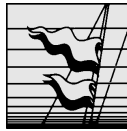


February 2006

PORT COMMISSIONERS

Doug Smith
Scott Walker
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BLAINE MARINA
Port of Bellingham

PORT OF BELLINGHAM
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MARINA NEWS

PORT HIRES NEW MARINE SERVICES DIRECTOR

Dan Stahl, executive director for the Port of Anacortes, will be the Port of Bellingham's new Director of Marine Services. He will begin work at the Port in February, after he implements a transition plan with Anacortes officials. Stahl replaces Stephan Jilk, who is leaving the Port of Bellingham to work as the General Manager for Whatcom PUD #1.

"The Port of Bellingham is committed to bringing the most qualified, experienced staff to serve on our senior team," said Port of Bellingham Executive Director Jim Darling. "Dan is experienced in both the public and private sector and has an excellent reputation in the marine industry."

Stahl has worked for the Port of Anacortes for more than 11 years serving first as Director of Operations and for the past five years as Executive Director. Before joining the Port of Anacortes, Stahl was the Port Captain for NYK lines managing cargo operations in Seattle and was the Stevedore Superintendent at Marine Terminals Corporation also in Seattle.

Two major projects the Port of Anacortes has accomplished during Stahl's leadership is the permitting and phase 1 of a \$12 million major renovation of the 1,100 slip Cap Sante Marina and the public/private partnership of Project Pier 1, which will result in expanded and enhanced maritime operations for shipbuilder Dakota Creek Industries.

"I am aware of the magnitude of marine work the Port of Bellingham is anticipating as it moves ahead with the development of the Clean Ocean Marina and the waterfront revitalization," Stahl said. "I truly view this as a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to join the Port of Bellingham and take part in these projects."

Stahl has a Bachelor of Science degree in marine transportation from the Maine Maritime Academy and a Master of Science degree in ocean systems management from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. He also completed the University of Washington's Public Executive Program.

AUTOMATIC PAYMENTS

Did you know that you can make moorage payments through automatic direct payment from your United States checking account? Our Direct Payment plan is easy and convenient. You can sign up for this service at any time. For more information about automatic payments you can visit our new website at www.portofbellingham.com and download the form under Marinas/Blaine Harbor/Pay Your Bill or call the Blaine Harbor Office for details.

BLAINE WEB LOCKER SURVEY COMPLETED

The Port of Bellingham recently completed a survey of web locker tenants in Blaine regarding a proposed plan to relocate the lockers. The Blaine Harbor Comprehensive Plan, adopted in 1998, recommended that the Port consider relocating Web Lockers #2 and #3 from the eastern portion of the spit to the end of the spit closer to the commercial fishing fleet. The recent survey was intended to get input from web locker tenants on the current use of the web lockers and get input on the proposed future relocation.

Eighteen of the fifty-six web locker holders responded to the survey. The majority have commercial fishing boats in the Blaine Harbor. Three no longer have boats. Most of the respondents said their current locker was a good size, but two would prefer a larger locker. The majority of them store some fishing gear or boating related material, but ten also reported that they store household, business or recreational goods in their locker. One is empty. Input was split on the issue of relocating the lockers. Half said it would be more convenient to be at the east end of the spit, and the other half said it would be less convenient. Two said it would be the same. The majority said they would not lease a web locker if the rents were raised. The majority prefer a ground level locker or ground level with a loft. None of the respondents would be interested in a second story weblocker, accessible by stairs or a hoist.

Additional comments submitted with the survey related to the importance of providing services and support for the commercial fishing fleet, and the need for maintenance and upgrade of the lockers. Several comments suggested new paint and roof repairs.

If you did not return your web locker survey, it is not too late. The Port will be updating the Blaine Harbor Comprehensive Plan this spring and is still accepting input. If you have additional comments on the issue of web lockers or other Blaine Harbor planning issues, please call Sylvia Goodwin, Port of Bellingham Planning and Development Director at (360) 676-2500.





TIME TO UPDATE VESSEL INSURANCE

The Harbor staff has been busy sending out courtesy reminders to update your vessel's insurance policy.

Please take a moment to review your policy's effective dates and make sure that the Harbor Office has a current copy on file. Contact your insurance company and request that they mail or fax an updated policy upon renewal to us. Policy renewals may be faxed directly to 360-332-1043 or sent to our mailing address: PO Box 1245, Blaine, WA 98231.

We thank all of you who have responded quickly and provided us with updated insurance policies.

GATE 1 PARKING

Just a friendly reminder that if you are parking your car at Gate 1 for longer than one day, to please park in the big lot between Gates 2 and 3. As you are well aware, the parking at Gate 1 is very limited and we appreciate your cooperation--keeping in mind your fellow boaters who park their cars near Gate 1 just for the day.

PRESSURE WASHING THE DOCKS

We have revved up the pressure washer and are hitting the docks. We'll begin at Gate 1 and will work hard to finish the entire harbor by the end of summer. It will take some time and to help us move more quickly, please remove any gear that you may have stored on the docks (lines, hoses, etc.). Thank you for your help.

SIGN UP FOR PORT E-MAIL NEWSLETTERS

Be sure to check out our new webiste at www.portofbellingham.com and sign up to receive electronic newsletters on Port topics and specific information on:

- Marinas
- General Port news
- Real Estate
- Business Development
- Waterfront Redevelopment

The Port will shift to electronic newsletters to reduce spending on printing and postage in 2006.

You can contact your Marina Advisory Representatives by calling either the Blaine or Squalicum Harbor offices.

Randall Bilof	Donald Bower	Vic Duppenhaler
Mark Gumley	Jeffrey Hegedus	John Hollstein
Ryan Kapp	Stan Larson	Tim Mumford
Sandra Palm	Michael Reed	Mike Rusk
Jim Splaine	Roger Van Dyken	

SQUALICUM HARBOR CHARTERFEST 2006

If you have ever considered chartering a dream boat (maybe bigger than the one you already own) for that special vacation but didn't know where to begin or what Squalicum Harbor charter companies have to offer, here's your chance! Everyone is invited to come aboard and tour some of the many yachts of all shapes and sizes available for charter at Squalicum Harbor.

The Port of Bellingham and local charter companies are excited to present the second annual *CharterFest* at Squalicum Harbor. *CharterFest* will be from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturday, April 8, at the Gate 3 Visitor Dock, near the Bellingham Yacht Club.

Both motoryachts and sailboats will be on display and representatives from the charter companies will be on hand to answer questions and even book that dream vacation of cruising the San Juans or touring the Inside Passage. Participating yacht charters include:

- Bellhaven Charters
- Bellingham Yachts
- Northwest Explorations
- Par Yacht Charters
- San Juan Sailing/San Juan Yachting

To help keep kids safe while touring boats at *CharterFest*, children's life jackets will be available to borrow, at no charge, from the Squalicum Harbor Office. Other events planned include boating safety and education information booths.

MARINA ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The February MAC meeting has been rescheduled. Please call the Harbor Office at (360) 647-6176 for the revised time and date. Visitors are always welcome. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the Harbor Office or any of your MAC members. They are your voice in the boating community.

Blaine Harbor Office

235 Marine Drive (360) 647-6176

After Hours: (360) 303-7110

Dan Stahl, Director of Marine Services

Pam Taft, Harbormaster

Dave Warter, Operations Coordinator

Andy Peterson, Moorage Coordinator

Marine Service Representatives: Tony Flaherty,

Kevin Smith, Roland Montoure