



THE MARINA

AT DANA POINT

NEWSLETTER | FEBRUARY 2024

Greetings from The Marina at Dana Point!

It is time to celebrate the 53rd Annual Dana Point Festival of Whales! With all of the events happening right here in the harbor, it is sure to be a fun-filled weekend. The Festival of Whales will kickoff on Friday evening, March 1st with the Welcoming of the Whales at Ocean Institute followed by the Magical Migration Parade through Dana Point Harbor on Saturday morning, March 2nd at 10 AM. Parade staging will occur on the west end of Dana Drive from Island Way to Dana Point Yacht Club.



The parade route will be as follows:

1. Start at Dana Drive and Island Way,
2. Proceed north on Island Way over the bridge to Dana Point Harbor Drive,
3. Turn right on Dana Point Harbor Drive (eastbound side of street only),
4. Travel to Golden Lantern and turn right,
5. Turn right into the commercial parking lot and disband.

Some critical ROAD CLOSURE information with this route is as follows:

- Golden Lantern from Dana Point Harbor Drive to the Commercial Core Driveway will be CLOSED from 9 AM to 12 NOON.
- Access to the Commercial Core and East Basin Cove boater parking areas typically accessed by Golden Lantern or Casitas PI will be available from Embarcadero (34512 Embarcadero PI).
- Island Way (bridge) will be unavoidably congested during the parade. **IF YOU ACCESS THE ISLAND (DANA DRIVE), REMEMBER THAT ISLAND WAY (BRIDGE) WILL BE CLOSED FROM**

9:00 AM to 12 NOON FOR THE PARADE; NO ACCESS WILL BE ALLOWED FROM EITHER DIRECTION DURING THAT TIME WITH NO EXCEPTIONS.

- Dana Point Harbor Drive westbound to West Cove Boater Lot, Guest Dock Parking, Baby Beach and Ocean Institute area will remain open at all times.
- Eastbound traffic on Dana Point Harbor Drive from 9:00 AM to 12 NOON will have to U-turn and return to Baby Beach. If traffic wants to leave the harbor during that time, Cove Road to Green Lantern is available.
- **There will be NO VEHICULAR TRAFFIC allowed in the Parade Route area during the closures, nor will traffic be allowed to cross in that area.**

If your boat is located in the east or west basin island and you require access to or from the boat on Saturday, March 2nd from 9:00 AM to 12 NOON, please let us know and we are happy to see if we can find a temporary slip in a less impacted area of the marina for your use during that time. Simply give us a call at (949) 496-6137 or send me an [EMAIL](#).

We apologize for any inconvenience and truly appreciate your cooperation as we work with the City of Dana Point, County of Orange and Festival of Whales Foundation to bring this community cherished annual event to Dana Point Harbor.

Other events and activities to get excited for that will be taking place as part of the 53rd Annual Festival of Whales on Saturday, March 2nd include the Cardboard Classic and Dinghy Dash, Whales, Tails & Ales Street Fair and Clam Chowder Cookoff. Sunday, March 3rd festival festivities will include the very popular and fun Concert on the Water & BBQ featuring Jimmy's Buffet and Yacht by Nature playing on a floating stage off Baby Beach 12-5 PM. As always, the festival will feature a variety of classic cars and boats on display as well as Art in the Park much of which will be in a new location in the large grass area on Dana Point Harbor Drive just outside the west basin cove boater lot. Festival of Whales merchandise will be for sale throughout the weekend starting Friday night at the Welcoming of the Whales event at Ocean Institute, Saturday and Sunday in the Dana Wharf area. Click [HERE](#) to see the full weekend schedule.

Enjoy the 53rd Annual Dana Point Festival of Whales!

Marina Office



Our office is open 8 AM to 5 PM daily including Saturday and Sunday. Please give us a call at (949) 496-6137 or stop by anytime if there is anything you need.

Things have been busy in the office with a lot of vessel movement as new slips open for occupancy. With the ongoing marina revitalization, there is a lot of movement happening that will leave slips next to you looking empty...but they are not. You can expect the slips to be occupied quickly once a boat vacates. Please do not help yourself to a slip that appears to be vacant. You will have a new neighbor very soon!

