THE NEWS MAGAZINE OF MARINA DEL REY No. 34

Season's Greetings

del rey DINGHY

13011-A Washington Blvd.,
Los Angeles, California 90066

A VISIT FROM ST. NICHOLAS

(With apologies to Clement C. Moore)

T'was the night before Christmas, when all through the harbor
Not a ripple bestirred the sloop of Sam Barber;
Stockings were hung from the boom with care,
In hopes that St. Nicholas soon would be there;
The children were nestled all snug in their beds,
While visions of Sabots danced in their heads;
And Mom in her kerchief, and Sam in his cap,
Had just settled in for a long winter's nap,—
When out on the dock there arose such a clatter,
Sam sprang from his bunk to see what was the matter.
Out into the cockpit he flew like a flash,
Peered at the shrouds, then out past the mast.
The moon on the breast of the shimmering harbor
Shone like midday in the eyes of Sam Barber;
When, what to his wondering eyes should appear,
But a miniature ship and eight tiny reindeer,
With a little old skipper, so lively and quick
Sam knew in a moment it must be St. Nick.
More rapid than white caps his coursers they came,
And he whistled and shouted, and called them by name:
"Now, Dasher! now, Dancer! now, Prancer and Vixen!
On Comet, on Cupid! on Donder and Blitzen!
Ready about! Now, hard a lee all!"
As dry leaves that before the wild hurricane fly,
When they meet with an obstacle, mount to the sky,
So up to the mast head the coursers they flew,
With the ship full of toys—and the small skipper, too.
As Sam dropped his gaze and was turning around,
Down the mast St. Nicholas came with a bound.
He was dressed all in fur from his head to his foot,
And his clothes were all tarnished with ashes and soot;
A bundle of toys he had flung on his back,
And he looked like a peddler just opening his pack.
His eyes how they twinkled! his dimples how merry!
His cheeks were like roses, his nose like a cherry;
His droll little mouth was drawn up like a bow,
And the beard on his chin was as white as the snow.
The stump of a pipe he held tight in his teeth,
And the smoke it encircled his head like a wreath.
He had a broad face and a little round belly
That shook, when he laughed, like a bowl full of jelly.
He was shubby and plump,--right jolly old elf,
And Sam laughed, when he saw him, in spite of himself.
A wink of the eye and a twist of the head
Soon gave Sam to know he had nothing to dread.
He spoke not a word, but went straight to his work,
And filled all the stockings; then turned with a jerk,
And laying his finger aside of his nose,
And giving a nod, up the mast he rose.
He sprang to his ship, to his team gave a whistle,
And away they all flew like the down of a thistle;
But Sam heard him exclaim, ere he sailed out of sight,
"Happy Christmas to all, and to all a good-night!"

FREE classifieds—Page 8

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of
MARINA DEL REY, CALIFORNIA

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Where to get your copy of the "Dinghy"

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Playa del Rey Marine
Sheraton Marina Hotel
Small Crafts Adm. Bldg.
Val's Pharmacy
Villa del Mar Marina
Villa Venetia Apts.
Windward Yacht & Repair
44 Del Rey Marina

The Del Rey Dinghy is published every other Friday by Borgeson Advertising Co., 13011-A Washington Blvd., Los Angeles, California, 90066; phone 398-4472. Distributed free of charge in Marina del Rey.

Free Classifieds—see Page 8

STAND BY—GET READY—MARK!

By Herb Ritts

CONGRATULATIONS to the winners of the Festival of Lights. I m sure all the devoted and untold hours of work by the contestant is never known to the public. Weldon Fulton, one of the first Easter Parade winners, said it takes many weeks of planning and preparation before the actual decorations are installed on the boat. The physical effort is a deadline rush by loyal workers to secure everything in its proper place before the parade.

The electrifying artistic results are well worth all the effort, and a hearty thanks to everyone associated with this beautiful spectable.

How about your own boat--have you thought of rewarding "her" for this year of loyal service? We all know "girls" like gifts, so how about giving her shiny new 'hearings. Perhaps something to get "her" safely home on a dark stormy night--like a R.D.F. Maybe "she" would like to assert her proudness by winking through the fleet on a foggy day with radar.

