

THE PIN RAIL

An e-newsletter from the Tall Ship Education Academy



GIANTS VS. A'S: A DAY AT AT&T PARK WITH TSEA JUNE 10, 2007, 1:05PM

The Tall Ship Education Academy has purchased a block of tickets for the upcoming San Francisco Giants vs. Oakland A's game on June 10, 2007. Start time is 1pm. We are hoping to get a big crowd of TSEA alums, friends, supporters and family members so please join us! Tickets are \$30 and can be purchased online through our registration website on active.com: <http://www.active.com/>



[event_detail.cfm?event_id=1449363](#) (you can reach this website from our homepage) If you would be willing to sponsor a student ticket, you can indicate that when you purchase tick-

ets.

For TSSG alums, we are offering a number of half price tickets (\$15) that have been made available by individuals sponsoring tickets. If you are interested in join us at the game, these \$15 tickets will be available on a first-come-first-serve basis so please confirm your attendance by emailing Nettie Kelly as soon as possible.

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May 29, 2007**

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SPACES STILL AVAILABLE: GIRLS SUMMER AT SEA

The Girls Summer at Sea program is filling up with a great group of girls from several different high schools in the Bay Area. The Girls Summer at Sea is a new six week program that will take 12 girls (current 10th, 11th and 12th graders) on a voyage of exploration and self discovery. TSEA is working closely with professors at the Romberg Tiburon Center, educators at the San Francisco National Maritime Historic

Park, the crew of the schooner Seaward and our new staff members (see related article) to develop an exciting six week curriculum that ties in closely to the California coastal voyaging area. Girls will get academic credit for English, Seamanship and Oceanography and will also receive credit for physical education and community service hours.

Applications for this program are still being ac-

cepted on a rolling basis. As with all of our programs, this program offers a sliding scale tuition. If you or a young woman you know needs a summer adventure, please direct them to our website (applications are available on the website) or call the program office.

Girls Summer at Sea
June 25-August 3, 2007

Special points of interest:

- **June 10: TSEA goes to the baseball game!**
- **June 12, 2007: Scuttlebutt Happy Hour, Le Colonial**
- **August 3: Girls Summer at Sea graduation.**
- **October 19: Save the date for our annual reception**

TSEA CALENDAR OF EVENTS



JUNE 2007

June 1: Applications available online for Tall Ship Semester for Girls 2008

June 10: Join TSEA for a day at AT&T Park, front page

Sail aboard the Lynx, Golden Gate Tall Ship Society, www.ggtss.org

June 12: NEW Scuttlebutt Happy Hour at Le Colonial, see page 4

June 24: Master Mariners Wooden Boat Show, 10am to 4pm at the Corinthian Yacht Club, page 4

June 25: First Day of Girls Summer at Sea, front page



JULY 2007

July 9: Girls Summer at Sea sets sail from San Francisco on Schooner Seaward

July 27: Girls Summer at Sea returns to San Francisco



AUGUST 2007

August 3: Girls Summer at Sea graduation ceremony at the AP Giannini Auditorium, Bank of America Building.



SAVE THE DATE!

The Tall Ship Education Academy annual fall reception will be held on Friday, October 19, 2007 aboard the Eureka at the San Francisco National Maritime Historic Park.

WOMEN BRAVE WIND & RAIN IN WOMEN'S CHALLENGE 6

A salty group of women spent three days in April sailing the schooner Seaward as part of the Women's Challenge 6. Along with women from as far as Chicago, TSSG alums Angel Thackeray and Melanie Sherbula (TSSG 2006) joined the crew. Christine Whitcraft who will be working with the Girls Summer at Sea this summer (see page 5), also made her inaugural voyage aboard Seaward. Read details about the Women's Challenge 6 experience in the "Words from an Alum" section written by participant Tracy Watson.



Tracy Watson at the helm

TSEA has a new board member, Michelle Sioson-Hyman who will be coordinating the Women's Challenges. Contact her with questions about the Challenge at michelle.sioson@gmail.com

Our next Women's Challenge is set for October 11-14, 2007. Sign up for Women's Challenge 7 by visiting our website. For more information about the program, visit our website or join one of our upcoming Scuttlebutt Happy Hour events to meet past participants.

WORDS FROM AN ALUM: TRACY WATSON, WC 6

Words from an alum this month comes from a recent Women's Challenge 6 participant, Tracy Watson. A full version of her account will be published in the Bay Area Business Woman newspaper.

Ever since my seventh-grade English teacher waxed romantically of Ernest Hemingway's days as a ship hand, I watched with awe and admiration as ships came into the Port of San Francisco. When "The Voyage of The Mimi" aired on PBS, I dreamt of the day when I could learn to crew a tall ship and sail to foreign lands. So when I learned of the chance to participate in the Tall Ship Education Academy's Three-Day Women's Sailing Challenge, I leapt at it!



