



# Marina del Rey Historical Society



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## Remembering Debbie

"Smile, Debbie, you're on the drone candid camera!," I shouted to Deb as the drone was hovering overhead as we sat behind the big wheel of the AMAZING GRACE tall ship on Marina del Rey's 50th anniversary Birthday Bash parade of yachts and tall ships celebration. "I can't see it now, but I will after I have my eye surgery," Debbie replied as we circled the Marina waters giving our historical tour to boats over Channel 68. The parade was organized by Del Rey Yacht Club, coordinated with the Tall Ships Captain, Craig Samorski, and followed water operations led by Debbie Talbot, former Boating Section Head of the Los Angeles County Department of Beaches and Harbors.

The parade boats showcased the epitome of the joy of boating that Debbie always had in focus in her constant efforts to improve the water experience for every one in Marina del Rey. She worked tirelessly to bring the planning and brilliance of the hugely successful 50th celebration to unparalleled success in the Marina's history.

Sadly, her medical leave did not end well, and we lost Debbie in late September, 2015. It was my great pleasure full of personal enjoyment and friendship to have known Debbie for many years as



*Debra Talbot*  
1960-2015

she moved from having her own public relations firm, being a boat captain, to joining the Department of Beaches and Harbors (DBH) in the marketing division. Her concern for the groups and people who energized the Marina's boating elements was paramount, and she used her considerable prowess and influence to make things happen.

Debbie joined the Marina del Rey Historical Society without hesitation, accepting Directorship and office of Corporate Secretary. She was the perfect bridge to resourcing our Society's goal to document and preserve the history of the development of Marina del Rey, boat ownership, and to navigating through the labyrinth of County departments. The entire boating community lauded the creation of a boating section per se which was sorely needed as the recreational Marina grew. Debbie was the perfect person to head the operation. So many will miss her humor, her smile and her total follow-through. Debbie did not let you down, her help and guidance was legend. To her great credit, she made many, many friends who will cherish her beautiful memory. I know I will. ~

Willie Hjorth, Friend  
President, Marina del Rey  
Historical Society