We recently completed repairs to the parking access system. All the sensor loops have been replaced with brand new loops. This should help the overall functionality of the system and eliminate some of the issues we have been having with passback violations. If you are not familiar with what a passback violation is, it occurs when your assigned RFID tag is attempting to gain entry or exit for a second time without having completed the full cycle the first time around. This could occur if you use your app to allow entry for a

vehicle then attempt to go through the gate with your own vehicle. Entry will be denied for the second vehicle if the first vehicle has not recorded an exit. Another way this may occur is if the system fails to read your RFID tag on entry or exit (gates are up and without power). This will trigger a passback violation and restrict access until the violation is cleared. Typically, when the gates are up, they are still fully functioning and reading RFID tags as you enter and exit. If you primarily use your app for access, you should always stop and scan the app at entry and exit even if the gates are up. Doing this will prevent the passback violation from occurring once the gates are back down.

It all seems confusing, but it is very simple if you follow these steps:

- If you enter the parking lot using your RFID tag, please exit the parking lot using your same RFID tag. This is a full loop.
- If you enter the parking lot using your app (as an alternative to your assigned RFID tag), please exit the parking lot using your app.
- If you wish to have a guest access the parking lot, please reserve, and issue them a guest pass for access. This should be done before they enter the parking lot. The guest passes work like the RFID tags...they must be used to enter before they can be used to exit.
- If you find yourself stuck at the gate for any reason, please use the “call for assistance” button on the kiosk. This will call our office during business hours and onsite security outside of business hours.
- If the worst of the worst happens and you find yourself locked inside the parking lot with no response to your call from the kiosk, go ahead and pay the lost ticket fee (\$16) to get out of the lot. Give the office a call the next morning and we will issue a full refund to the method of payment.

Need help with guest passes or setting up the app on your phone? Stop by the marina office. We are happy to help!

On the Docks



With any luck at all, the weather will soon begin to warm up and we will be enjoying longer days very soon! Boating season is just around the corner as we begin to see the beautiful signs of spring peeking through the clouds. As you begin to frequent the harbor more often in search of brilliant sunshine and relaxing days on the boat, we hope you will find the docks and facilities in good order. Our team continues to work hard to repair the old docks and stop any water leaks. In addition, we continue our ongoing cleaning of trash enclosures, sidewalks and showers. Please let us know if you see something in need of repair or if something is not right. Call the office and let us know...we will address it quickly.

If you feel like your boating skills have gotten a bit rusty during the winter break, have no fear! The US Coast Guard Auxiliary is hosting a Boating Skills & Seamanship class starting on March 27th. Here is everything you need to know:

Flotilla 68 – Dana Point USCG Auxiliary Public Education Class Boating Skills & Seamanship

Boating Skills & Seamanship (8 Nights)

Cost \$70

WHEN: Every Wed. evening from March 27 to May 15th. 7:00 PM to 9:00 PM

WHERE: Dana Point Community center. 34052 Del Obispo St., Dana Point

The USCG Auxiliary is the premier boating Safety education organization in the country. Our Boating Skills and Seamanship (BS&S) course is a comprehensive course designed for both the experienced and the novice boater. Topics include safety, knots, radio, aids to navigation, boat handling, rules of the road and many other valuable subjects. Successful completion will earn you your California Boater Operator card now required to operate a vessel in California waters. Includes comprehensive textbook.

Contact Eric Gritzmacher at ericgritzmacher@cox.net or call (949) 632-2378.

Or GiGi McAlwee at Mcalwee@gmail.com or call at 669-400-9046

Fine tuning your boating skills as you earn your California Boater Card is not a bad way to spend a few Wednesday evenings!

We receive a lot of calls and visitors to the marina office with concerns about the sea lion activity on the docks and the animals boarding vessels uninvited. As you are probably aware, sea lions are protected animals with very few permitted methods for deterring them. Fortunately, some of these methods work well to motivate the animals to move off the property and migrate to other areas. Our maintenance team is on the docks daily working hard to deter the sealions off the docks and vessels. We use a combination of methods including water hose, noise making, biodegradable gel pellet guns (kid toy from Amazon intended for use by families not wanting to go full into paintball play) and paintball guns with non-toxic and water-soluble paint balls. Of all the methods we have used, including installing buckets or barriers on the docks, the above methods have garnered the most favorable results. We have found, whatever method we use, consistency is the key. If you are in an area of the harbor where sealions are spending time, please click [HERE](#) to review the acceptable methods for deterring the animals. It seems the more that participate in the effort, the more successful we will be at moving the animals off the docks and vessels and back to the buoys and natural rock formations just outside the mouth of the harbor where they can comfortably relax the days away.

See something on the docks in need of attention? Give us a call...(949) 496-6137.

