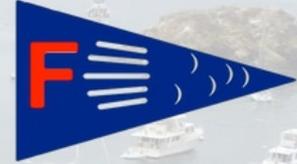




**Fairwind  
Yacht Club**

*marina del rey · channel islands*



February 2016

Editor: Ken Hoover

Volume 44, No. 2

*Safety Is No Accident*

Commodore's Log

# MDR Boats Move To Shiny New Slips

**By Richard Windebank**  
*Commodore*

On Saturday, Feb, 13, we held a Town Hall Meeting for members of Marina Del Rey and all members were invited to attend. We addressed matters specific to Marina Del Rey, and we discussed the Motions the Board is considering presenting to the entire membership at the upcoming Membership meeting in CIH on Feb. 27.

Most of the discussion relating to marina Del Rey focused on the return of our Boats to G1400 dock, following the redevelopment of the marina over the last year.

Effective Tuesday, Feb. 16, all MDR boats, with the exception of the Catalina 38 Tardis, will be kept in contiguous leeward slips on G1400 dock. Tardis will remain in Slip G1517 at Marina Del Rey Marina until March 12, at which time it will be moved to slip G812, just outside the Club House of Santa Monica Windjammers Yacht Club.

Having all of our boats back together will be a huge benefit to our Club and make things so much simpler for everyone. I greatly appreciate the patience and understanding of all our members throughout the inconveniences we have had to endure. The new slips are a major upgrade and will hopefully serve our Club well for many years to come. I believe we will all conclude that it was well worth the wait.

**Next Club Meeting Feb. 27 at  
Channel Islands Harbor**

The next membership meeting will be Saturday, Feb. 27 at 10:30 a.m. at the Paz Mar Apt. Clubhouse, 3400 Peninsula Road, Oxnard.

Meetings are open to all members.

A Mapquest link is [here](#).

**Radio Class**

*Norm Perron offers class in radio, AIS March 2.*

*Page 3.*

**Roy Niebuhr Remembered**

*Marc Levine and Ken Murray offer reminiscences.*

*Page 4 and 5.*

**CIH Report**

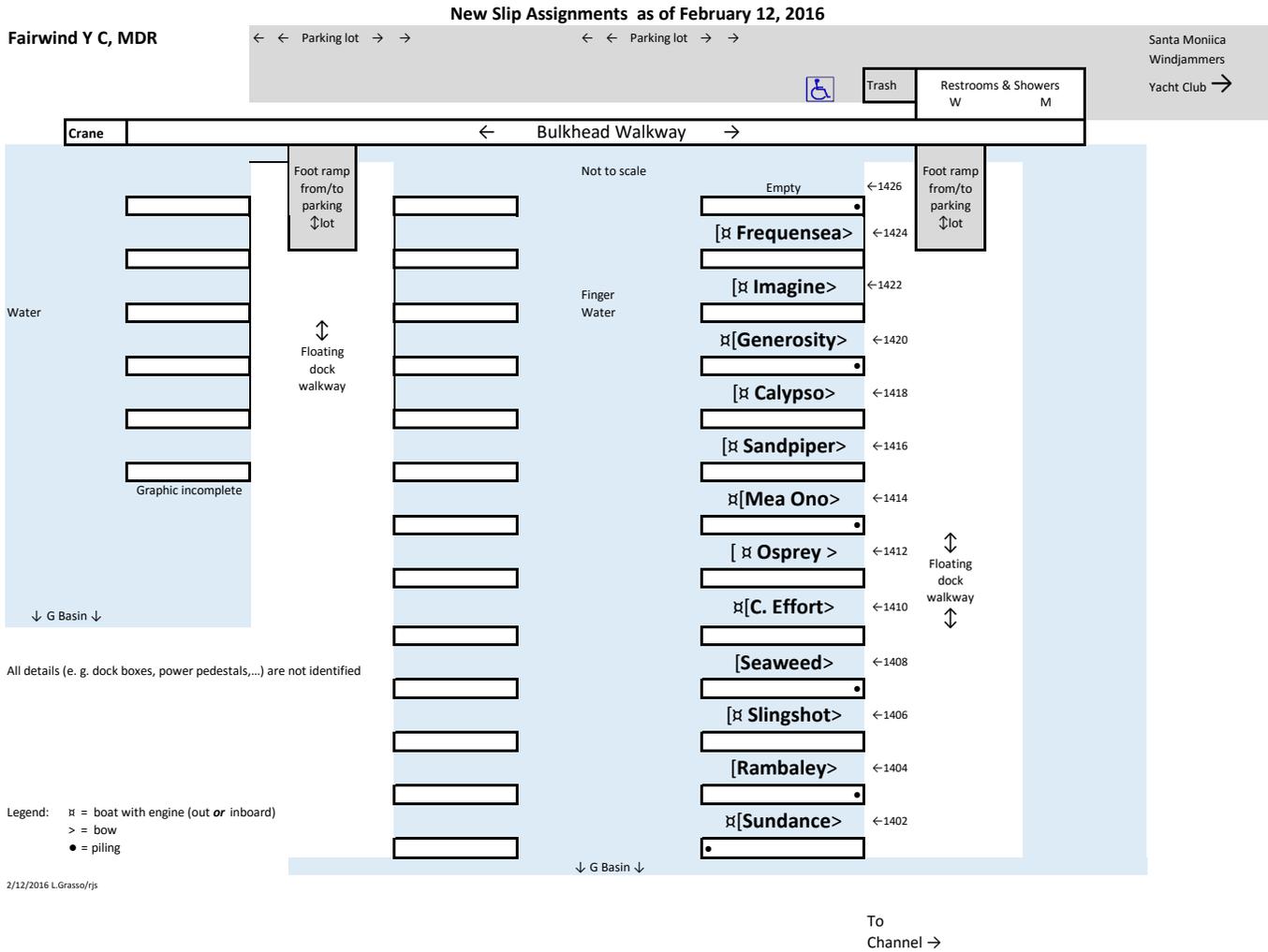
*Michael Delaney says the fleet is ship shape.*

