



PORT OF BELLINGHAM  
*Washington State*

DECEMBER 2022 & JANUARY 2023

# HARBOR NEWS

BLAINE AND SQUALICUM HARBORS' NEWSLETTER



## BELLINGHAM Bellingham Yacht Club Lighted Boat Parade DECEMBER 3RD | 6PM

All boaters are invited to participate in the Lighted Boat Parade and registered participants are welcomed at the holiday party afterward at the Bellingham Yacht Club. BYC membership is not required. Best viewing from Boulevard Park and the Bellingham Cruise Terminal. Registered boats should rendezvous near the Bellingham Cruise Terminal at 6pm. For event details and registration [CLICK HERE.](#)

## Holiday Port Festival DECEMBER 3-4TH | 11AM-5PM

Join us at the Bellingham Cruise Terminal Saturday, December 3rd and Sunday, December 4th from 11:00 am to 5:00 pm for seasonal songs, dances, photos with Santa Claus, and over 35 Gingerbread House entries in the annual competition. This year's event is sponsored by the Inland Boatmen's Union who will be offering free cookies and cider. San Juan

Cruises has provided two whale watching cruise tickets to the People's Choice winner for the Gingerbread Competition. For more details [CLICK HERE.](#)

## BLAINE Holiday Harbor Light Festival DECEMBER 3RD | 9AM-7PM

Join in the community tree lighting, caroling, and seasonal family fun festivities on the G-Street Plaza (at the intersection of G-Street and Peace Portal Way). For details [CLICK HERE.](#)

## Blaine Lighted Boat Parade DECEMBER 10TH | 5:30PM

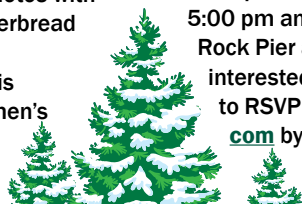
The International Yacht Club of BC will be leading a Lighted Sail Past at White Rock Pier on Saturday, December 10th (weather permitting) Decorated Boats will depart from Blaine Marina at 5:00 pm and "Light Up" at White Rock Pier at 5:30pm. Any boats interested in joining are invited to RSVP to [iycbc.ca@gmail.com](mailto:iycbc.ca@gmail.com) by November 30th.



## Prepare for Winter Weather

We encourage everyone to prepare their vessel for wintertime conditions and use caution during inclement weather. Check your bilge pumps, dock lines, secure halyards and canvas, and remove your sails. Make sure the Harbor Office has updated phone numbers in the event we need to contact you. Check the October Marina newsletter for additional ideas on winterizing your boat.

Freezing temperatures bring snow and ice. The harbor provides buckets of traction sand and scoops located at each ramp. We also have a limited number of shovels available to borrow for you to remove snow from your boat. Please return the sand buckets and shovels as soon as possible. Also, please disconnect hoses from the spigot at your slip to prevent expensive freeze damage to the spigot. If extended periods of freezing weather are expected, the dock water may be shut off for the duration of the freeze. Boaters and liveaboards requiring water should plan on keeping water tanks full. The harbor will restore water as soon as threat of freeze damage passes.





## Commercial Gear Storage at Squalicum Harbor

Effective January 1, 2023, Squalicum Harbor is asking that all commercial fishing gear and net trailers be stored either in front of your weblocker or at the upland storage yard off F-Street. Customers with fishing gear stored in a parking lot should contact the Squalicum Harbor Office to discuss storage options. Any gear left on the Squalicum Harbor property after January 1, 2023 will be disposed of in accordance with the Port's abandoned property policy.



## Dockside Safety

Make it a habit to wear a personal flotation device (PFD) with a loud whistle attached. If you fall in, a PFD buys you time while you try to self-rescue or call for help. Remember that dock ladders are located throughout both marinas. Make note of their locations as you walk down the dock. From the waterside, the slips with ladders are marked with a yellow and black arrow on the end of the finger floats which point towards the next slip with a ladder in it. If you moor next to a ladder, please keep it clear of dock lines and other obstructions. Do not forget that many boats have ladders on their transom or swim-step. Do not be afraid to use the most convenient means of rescue in an emergency!

## Marina Safety - Shore Power Cords

This is a reminder that only marine rated power cords are permitted to connect your vessel to shore-power. Keep your cord in good shape by using the appropriate strain relief, preventing it from draping into the water, and ensuring the cord wires are not pinched or crushed. Cords and connectors should be inspected often and replaced when damage or corrosion is discovered. Boat US recommends that plugs with brown discoloration at the base of the blades or a worn coating or pitting should not be used. Boat US also recommends inspecting your vessel's shore power inlet at least every 5 years. Consult a qualified marine electrician if you have any questions about your electrical system.

## BYC Membership Drive

The Bellingham Yacht Club Holiday Membership Drive is on through January 31st. Give the gift of friendship and fun. Year-round social activities as well as seasonal racing and cruising programs. Join now and the \$310 initiation fee is waived. Neither boat ownership nor sponsors are required to join.

For more information, [CLICK HERE](#). Want to tour the club facilities? Please email [membership@byc.org](mailto:membership@byc.org).



## LEAVING FOR THE HOLIDAYS?

If you are leaving town, please make sure that the harbors have updated contact information for your vessel's caretaker so that we can reach you in the event of an emergency. Please remember to prepare your boat for the winter conditions prior to the busy holidays or vacation travel.

### SQUALICUM HARBOR OFFICE

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### BLAINE HARBOR OFFICE

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### MARINA ADVISORY COMMITTEE

You can contact your Marina Advisory Committee Representatives by calling either of the harbor offices.

Lisa Anderson, Peter Border, Robert Brooks, Paul Burrill, Stan Campbell, Dick Cathell, Loren Kapp, Jim Kyle, Ross Tennant, Linda Thomson, Julie Winkler and Faith Worthley