Port Director’s Corner

I’d like to thank the Docks & Harbors staff, including the Docks & Harbor Board, and our consultants (PND Engineers) for their efforts leading to the award of the Statter Harbor Launch Ramp facility. On November 10th the CBJ Assembly approved the bid award of $11,212,800 to Miller Construction of Juneau. The boat launch and associated parking has been 10 years in the making, however, recently we found a study dating back to 1983 which advocated for this project in this location. Projects of this magnitude just don’t happen, there were many public meetings including numerous Docks & Harbors Board & Committee Meetings, and environmental studies, negotiations with federal and state environmental offices, and property acquisitions. In the summer of 2013, this project was nearly derailed at the application stage for a Conditional Use permit, if it weren’t for harbor patrons rallying for and several astute Planning Commissioners supporting this community need, the launch ramp would not have gone forward.

Of course, there is much work to be done by Miller Construction between now and June 2016. Docks & Harbors recognizes there will be short-term diminished parking with the loss of the Horton Parking Lot and we continue to look for opportunities to mitigate the parking woes to our patrons.

Docks & Harbors Comprehensive Fees Review: In the future, this Committee will be looking at how the Statter Harbor parking lots will be managed and whether the fee structure needs to be changed.

Aurora Harbor Update: Northern Construction Service and its local sub-contractors continue to make significant progress towards the project. Admiralty Construction is working the north end of the harbor and is replacing the waterline and retaining wall. Trucano Construction has completed the demolition, and will begin the approach dock construction later this month. Float assembly is underway in Junction City, Oregon.

Docks & Harbors will be coordinating a meeting to educate Aurora Harbor patrons who will be affected by a change in the National Electric Code (NEC). The new code requires all circuits to have ground fault interrupter (GFI) which MAY require boat owners to be fully compliant with NEC electrical standards. North Harbor in Petersburg and ANB Harbor in Sitka were both updated this year with the new standard. Letters will be mailed to vessels notifying them of the upcoming meeting.

Coffee with the Docks & Harbors Staff: The Port Director & Harbormaster welcomes harbor patrons to stop by the Yacht Club on Friday, November 21st between 7:30 AM and 9 AM for coffee and a doughnut. Docks & Harbors has a lot of projects underway and several administrative initiatives which are discussed in a series of formal meetings. This outreach opportunity is an informal opportunity to meet the Port Director and Harbormaster. The public is welcome to stop by to chat or inquire about any and all things Docks & Harbors.
**Employee of the year:** Congratulations to Doug Unruh. At the Alaska Association of Harbormasters & Port Administrators (AAHPA) annual conference, Doug Unruh (Auke Bay Supervisor) was recognized as the Juneau Harbor Employee-of-the-Year.

**New Cruise Ship Berths:** Although the contractor has not yet mobilized, there is significant fabrication work in Washington State. These pictures show the pile caps which are being fabricated in the Tacoma area.

**Cruise Berths Project**  
**Jesse Engineering Fabrication**

**Go Green with Docks & Harbors.** If you are interested in having your statement sent via email, please send an email to dolly.raster@juneau.org

**Halloween Spirit:** The Port Office recently earned 1st Place in the CBJ Group Costume Award for their (actually Teena & Jennifer) clever Halloween themed costume. The Port Office was dressed up as Jellyfish. From left to right - Erich Schaal-Deputy Port Engineer, Gary Gillette-Port Engineer, Carl Uchytil-Port Director, Teena Scovill - Admin Officer, and Jennifer Shinn - Admin Assistant.

**Christmas Boat Lighting Contest:** After three years of jointly sponsoring the Christmas Boat lighting contest (with the Radio Center, the Yacht Club and the Chamber of Commerce), we have elected not to continue on in 2014. Of course, we encourage boats to decorate but there will be no judging or prizes this year.

In an attempt to keep Docks & Harbors parton’s and interested citizens up to date on important issues, we have started a Hot Topics button on our web page. Please subscribe via RSS to be notified of the updates.