Marina Revitalization

It is a wonderful sight to see boats settled into slips in Phase 4! We truly enjoy the sight of these beautiful new docks filled with boats and boaters having fun and enjoying the experience. When the sun goes down, it is an absolutely stunning sight to see the docks lit up so brightly. The lanterns at the gangway entries give unique character to each dock while paying homage to our beautiful city and the rich history of Dana Point. We are just loving the lantern theme!

With slip selection for Phase 4 complete, we were able to bring in 22 new tenants off the 28' waitlist. This is

very exciting as it has been nearly three years since we offered 28 slips. Needless to say, the new tenants are super excited to be joining the Dana Point boating community!



Phase 5 is well underway with demolition complete and new docks being installed. Pile driving will happen next week...always a great sound to hear! Phase 5 is in the west basin cove where A-dock and the guest

dock were. This phase includes a handful of 26' slips, 191 - 30' slips and 4 end-ties. Slip selection is underway for these locations with the phase anticipated to open for occupancy in May 2024! Phase 5 will complete the west basin cove and includes **The Dock of the Crystal Lantern** (G16), **The Dock of the Sunrise Lantern** (G17), **The Dock of the Emerald Lantern** (G18) and **The Dock of the Sapphire Lantern** (G19).

Incase you have lost track, here are the docks that have been complete and are open for occupancy:

GATE 5: DOCK OF THE GREEN LANTERN

GATE 6: DOCK OF THE GREEN LANTERN

GATE 7: DOCK OF THE GREEN LANTERN

GATE 8: DOCK OF THE RUBY LANTERN

GATE 9: DOCK OF THE COPPER LANTERN

GATE 10: DOCK OF THE AMBER LANTERN

GATE 11: DOCK OF THE JADE LANTERN

GATE 12: DOCK OF THE NAVY LANTERN

GATE 13: DOCK OF THE ORANGE LANTERN

GATE 14: DOCK OF THE VIOLET LANTERN

GATE 15: DOCK OF THE CARDINAL LANTERN



This is very cool! If you have not had a chance to stop by and check out the new docks, please do make some time. We are happy to go over the layouts with you, take you down to the docks and talk about phasing, etc. Come by the marina office anytime or schedule time with Kelly by sending an [EMAIL](#). Becoming familiar with the phasing, slip sizes and locations will better prepare you for when it is your turn to select a slip and helps us to know where you want to be in the big picture.

With several new docks now open and occupied, we did a sampling of monthly water and electric charge averages by slip size to share for your reference. Using two months of data, we can conclude the following average charges per month based on slip size:

25' Electric = \$6.57

25' Water = \$0.51

40' Electric = \$19.78

40' Water = \$0.57

58' Electric = \$60.88

58' Water = \$0.86

As was noted in the January 2024 newsletter, billing is monthly based on usage based on current SDGE and South Coast Water District rates. We know many are curious as to what the average monthly charges will be...we hope this helps to give you an idea.

Bellingham is doing amazing work and moving quickly. Nearly 30% of the waterside project is complete and it looks GREAT! It is a very exciting time in Dana Point Harbor. So much to celebrate. So much to anticipate. On we go. One dock at a time. The future is bright with lanterns a' shine!

Commercial Core Revitalization

An official groundbreaking ceremony was held on February 7, 2024 to celebrate the commencement of the commercial core revitalization starting with the 984 space parking structure that will be built on the corner of Dana Point Harbor Drive and Golden Lantern. During the celebration, hard hats were donned and shovels were in the ground as Dana Point Harbor Partners in partnership with the County of Orange prepares to begin the first phase of commercial revitalization!

Parking Structure at a Glance:

Total Number of Spaces: 984

Number of Standard Spaces: 429

Number of Standard Spaces for Boaters: 93

Number of Standard Spaces for Employees: 358

Number of Accessible Spaces: 20

Number of Clean Air Vehicle Spaces: 19

Number of Future EV Spaces: 60

Number of Future EV Accessible Spaces: 5

Standard Space Size: 9' X 18'

Drive Aisles: 24'

End Aisles: 26'

Footprint Square Footage: 114,696 (458' x 258')

Number of Levels: 3

Height to top of Elevator Tower: 40'

Amenities in the parking structure include bike racks and boater services (lockers, restrooms and showers). The parking structure will include sustainable features such as natural ventilation, EV infrastructure, LED lighting with occupancy sensors and bicycle parking.