*Page 6.*

We will have an official “Dock Opening Ceremony” at 11 AM on Saturday, March 12, which is our next Saturday Work Day and Open House.

There are a few details I would like to share with you about the move.

We have thought long and hard about the safest and most efficient configuration of our boats in the new slips. Nothing is cast in stone, but we have made our first attempt to arrive at the best configuration. Specifically, we



have positioned the small boats further out from the sea wall. We have placed Frequensea closest to the sea wall because it is one of the most maneuverable boats in our fleet where we can take advantage of prop walk and prop wash plus the reliability of a diesel engine. Also, since it is a medium boat, we tend to have more experienced skippers than on the small boats. I do not anticipate we will have any difficulties docking Frequensea in it’s new slip.

We have also positioned the Trimaran, Slingshot, in between Seaweed and Rambaley, neither of which have outboard motors protruding from the stern. We have placed the large boats away from the pilings to minimize the risk of contact with the bow.

What we now need to do is assume a new Safety Focus on bringing our boats in and out of their slips. It is incumbent on every skipper to strive for zero incidents of collisions, etc. and I urge you to play your part in this goal.

Another focus that needs our upmost attention is compliance with the Terms and Conditions of our new lease. A copy is being posted on the Website under Members/Documents/Harbor Specific Documents/Marina Del Rey/Beaches and Harbors Rules and Regulations 2016. These regulations are 19 pages long . We cannot do any major repairs on boats in the slips. We cannot remove a mast, we must not hop the fences and we can only leave a car in the car park for 3 days. Longer than that requires the vehicle be Safe Listed with the Department of Beaches and Harbors. We must all conduct ourselves in a responsible manner and be courteous and respectful to our neighbors and the staff of the marina.

So looking forward, what are the next things we need to address in MDR and in Fairwind? I see three key issues we need to address.

The first is to conduct a detailed review of our budget and make sure that the Dues we set in place for Oct. 1 are what they need to be for prudent financial management. Second, I think we need to reconfigure the constitution of the Board in light of our focus on increased autonomy for the two Harbors. And third, at least for MDR, we need to review our fleet of boats. We currently have a waiting list of about 10 members wanting to move up from Medium to Large. There are several options of how to address this. We can leave things as they are with a long waiting list. We could reclassify one of the Medium Boats as Large e.g. Slingshot (which I do not think is a good idea). We could sell one medium boat and buy another large. Or, we could simply add a fourth Large boat. But, with any of these scenarios, we need to consider the financial impacts on the Club, especially on MDR.

