

OAK HARBOR MARINA NEWSLETTER

May 1, 2008

Loaner Lifejackets for Kids. Thanks to the Oak Harbor Yacht Club and Deception Pass Sail and Power Squadron, the marina will now have infant and child sized life jackets to emphasize and improve water safety. Our marina rule states, Children under 10 years of age are not permitted on floats or finger piers unless accompanied by a parent or other responsible adult. Use of personal floatation devices for children is required (formerly the last word was encouraged).

Dock Ladders. Please try the new safety ladders that have been installed at the marina. The ladders are designed to be stored out of the water to minimize slippery algae growth. In the event of emergency, the ladders can be pulled down into the water (but you need to lift up first). After use they are stored by replacing a step onto the bracket shelf. If you try it then you won't need it.

Office Assistant. Stephanie Lee is the new customer service technician at the marina. She is from San Antonio, Texas and most recently has worked 4 years at Saar's Marketplace Pharmacy in Oak Harbor. Her partner, Steve Lombardo, is an Oak Harbor native. Stephanie started her marina career on April 14 and she is getting to know the work and the customers. Please drop in to meet her.

Operations Personnel. Andrew Herbst was hired to work five days per week (through Labor Day) on dock cleanup and fueling operations. Andy has been enrolled in the Marine Tech program at Skagit Valley College.

Boat hoist update. We received two firm bids in April from contractors to replace four beams. Both bids were for more than \$30,000. Now it appears that a steel reinforcing beam can instead be designed and installed at a significant cost savings. It now appears that it will be mid-June before the work is complete. Since the hoist continues to lose money for the marina, it will be necessary to raise the rates.

Please bag your garbage. Loose garbage often spills out of the dumpsters and then gets blown around. The worst problem is Styrofoam packing peanuts. The marina dumpsters are for marina users and please don't bring your household garbage to the marina.

Fuel prices. We had a fuel delivery on April 14 and the price we paid for diesel was exactly \$1 per gallon higher than our previous delivery. The current prices are: gas \$3.81 per gallon and diesel \$4.26 per gallon. (Nickel off for 100 gals)

2008 Boating Fair. This will be a two day event this year—June 7 and 8. It features classes and demonstrations, for children and adults, including: marine mammals, kayaking, salmon fishing, and many more. It's free, but we boaters should try to spend some time to support this event.

Swap Meet. On Saturday June 7 the Power Squadron is organizing a swap meet of boating gear. The time is from 8am to 10am with setup prior to that. There is no established charge to participate, but donations are welcome. If you want space along the fence line please contact Jim Dobbins at 360.279.0131 or jrdobbins@comcast.net

"Round Whidbey Race" (starting on May 17th) is a 65 mile race starting at Deception Pass, South around Possession Point, North to the Red #4 day marker at the entrance to Oak Harbor. There is a BBQ pre-race party on the evening of the 16th. For more information go to www.winsa.org

Youth sailing lessons. There are 3 separate sessions for Youth sailing:

- 1) Three consecutive weekends beginning May 31
- 2) Six consecutive days beginning June 23
- 3) Three weekends beginning July 12

The cost for the program will be \$75 plus \$12 for the US Sailing book. For more information contact Byron Skubi at 675-8696.

mfunk@oakharbor.org Mack Funk, Harbormaster 360.279.4575