Port Director's Corner

The July Docks & Harbors Board meeting, under our bylaws, is the Board’s “annual meeting” in which leadership is determined and assignments to committees are made. The nine member Docks & Harbors Board is assigned by the Assembly to serve three-year terms. Juneau is very fortunate to have dedicated public servants who sacrifice many hours of their month to participate as unpaid volunteers to carry out the broad mission of Docks & Harbors. Juneauites should be proud of the Board which has represented the community interests well over the years. We have been especially blessed with the individuals who have stepped up to hold the position of Board Chair. Chair Greg Busch turned the gavel over to his successor at the July meeting. In keeping with the high standards of individual conduct, Dr. David Logan has been elected to lead the Board for the next year as Chair. Dr. Logan previously served as Vice Chair of the Operations- Planning Committee. Mr. Tom Donek will provide continuity as the Board Vice-Chair for a second year. A new appointment to this year Board is Mr. David Summers. David brings an entrepreneur perspective to the diversity of the Board as well as being a harbor live-aboard patron.

The Docks & Harbors Board stands to provide the strategic vision and direction for execution of the department goals. Any of the Board members can be contacted on matters pertaining to harbor issues. The Port Directors requests, however, that suggestions or comments be first brought to the attention of the Harbormaster. The Harbormaster and his staff monitor the email: harbormaster@ci.juneau.ak.us and will respond to suggestions which do not merit the attention of the Docks & Harbor Board members.

One of the priorities for the Board is to conduct a comprehensive fee review of all Harbor Enterprise fees and Docks Enterprise fees. The object is not to raise all rates but rather to undertake a deliberate examination of all fees and regulations concerning the management of activities affecting the rate structure of the Harbor Enterprise and the Docks Enterprise operations. It is anticipated that two Docks & Harbors special committees will be stood up to facilitate public input and discussion. Updates to the process will be provided in future newsletters.

Docks & Harbor New Mission Statement

One of the first items for action at the July Annual Board meeting was to approve a revision to the Docks & Harbors mission statement:

Develop and provide opportunities, services and facilities to support marine related commerce, industry, fisheries, recreation and visitors.

The italicized words reflect subtle but important changes to the mission statement which was created on June 30th, 1994. The new language acknowledges that Docks & Harbors is a “facility manager” of the land and property which is under its care. It also recognizes the importance of providing opportunities necessary for the local economy to thrive.
**Staff Announcements** -
Mary “Dolly” Raster was presented with the award of Employee of the Quarter for the 3rd quarter of FY14. Dolly is an Administrative Assistant III at the Aurora Harbor Office. She has been instrumental in our efforts to remove abandoned and derelict vessels in the Juneau harbor system. Dolly handles virtually all the harbor billing and has been forward leaning on ensuring all Aurora patrons affected by the upcoming rebuild project are afforded reasonable accommodations this winter while work is underway.

**Departure** - With mixed emotion, Docks & Harbors announces the departure of Ms. Leah Gregg currently serving as the Administrative Assistant at Statter Harbor. Leah has been an outstanding full time addition to the Statter Harbor staff but an opportunity to study and pursue a Master’s Degree in Scotland has resulted in her resignation from Docks & Harbors. We wish Leah fair winds and following seas as she rises to the new challenges in her life.

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**Port Office Hours**
907-586-0292
Monday – Friday
8:00 am to 4:30 pm
Closed 12:00 to 1:00

**Port/Field Office Hours**
907-586-5720
May 5 - October 1
Monday – Wednesday
8:00 am to 4:30 pm
Closed 12:00 to 1:00

**Aurora Office Hours**
907-586-5255
Monday – Friday
8:00 am to 4:30 pm
June through August
Monday - Saturday
8:00 am to 4:30 pm
Saturday closed 12:00 to 1:00

**Statter Harbor (Auke Bay) Office Hours**
907-789-0819
May 5 to Sept 14
Monday – Friday
7:00 am to 6:00 pm
Saturday & Sunday
8:00 am to 4:30 pm
Closed 12:00 to 1:00

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**Juneau Chosen #1 Alaska Port by Bon Voyage Magazine**
*Bon Voyage* magazine has announced their very first *Bon Voyage* Awards and their awards team chose Juneau as Alaska's #1 cruise port: "Juneau, Alaska's isolated capital, wins hands down because of its varied activities. Located at the foot of the coastal mountain range, the city offers a jumping-off point to hike to the base of Mendenhall Glacier or take a helicopter and land directly on the ice. Ride the tram up Mount Roberts for a fabulous view of Gastineau Channel and visit a heritage gold mine. Go ziplining, kayaking, or fishing. A brand new state museum will open in April 2016." [http://cruiseline.com/bonvoyage/awards/2014/destinations](http://cruiseline.com/bonvoyage/awards/2014/destinations) provides more information about our amazing destination.

**Call for Artists** - Docks & Harbors announces a Call for Artist (CFA) to design, construct, and install artwork at the Juneau Cruise Ship Berths project. Artists are encouraged to submit qualifications and artistic approaches in accordance with the guidelines and procedures outlined in the CFA at [http://www.juneau.org/harbors/proposed_regulations.php](http://www.juneau.org/harbors/proposed_regulations.php). There is a non-mandatory pre-submittal meeting that will be held in City Hall conference room 224 on the 2nd floor of the Municipal Building at 155 S. Seward St. at 10:00 am Alaska time on September 3rd, 2014. Deadline for Submittals will be received until 2:00 pm Alaska time on October 4th, 2014. Gary Gillette, the Port Engineer, phone (907) 586-0398, fax 907-586-0295 is the sole point of contact for all issues pertaining to this procurement.

**The Aurora Harbor** - Phase I construction project is gearing up. The south end of the harbor including A,B,C, and D floats will be removed and replaced with new floats, electrical service, domestic water, and fire suppression system. To demolish the south while leaving the rest of the harbor with water and electrical utilities the contractor is scheduling work on utilities beginning August 11, 2014. Pedestrian access to the N ramp may be restricted during this period as needed to perform the work. Patrons are asked to use the alternate access point at G ramp. There will also be some parking areas closed off for contractor staging during the work. We thank you for your patience.

**Safety Tip** -
With the Golden North Salmon Derby coming up on August 8th, 9th and 10th, be sure to look at the immediate weather forecast as well as the extended forecast; weather can change in Alaska in a matter of hours. Be prepared for it. The Coast Guard announces storm warnings and other urgent marine information broadcasts on VHF channel 16 before making the broadcasts on VHF channel 22A and 2670 kHz respectively. Storm warnings and forecasts are also made by [NOAA Weather Radio](http://www.noaa.gov/). Take multiple forms of communication devices and extra batteries or a charger. Make sure to check all safety equipment to be sure it is in good working order. Also, consider a personal emergency beacon and, if you have one, ensure it is registered with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.