If 10 members move up from Medium to Large, that increases our income by about \$4,000 per year. But, if we add another boat like Tardis, that increases our expenses by about \$25,000 per year. So how to fund the difference, becomes a major challenge. We can do any of these things. We just need to be prepared to pay for them.

In summary, I think the Club is in great shape in both Harbors. MDR will be better situated than we have been for years. We have some great new members and Volunteers and we have a strong spirit of cooperation and unity.

Thanks for your part, in making the Club what it is.

## **Seminar On Marina VHF, DSC Radios & AIS March 2**

There will be a Seminar, kindly hosted by our member Norm Perron, at 8 PM on Wednesday, March 2. The location will be the Dining Room (now called the Regatta Room) at Santa Monica Windjammers yacht Club. Dinner will be available at 7 PM at \$16 for SMWYC Members and \$18 for all others.

Please reserve at [reservations@smwyc.org](mailto:reservations@smwyc.org) by noon on Wednesday, March 2 if you plan to attend. Feel free to bring your own fully charged hand held radio if you wish.

**--Richard Windebank**

# Remembering Staff Commodore Roy Niebuhr

By Marc Levine  
*Staff Commodore*

Many of you may already be aware of this. We recently lost a great club member. Roy Niebuhr was one of the early members of Fairwind. I knew him for over thirty years. He was a wonderful friend, mentor and teacher to me as well as a rock-of-Gibraltar supporter of our club. His love and enthusiasm for sailing and our club was immeasurable and contagious.

When I joined Fairwind as an aging youth in my twenties, I met a group of sailors who were older and more experienced than I was in sailing. I learned so much from them. Roy was one of those men.

Roy was fleet captain when I joined the club. Our small boats were Capri 14s with center boards. They could capsize easily. Roy's supervision of training was meticulous. He had us take a swim test as part of our qualifications for Red Cross small boat safety certifications. He was always very involved in our club from recruitment of new members, to training members, as well as board service. He was our commodore for two separate terms over the years.

One of my fondest memories of Roy is a cruise I went on many years ago on a Catalina 25 we owned, which was a very roomy boat due to its pop-top main cabin deck that handled very poorly in rough seas. We were in some building weather which in a couple of hours turned into 38 knots of wind with 12-foot seas.

This was one of my first cruises, and Roy was very worried about me and my crew. He called around trying to see if anyone had heard from us due to my scheduled return to home port that day. When I got the boat back to Cat Harbor safely, I called Roy to report in that the boat and crew were safely secured.

I was very thankful for all the intense and professional training I received from Roy. Using skills and judgment in heavy weather situations, such as reefing, proper anchoring, jack lines with harnesses, as well as dragging lines off of our stern to slow the boat down were all employed in this situation.

I am not sure what would have happened in that situation without the kind of training Roy provided us as a highly involved fleet captain with our members.

He will be truly missed by me and all of us who experienced his wonderful friendship, mentorship and contributions to our club.

There has been some discussion about a memorial service honoring and celebrating his life and time with us and our club. Announcements should be forthcoming.

# Roy Niebuhr Brought Rigor, Order To Fairwind's Training and Management

**Ken Murray**  
*Fleet Surgeon*

About 10 years ago, I took my first job on our Board as secretary, which gave me access to boxes of all the minutes and newsletters since the Club had began. I decided to begin a months-long process of reading them all, to gain perspective on what had gone on before.

I was surprised to see a pattern emerge. The Club had puttered along with its 50-odd members and a rather lax "training" system. I was surprised at the rate of accidents, which was a substantial part of each month's meetings.

And then there was an obvious new presence, which brought organization to the training that we still use today, by a then Air Force Lt. Colonel, recently passed member Roy Niebuhr. First as Fleet Captain, and then as Commodore, he led a reorganization that persists, and had a dramatic impact on improving sailing skills and reducing accidents.

Still on our website is the Management Plan that he and Staff Commodore Mark Zierten wrote in 1985, in the "members section." It is still a good read, and amazing to see how some problems recur.

Roy was one of few people, of the thousands that passed through Fairwind, who clearly had an impact on what we still experience, and I greatly enjoyed seeing him at our workdays every week. He'll be missed by all of us.