The parking structure project will officially start in early March 2024 and is anticipated to be completed within 12-15 months. For more information, please visit <https://danapointharbor.com/revitalization/>



The Marina at Dana Point's 1st Annual Maritime Swap Meet

Make plans to buy or sell or buy and sell at The Marina at Dana Point's 1st Annual Maritime Swap Meet on April 20, 2024! The event will be from 10 AM to 2 PM in the grass on the corner of Island Way and Dana Point Harbor Dr. For those looking to sell their unwanted treasures, 10x10 spaces can be reserved for \$25. In addition to the unique treasures offered by our sellers, we are working to secure live music and food for purchase. Please contact the marina office to reserve a space or send an [EMAIL](#). We look forward to a fun and successful event on April 20th!

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1st ANNUAL MARITIME SWAP MEET

Saturday, April 20, 2024

10 AM to 2 PM

**Grass Areas East & West Corner of
Island Way/Dana Point Harbor Dr**

***MARINE BARGAINS GALORE!
FIND HIDDEN TREASURES, USEFUL
BOAT GEAR AND MUCH MORE!***

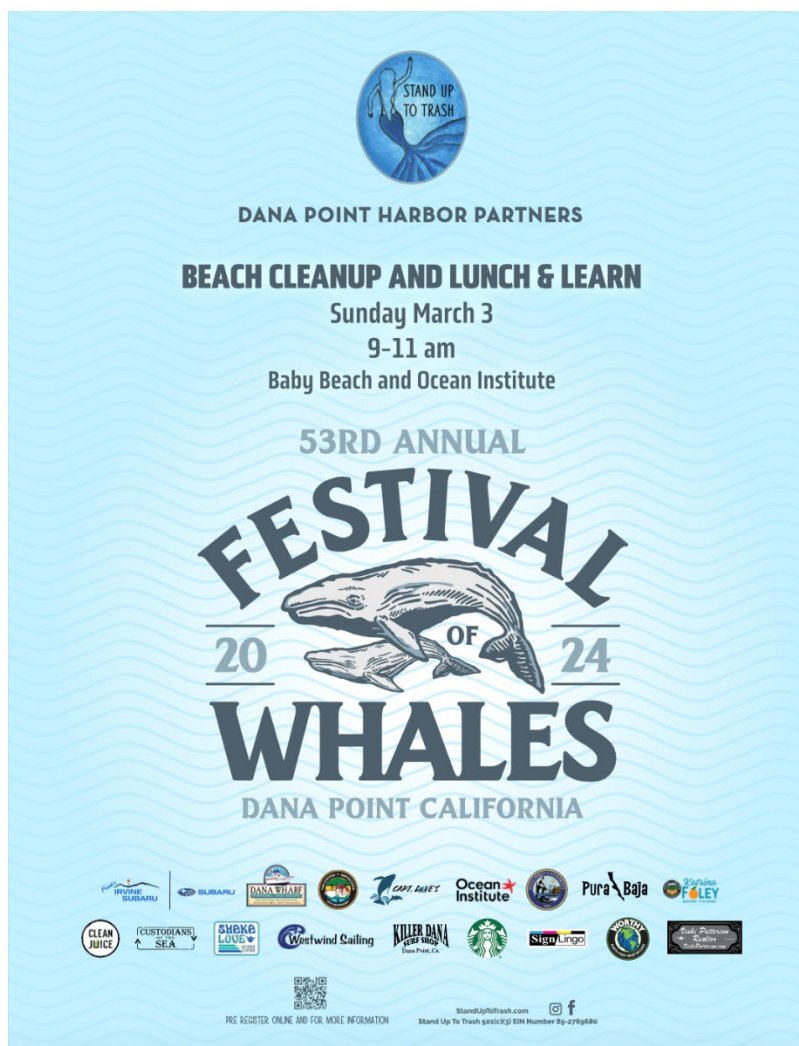
SELLERS:

Register in advance if you are interested in reserving space to sell your treasures. Each reservation is \$25 for 10'x10' space for display and sale of your items. Stop by the marina office or EMAIL to reserve your space!

**DON'T MISS OUT...
SEE YOU APRIL 20TH!**

BOATING CLEAN & GREEN

Join Stand up to Trash this Sunday, March 3, 2024, for a Festival of Whales Beach Cleanup and Lunch & Learn!



Thank you for doing your part to preserve water quality!

In celebration of the upcoming boating season, the bridge has been decorated with nautical flags that read “Dana Point” from left to right as you cross the bridge from cove to island. Fun and festive indeed these flags will fly throughout the season! Enjoy the view!

As always, please contact the marina office directly if you have questions, concerns, or see something in need of our attention. You can reach me via [email](#) for a quick response, or you can call the marina office at (949) 496-6137.

Happy Boating,

Kelly Rinderknecht