If her Watusi is dragging and she's no longer in the swim, you might haul out and have her bottom smoothed out. A complete physical may reveal she has lost her sparkle and a general tune up may bring her back to good health.

If you have twins and don't want to be partial, a synchronizer would keep both of them quiet and even tempered. There are many other attractive and useful gifts that will make "her" more attractive, comfortable and safer for next year's sailing.

In summing up our year of family cruising we all are grateful and extend our best wishes for a HAPPY HOLIDAY SEASON to: The U.S. Power Squadron Educational Program and instructors for teaching us how to enjoy safe boating--the U.S. Coast Guard for its constant vigil of assistance and maintaining its aids to navigation--the gracious and helpful families at the Isthmus who make each visit there a happy one--the Southern California Yacht Clubs and their staff and members who have extended their generous hospitality--the fellow Skippers on sailboats who give a friendly wave to a power boat--those frisky porpoises, whales and fish who delight our children and make their cruise eventful--the Marina and its entire staff who give us a beautiful and safe harbor to come home to--the ever helpful attendants at the gas dock always ready and eager to help--our favorite dock with its congenial staff and neighbors who constantly make sure our "Dolphin" is comfortably resting well in her slip--our second home, The California Yacht Club with its exceptional staff and family-like members.

It's been a wonderful boating year for all of us, and all the members of the Ritts family join me in wishing you a MERRY XMAS and a HAPPY CRUISING NEW YEAR!

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&

happy new year
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for a HAPPY
NEW YEAR!
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Merry Christmas

Al Brandt

HAPPY HOLIDAYS

California YC

To Our Friends
at Marina del Rey
SEASON'S GREETINGS —
JEFFRIES MARINE SUPPLY, MARITIME RADIO,
WEST COAST MARINE ELECTRIC &
YACHT SERVICE CO.

Merry Christmas!

Betty Sanders

Bowline Bites

by Al A. Adams

"The bright yuletide star guides sea farers in their travels—brings them to peace with the peoples of the world."

• • •

Christmas and sailing have a very close affinity for me and I think for many who sail. Each Christmas, since I have been sailing, the season has been made all the more pleasant by the unusual surroundings made possible by the boat. Wonderful variety of settings have been my lot to experience. To have a well rounded life one should try to look as far forward as he looks back, so let me look back at Christmases and forward to those I anticipate.

Looking back happily to sailing Yules, I recall a white Christmas on the Chesapeake with four inches of snow on the decks. It was cold but with companions and the warmth of the great cabin, a tree at the masthead makes a setting most difficult to duplicate. Another was the pre-Christmas shopping in the city of Hamilton, Bermuda, Christmas eve in the Atlantic, and Christmas day on Watlings Island, San Salvador, British West Indies. This was most pleasant in the historic setting of the island where Christopher Columbus first set foot on the New World. Our Christmas tree at the masthead intrigued the island people. After a dinner of conch chowder, grits, red snapper and turtle, gifts were exchanged on the beach where the crews of the Nina, Pinta and Santa Maria got there land legs and started a new way of life. The influence of Columbus is much felt throughout the West Indies. A highlight of that day was to have the spontaneous singing of those wonderful destitute natives as they stood with heads bared and tear-filled eyes. Their island anthem especially sung for us was of the voyage of Columbus and his arrival on their shores. They were so proud and so humble.

One Christmas night was spent in the colorful setting of the harbor at Port Au Price, Haiti where the natives came out from shore in a fleet of dugout canoes. Small fires in their boats and oil lamps made a never-to-be-forgotten scene as they circled our boat singing French creole songs to the beat of their voo doo drums. The spirit of Christmas was far different but it was there.

In sharp contrast was the Christmas setting as I sailed the 106 ft. schooner Dwyn Wen into Tatoosh Island at the entrance to the Strait of Juan De Fuca. Indians and fishermen were happy to come aboard and share hot stew and hot buttered rums. It was a cold setting but eight Portuguese, four Indians and two Eskimos are great friends on board a grand old schooner at anchor at Christmas.

Christmas in Charlotte Amalie, St. Thomas in the Virgin Islands with the charter boat skippers and crews was festive especially with a barrel of West Indian rum. Steel drums can handle Christmas carols as well as Nelson Riddle s orchestra, and a beautiful mulatto girl was personable with the steel band and Silent Night. Again it s different but so friendly, especially at Christmas.

