chambers