

STEVE MURRAY □ HOBIE FLEET 259, SAN LUIS OBISPO, CA, DIVISION 3, HCA SPORTSPERSON OF THE YEAR - 2015

Steve Murray has contributed his time and effort to support the Hobie Community, local and national regattas and has provided insight and development of numerous products to make our sailing experience an excellent one. Steve's qualifications have been earned over forty years of sharing the adventure and love of the sport of Catamaran sailing.

Steve Murray grew up in Los Angeles working and living at his parents' swim school. As the Murray's Swim School grew, Steve and his brother Doug began running it and looking for areas to grow the business. Steve and Doug were always up for an adventure and always looking for the "Next Best Thing." Little did Steve know at the time, that his enthusiasm for adventure and his desire to share his experiences would define his life and professional

career. Steve's way of life would soon become what we all know now as the "Hobie Way of Life."

In 1965, Steve Murray's interests were snow and water skiing. Shortly after Mammoth Mountain ski resort opened, the brothers began their own business of running bus loads of friends and clients up the hill to the resort during the winter and trips to nearby lakes in the summer. Always having an eye for need, these brothers would eventually open a ski shop and rental business out of the Murray's Swim School.

One day, a friend came into the Murray's shop and offered to trade a sail boat for some snow skis. Steve wasn't a sailor, but he thought the proposed trade was fair, so he struck a deal. This whetted Steve's interest in sailing. In 1968, Steve found a Hobie 14 and he never

looked back. Steve jumped on the Hobie 14 early to compliment his water skiing adventures on lake trips. Soon Murray's water ski boat was a common sight at sailing regattas as Steve's interests were turning to sailing. He would stack his Hobie 14 on top of his ski boat so that they could always play, with or without the wind.

In the late '70s to mid '80s, Murray's Marine sold boats out of the old downtown Carpinteria location. Murray's Marine was also an official Hobie parts distributor into the late '80s helping the Hobie company fill parts orders to dealers. They were regularly invited to set up their booth at the Hobie dealer meetings and show their wares. They were producing dozens of products and working with the sailors to improve and innovate on the boats they loved.