A setting that was impressive

—Continued Page 7

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CAL-20 NEWS

The January Cal-20 Meeting will feature a color slide presentation by Jim Patillo showing imaginative or unusual Cal-20 accessories and rigging. Bill Krase will also talk briefly on racing starts. The monthly meeting will be held at the Pieces of Eight restaurant on January 5, at 8:00 P.M.

RACE RESULTS:

Dec. 4 Rabbit Race Series

1st - #579 Bill Krase
2nd - #533 Art Burk
3rd - #682 Les Levitt
4th - #420 Larry Bergman
5th - #537 Mel Ford

Dec. 11 Novice Skipper Race

1st - #579 Tom Krase
2nd - #482 Gordon Saver
3rd - #625 John Freeman

CALENDAR

JAN. 1&2 – RESOLUTION REGRETTA
Eligible to OR & PHRF classes. Must be a member of a YC that is registered with SCYA.
Sponsored by Westward Cruising Club.

JAN. 8&9 – WINTER SERIES
OUTSIDE DIV. - 1 design keel over 20 ft. eligible if member of a YC registered with SCYA.
Sponsored by Windjammer s YC.
INSIDE DIV. - Sponsored by South Coast Corinthian YC.

JAN. 9 – CAL-20 NOVICE SKIPPER RACE
All novice skippers of Cal-20s are invited to participate. Skippers Meeting will be held at Corinthian Yacht Sales on Marquesas Way at 10:30 AM.

Al A. Adams
—Continued

was Christmas in Puerto Vallarta, Mexico. The Mexican people brought small candies and fruit and invited us ashore to attend services and then to their homes to sit outside on the patio and listen to the village prepare for sundown greetings, with candles burning, guitars, and the church groups singing Noche De Paz.

It is a grand experience to be in settings like these, but for those who would like Christmas nearer to home it is a wonderful time to be on your boat in Cherry Cove or at Whites or Catalina Harbor. At anchor, in a snug cabin under a starry sky, the mistle toe is in it's element just as it is on shore.

And in the future—I look with anticipation to Christmas this year in Smugglers Cove at S nta Cruz Island. As for the further Christmases, I plan on one in the Greek Islands in the Mediterranean Sea, another in Paramaribo, Surinam and look forward to a very special Christmas on board in a peaceful Gulf of Tonkin at Vietnam.

Merry Christmas

* *

IF YOU BELONG TO A CAL-20 who lives in Marina del Rey, you should also belong to the Marina del Rey Cal-20 Fleet. We have meetings at the Pieces of Eight Restaurant, at 8:00 PM, on the 1st Wednesday of every month. We discuss Cal-20 rigging, Cal-20 maintenance, and occasionally, Cal-20 owners who are non-members. Come and listen, or talk, at our next meeting, January 5.

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JOB WANTED, with a yacht broker, boatyard or as a Marina manager. Twenty years experience as owner of a marine hardware and boatyard in Santa Monica. Call GL 4-3756.

FOR SALE, 5 Beach Front lots, fronting marina del rey, 195 ft. frontage R3. All or part. Near channel. Call OL 3-9830.

FOR RENT, furnished apts. Bachelors, singles, 1 bdrms. Close to Marina. Reasonable. Adults call EX 8-0317.

FOR RENT, Marina Peninsula, Voyage Street. Live on the beach. Walk to your boat. Just a few steps from Channel entrance. Love house, fireplace. Furnished - $250. Call CR 3-4555.

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FOR SALE, 50 watt Apelco radiophone, $225.00. 30 watt Fisher, $165.00. Call Chuck EX 9-9311 ext. 2418, or GL 4-8995.

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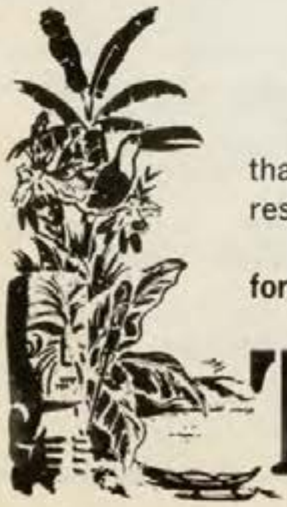

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