Mimi Lundgren trimming

I thought of what it meant to me to sail a tall ship as I boarded that familiar yet foreign creature. I was truly awestruck by the majesty of spirit that had led those ancient mariners to create the means to walk on water. The weather was gray, but I was surrounded by a solar system of radiant kindred spirits that burned away the clouds. We were bound together by a collective desire to experience something many of us had never dreamed we

would -- to be initiated into that greater community of adventurers, seafarers, and pirates!

The first day I felt like I was on the best field trip ever, one in which you were allowed, nay, expected, to touch things. With the help of our crew instructors

and two high school girls who were alums of the Tall Ship Semester for Girls program, we set sail around the Bay, watching and helping as they tacked or struck sails, "made fast" knots and dropped anchor. Our crew came together quickly. We were scientists, executives, teachers, a recently released convict, a Ph.D. candidate, and a writer. Almost everyone saw the experience as an opportunity to expand their sense of what they could do.

Our last day together was the "Challenge". We were to perform all of the functions needed to sail into port. To reach the coordinates that we'd determined the night before, we would tack and strike sails, raise anchor and ease or let up the sheets, all on our own. Our crew instructors would be totally hands-off, and only available to advise us if we really needed it.

I was nervous; so many of the concepts were still swimming around in



The crew of Women's Sailing Challenge 6

my head which was still a bit wobbly from my bout with seasickness the day before. But I knew that my crewmates were up to the challenge, and surely we'd arrive into port without a hitch. As we made our way back to San Francisco, the sun kissing our proud faces, I felt a glorious calm settle over me. Being at sea and learning to read the water and the wind, and having trusty companions to help guide you to your destination, is one of the most humbling and exhilarating experiences one can have. The camaraderie among us was immediate, and throughout our duties, as strenuous as they were, you could count on hearty laughter and plenty of good stories.

Tracy Watson is a Women's Initiative graduate and the founder of Our World Books.

TSEA'S RECEIVES GRANT FUNDING

TSEA is pleased to announce that the organization has been awarded four grants in the last quarter from the Eva Gunther Foundation, the American Sail Training Association, the Master Mariners Benevolent Foundation and the Athena Fund.

TSEA submitted a collaborative grant to the American Sail Training Association (ASTA) with Call of the Sea. Call of the Sea owns and operates the schooner Seaward and TSEA works closely with them on the Women's Challenge, the Girls Summer at Sea and many other projects. ASTA awarded \$10,000 to be used to support the participation of low income students in sail training programs. Thank you to ASTA for their support and as always, we look forward to working with Call of the Sea!

The Master Mariners Benevolent Foundation is TSEA's longest

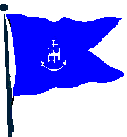


standing foundation supporter, having provided support for the Tall Ship Semester for Girls since its inception in 1998. The Master Mariners granted \$2,900 to TSEA to support the Girls Summer at Sea program.

The Eva Gunther Foundation and the Athena Fund of the Women's Foundation of California granted \$10,000 and \$2,000, respectively, to support TSEA's sliding scale tuition program.

In addition to these grants, the Golden Gate Tall Ship Society has granted two \$500 scholarships and the Belvedere Cove Foundation has granted two \$1,000 scholarships for girls entering the Girls Summer at Sea program.

OTHER HAPPENINGS ON THE BAY



Master Mariners Wooden Boat Show, June 24, 2007: Mark your calendars to visit the Master Mariners wooden boat show at the Corinthian Yacht Club in Tiburon on June 24, 2007 from 10am to 4pm. This is the most beautiful collection of wooden boats on the San Francisco Bay! And the entry fee goes directly to the Foundation which supports TSEA programs as well as others. Hope to see you there!



**SAN FRANCISCO
STATE UNIVERSITY**

SF State Community Sailing programs offer youth summer sailing camp sessions at Lake Merced. Classes are offered through the summer and registration is online. Visit http://online.sfsu.edu/~mjbarrow/index_files/junior.htm for more information.



Girls in Motion, Summer Sessions in July and August: Bay Area Boot Camp is offering training programs this summer for female high school athletes who want to improve their fitness and ability levels. Visit http://www.bayareabootcamp.com/girls_in_motion.htm for more information



Sail on the Lynx, June 10, 2007: The Golden Gate Tall Ship Society has tickets for an afternoon sail aboard the beautiful square tops'l schooner Lynx. Proceeds from the tickets support scholarships for students participating in tall ship programs. For more information visit www.ggtss.org



Amazing Bay Day, September 29, 2007: Are you or someone you know a Girl Scout? Celebrate Amazing Bay Day with the Girl Scouts new initiative Save the Bay. Amazing Bay Day will be full of environmental education and sailing. For information, visit <http://www.girlscoutssavethebay.org/>

NEW STAFF TO WORK WITH GIRLS SUMMER AT SEA

For the inaugural Girls Summer at Sea program, TSEA is pleased to be working with two new staff members, Molly Simmons, an English teacher and Christine Whitcraft, an oceanographer. Read on to learn about these two amazing women!



