

SANTA BARBARA HARBOR 20 SAILORS HOLD FIRST FLEET MEETING

March 4, 2010

On March 4, the Santa Barbara area Harbor 20 sailors held their first meeting to stimulate interest in forming a one-design fleet. The meeting was pulled together by Bhrian Resnick, who launched #297 last fall.

National Class President George Drayton, Newport Harbor Fleet Captain Peter Haynes, Harbor 20 dealer Ken Kieding, and Tom Schock attended the meeting at the Santa Barbara Yacht Club.

George explained that the class rules require a minimum of five boats to form a fleet. There are currently five boats in Santa Barbara; and it appears that all five skippers are interested in joining the class. George also explained that the benefits of membership include a subscription to the class newsletter, participation in races and other activities organized by other fleets, and eligibility to enter the class championship regatta.

Organizing as a fleet also provides the class rules as the governance for fleet activities.



Bhrian & Sandi Resnick celebrating the launching of H20 #297

Peter Haynes told the group about Fleet 1's racing schedule, educational clinics, and social events, pointing out that variety is what makes fleet sailing so much fun. The Newport fleet races in two-day regattas, a number of Saturday only events, and in lots of Twilight races during the summer months. Highpoint trophies encourage people to participate in as many races as possible. The fleet plans to host three rules seminars this year, an on-the-water sailing clinic with Dave Perry, and a tactics seminar. Their calendar also includes lots of non-race sailing events and as many social parties as possible.

Peter also discussed a few of Fleet 1's unique rules. He referenced the bottom paint rule where all the boats have the same bottom paint and can only haul out once a year. The fleet also specifies that the jibs be made by Ullman and the mains by Elliott/Pattison. The purpose is to level the playing field so winning depends on the skill of the skipper and crew rather than on the size of the check book.

Ken Kieding, the local dealer, pledged to help the fleet get off to a good start. Ken is a well known Southern California sailor with many big time victories to his name. He and his family-owned business, The Chandlery, are tied very closely to the community, the harbor, and the local environment. Ken will be a big help in getting the fleet activities planned and scheduled.