Port Director’s Corner

**Thank you - Coast Guard & Army Divers!** Docks & Harbors was privileged to work with two military dive teams which mobilized for 30 days, in part to participate in Buoy Tender Round-up. The Army’s 74th Engineer Dive Detachment working with U.S. Coast Guard Regional Dive Locker West provided a combined 30 divers looking for training opportunities to hone their dive skills in Juneau. The divers conducted several underwater repair projects at the Statter Breakwater, the Intermediate Vessel Float and the Auke Bay Loading Facilities. They also repositioned the anchors on the derelict vessel LUMBERMAN and plan to dive for the Army Corps of Engineers to remove interferences in Harris & Aurora Harbors in preparation for a scheduled dredging maintenance project. Also see Juneau EMPIRE article: [https://tinyurl.com/y4y6xtxt](https://tinyurl.com/y4y6xtxt)

**Well Done TSI!** Congratulations to the Territorial Sportsmen, for the 73rd consecutive year, putting on a highly successful Golden North Salmon Derby. Docks & