



PORT OF BELLINGHAM  
*Washington State*



APRIL & MAY 2012



# HARBOR NEWS

Blaine and Squalicum Harbors' Newsletter

## SCHEDULE FOR OPENING DAY MAY 5 AT SQUALICUM HARBOR

*7-11am Opening Day Breakfast – Open to all, Hosted by Squalicum Yacht Club*

Stop by the Squalicum Harbor Yacht Club and enjoy cheese omelets, sausage, pancakes and coffee. Suggested donation: \$5 per person. All donations will benefit a Bellingham charity. SYC Bridge officers and members will be on hand to share information about the club and its activities.

*7-11am Sixth Annual Gear Swap, Open to all, Hosted by Corinthian Yacht Club*

Gather old gear from your garage, boat locker or anywhere else you may have put it for the 6th Annual Corinthian Yacht Club Gear Swap. The swap will be outside the Squalicum Yacht Club near the gate at SeaView North Boatyard. \$5 donation for each booth, to support the Bellingham Bay Community Boating Center. Any questions please call Bruce at (360) 733-4097.

*Noon Blessing of the Fleet Ceremony, Open to all, Theme is "Cinco de Mayo"*

*1pm Boats Away for Parade, Open to all vessels*

*1:30 pm Boats rendezvous at Bellingham Cruise Terminal, for Parade Start, to follow lead boat "Hopscotch" with Vice Commodore Jody Erickson in the lead. Great shore viewing of the parade can be found at Boulevard Park and Taylor Street Pier. For information or questions contact Bellingham Yacht Club Fleet Commander Jonathan Knowles at (360) 303-5465.*

Participating yacht clubs:

**BELLINGHAM  
YACHT CLUB**

**CORINTHIAN  
YACHT CLUB**

**SQUALICUM  
YACHT CLUB**

## NEWS BRIEF

### SQUALICUM HARBOR FIRE RECOVERY UNDERWAY

Most of you already are aware of the tragic and devastating boathouse fire at Squalicum Harbor on March 30, which resulted in the loss of the lives of two dedicated members of our Bellingham boating community – Jim Langei and Sterling Taylor.

Our hearts go out to their friends, family and everyone who knew them in the boating community.

The fire completely destroyed the G-East Boathouse and everything inside of it. Bellingham police and fire investigators worked diligently to investigate this fire, but have not yet determined a cause. They sought the assistance of federal fire investigators and now are working with insurance company investigators.

Some of you have written us questions or spoken at meetings about your fire safety concerns and we are taking all of your concerns seriously and are working with the Bellingham Fire Department to discuss fire safety in our marinas.

Modern marinas, like ours, are equipped with a standpipe system that provides pressurized water to fire fighters, allowing them to connect their hoses to our pipes. Firefighters conduct drills during the year to practice rapidly deploying to our marinas and connecting to our system. As of the time of this newsletter, we are overseeing a large salvage effort to remove all of the burned debris from the harbor and we are preparing to determine the damage to the surrounding infrastructure. Again, this is another area for which we do not yet have a lot of answers.

We know the opening of the new Gate 3 docks, which were under construction at the time of the fire, have been delayed. We do not yet have a new opening date.

Please drop by the Squalicum Harbor Office for updates about our efforts in recovering from this fire.

## BLAINE HARBOR NEWS

### FESTIVITIES IN BLAINE FOR OPENING WEEKEND OF BOATING

**May 5:** The International Yacht Club will hold their annual ceremony on the Blaine Harbor Promenade under the flag pole. Everyone is welcome, contact the Blaine Harbor Office for times. The staff of Blaine Harbor wish everyone a safe and memorable boating season!

**May 6:** The Fishermen's Memorial and Blessing of the Fleet will be in the Boating Center Conference Room. Everyone is welcome to come and join this annual gathering supporting our commercial fishing fleet, wishing them a safe and successful season, and paying tribute to those who have lost their lives at sea. Refreshments will be served after the event.

### 14TH ANNUAL SEMIAHMUO BAY REGATTA

The 14th Annual Semiahmoo Bay Regatta April 28-29 is open to all, and is hosted by the International Yacht Club of BC. Visit the IYC's website at [www.iycbc.ca](http://www.iycbc.ca), click on race news, 2012 regatta for details and to register online.

### PROPOSED CLEANUP OF BLAINE MARINA INC FUELING SITE

The Port and Washington Department of Ecology have completed a draft legal agreement for the Blaine Marina, Inc. cleanup site located in the western portion of the Blaine Harbor industrial area at the fueling facility along McMillan Avenue. When final, this agreement will require the Port to develop a cleanup plan for historic contamination at the site and to repair a damaged timber bulkhead which is failing and at risk of spreading contamination to the waters of Blaine Harbor. Ecology is inviting the public to review the proposed legal agreement and submit comments from April 9 through May 9. To learn more, pick up a copy of the fact sheet at the Blaine Harbor Office or view the documents online at <https://fortress.wa.gov/ecy/gsp/Sitepage.aspx?csid=63>

### WSDOT PLANS MARINE DRIVE IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

This summer, the City of Blaine is planning road improvements to Marine Drive from the Peace Portal roundabout to the railroad tracks, starting after July 4. The project will improve pedestrian and bicycle access to the harbor. Construction will be funded primarily from a Washington State Transportation Improvement Board Grant. Short delays during the project can be expected.

## SQUALICUM HARBOR NEWS

### GATE 3 IMPROVEMENTS, STAFF WORKING ON NEW MOORAGE ASSIGNMENTS

Although the harbor fire delayed opening of our Gate 3, F and G replacement project, most of the work is nearly complete on this project. The docks and piling have all been installed and utilities are in place. The dredged materials are all now in their interim placement area at the Cornwall Avenue Landfill and the processing area at the former Georgia Pacific site is demobilized.

The Harbor Office is working on outlining the moorage assignment process for the new floats. We appreciate everyone's support and flexibility during this important waterfront project. If you have any questions or comments about this project or any other marina-related matter, please do not hesitate to contact the Harbor Office.

### GATE CODES CHANGING, OFFICE BEGINS EXTENDED SUMMER HOURS

Squalicum Harbor will change gate codes on May 7 to help ensure facility security. Please contact the Squalicum Harbor Office to obtain your gate code information. Please identify yourself and give the Harbor Staff your current account number. Please do not share your code with people who do not have boats in the harbor. Keep an eye out and report any suspicious activity to the Harbor Office. From May 7 through the end of September the gates will remain open during the day. The Squalicum Harbor Office hours will be 8am to 7pm, every day, starting April 1 through the end of September.

### Squalicum Harbor Office

722 Coho Way, Bellingham

(360) 676-2542

or after hours (360) 739-8131

Dan Stahl, Director of Maritime Services

Pam Taft, Special Projects Administrator

Mike Endsley, Harbormaster

Marine Service Representatives:

Bill Vonk, Patty Paus, Paul Knippel,

Lynda Lamoureux, and Greg Hoffman

### Blaine Harbor Office

235 Marine Drive, Blaine

Or mail to: PO Box 1245, Blaine, 98231

(360) 647-6176

or after hours: (360) 303-7110

Dan Stahl, Director of Maritime Service

Pam Taft, Special Projects Administrator

Andy Peterson, Harbormaster

Marine Service Representatives:

Tony Flaherty, Roland Montoure and Bryson Tripp



ENVIROSTARS



WASHINGTON  
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### Marina Advisory Committee

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

Peter Border • Jeffrey Hegedus • Jim Young

Ron Kleinknecht • Paul Lavelle • Joseph Orem • Brian Pemberton

Doug Sterrett • Jerry Writer