Molly Simmons earned her bachelor's degree from the University of Wisconsin-Madison

in 2001. She has been teaching English in California for the past five years, while integrating outdoor education into her experiences. She spent three years as a teacher, resident counselor, and coach at the Ojai Valley School. It was there that she was introduced to and trained in leading students on backpacking trips. She has recently been teaching Humanities at High Tech High Bayshore, a small char-

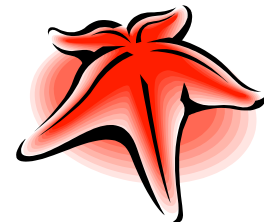
ter school in Redwood City. There she worked across the curriculum to develop a project based learning curriculum. She has recently taken training course on leading equity-focused discussions in schools. She is completing the HTH Teacher Intern Program to receive a Preliminary California Teaching Credential in English with a Subject Matter Authorization in Comparative Political Systems & International Relations.

Having studied and worked in Africa and traveled to China, New Zealand, Europe, and parts of South America, Molly is excited to expand her travel to the ocean. When not teaching, she spends much of her time reading, cooking, writing post cards, and exploring San Francisco.

Christine Whitcraft recently earned her PhD in Biological Oceanography from Scripps Institution of Oceanography, University of CA - San Diego. Her research focuses on food webs in salt marshes and how human activities affect the food

web and the entire ecosystem. She is currently doing a post-doc with San Francisco Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve, one reserve in a national system of estuary reserves managed by NOAA.

Her own interest in the ocean and salt marshes started as a child growing up on the headwaters of the Chesapeake Bay in Maryland. While in college in Massachusetts, she participated in a maritime semester program (Williams-Mystic) that focuses education around all aspects of the ocean: literature of the sea, maritime history, marine policy, marine biology, and salty skills such as sailing and sea chanties. Working with TSEA is a fantastic opportunity for Christine to help provide a similar exciting ocean experience to high school girls while getting to spend time at sea herself!



TSEA'S NEW SCUTTLEBUTT HAPPY HOUR SERIES

TSEA will be hosting a series of small gatherings that we are calling Scuttlebutt Happy Hours. The purpose is to bring together supporters of the Tall Ship Education Academy. Anyone can join us for one of these events! If you have heard about the organization and want to learn more about it, come and talk with our alums and staff.

If you are interested in the Women's Challenge but want to meet someone who participated in

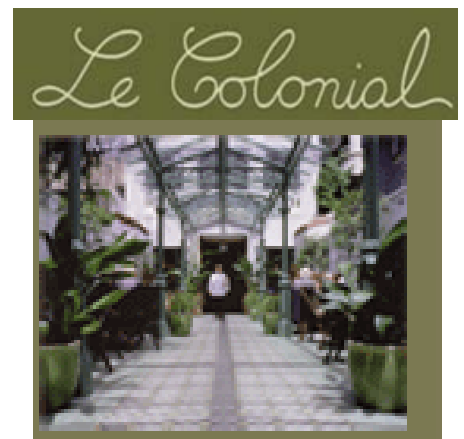
it, come and hear their stories. If you have a friend who you've always wanted to introduce to the organization, bring them along. We hope to see you at one, two or all of these events!

Scuttlebutt Happy Hour

Le Colonial Restaurant
20 Cosmo Place, San Francisco

June 12, 2007

6-8pm



Women's Sailing Challenge

A sailing adventure in and beyond
San Francisco Bay

12 Women
3 Days
1 Amazing Adventure

No sailing experience necessary.
October 11-14, 2007

Explore your Limits!



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The Tall Ship Education Academy is a special project of the Recreation and Leisure Studies Department at San Francisco State University. The Academy is a non profit 501(c)(3) organization. It is accredited by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges.

CATCH THE VOLUNTEER WAVE!

What's your interest? What's your expertise? In this time of growth and development for TSEA, we are in need of support of all kinds. We post specific volunteer positions on VolunteerMatch.com Here are a few things we are working on:

- **Board Development:** TSEA seeks individuals to sit on the board of directors who will take an active role in the organization's fiscal, legal and ethical matters. The two major initiatives for the Board of Directors in the current and next fiscal year are a) To build a sustainable funding engine that that supports our organizational needs. b) To increase the visibility of the organization in the Bay Area community by marketing and public relations work, fundraising events and increased enrollment.
- **Marketing and Public Relations:** we have convened a marketing committee that plans to expand TSEA's reach in print media, video media and the web. Lots of projects have been put on the drawing board and we need help making them all happen!
- **Events:** we will have a series of events in the next year — big and small. If you are interested in event planning, join our committee and give these events your signature!
- **Grant Writing:** we are busy finding funding to support our programs. If you have expertise in grant writing, editing or proofing, we'd love to have your eyes on our submissions.
- **Alumnae Committee:** if you are an alum, please consider joining the alum committee and get your old crew together and involved.
- And we'll need help stuffing envelopes and distributing flyers.



Thanks! We hope you'll get involved!