# CIH Fleet In Great Shape; Spring Activities Coming Into Focus

By Michael Delaney

*Jr. Staff Commodore & Interim Rear Commodore*

This past month, a Town Hall meeting was held in CIH to discuss the proposed Motions to be presented at the Feb. 27 General Membership Meeting as well as a review of CIH business. The meeting was well attended with about 40 members attending. Comments were collected regarding the proposed motions and will be forwarded to the Board for review.

The CIH Committee met prior to the Town Hall meeting to address some standard business tasks. The minutes for the meeting are posted on the website at: [http://www.fairwind.org/members/meetings\\_club/CIH%20Comm%20Minutes%20013016.pdf](http://www.fairwind.org/members/meetings_club/CIH%20Comm%20Minutes%20013016.pdf)

The CIH Fleet is in great condition. This month we have added sails to:

- Mistral: Mainsail
- Island Star: Genoa
- CompanionShip: Genoa and Mainsail
- Turning Point: Genoa and Furler

We are still awaiting sails for Zephyr and Driftwood.

Island Side is back in service. She has received a new prop shaft and coupler bracket. The engine has been realigned. This has reduced the vibration that was being experienced under power. The rudder and aft hull areas were also repaired. The rudder post was shimmed to reduce excessive play.

For the status of all the CIH boats, the Rear Commodore monthly report can be viewed at:

[http://www.fairwind.org/members/board\\_reports/CIH%20RC%20Feb2016.pdf](http://www.fairwind.org/members/board_reports/CIH%20RC%20Feb2016.pdf)

We will be starting a series of training seminars this winter and spring. The first seminar will be “Everything you wanted to know about Diesel Engines but were afraid to ask” to be presented by Dennis Derley in March. The specific date is tbd.

The first CIH Cruise will be coming up in early March with the CIH Whale Watch Day Cruise on March 5<sup>th</sup>. Look for the announcement from Scott Kelly about two weeks prior to the cruise.

Fairwind Yacht Club is a great organization that offers terrific sailing at moderate prices. One way we give back to the club and community is by volunteering. The Fairwind Youth Sailing Programs are a great opportunity to give back. We are starting up a new session of training for Casa Pacifica kids. These at-risk kids come mostly on Sunday afternoons for training in the pond in Capri 14's, but once a month we will go out on a Friday afternoon in the 22's. What we need are people to man the chase boat in the pond (basically putt around in a dinghy with an outboard for the afternoon) and people to want to teach sailing. You don't have to currently be a trainer for the pond sessions (we will train you to be a trainer). Contact Rob Haynes if you are interested in helping with this program.

# MEMBERSHIP GUIDE – WHERE TO GO FOR WHAT

Update Contact Information for Membership Roster – Vice Commodore, Paul Aist

Pay Dues – Fairwind Yacht Club, P O Box 12684, Marina del Rey, CA 90295

Training and checkout - Fleet Captain (Shar Campbell for MDR; Alan McGovern for CIH)

Cruising: Cruise Chair (Arlene de Anda for MDR; Scott Kelly for CIH)

Racing: Race Chair (Mark Arbing for MDR, TBD for CIH)

Report an Accident - Safety Officer/Rear Commodore (Ron Sasiela/Lenox Grasso for MDR; Michael Adams/Alan Howell for CIH)

Gear broken on boat - Specific Boat Chief (from Fairwind Website) + Rear Commodore (Lenox Grasso for MDR; Mike Delaney for CIH)

Submit Articles for Newsletter – Editor, Ken Hoover [kenhoover@me.com](mailto:kenhoover@me.com)

FYC Officers - [www.fairwind.org](http://www.fairwind.org)

Coast Guard - Channel 16 or 310-732-2043

VHF Calling Channels – 9 and 12.

Membership interaction – Email: [fairwindmembers@yahoogroups.com](mailto:fairwindmembers@yahoogroups.com)

Join Member's interaction group - <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/FairwindMembers/> and press the button to join

Updates to Website: [webcontent@fairwind.org](mailto:webcontent@fairwind.org)

Fairwind on Facebook: [www.facebook.com/fairwindyc](http://www.facebook.com/fairwindyc)

# February Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2 Groundhog Day MDR Workday	3	4	5	6
7	8 Chinese New Year	9 MDR Workday	10	11	12	13 CIH, MDR Meetings
14	15 Presidents' Day	16 MDR Workday	17	18	19	20 CIH Open House
21	22	23 MDR Workday	24	25	26	27 Membership Meeting
28	29					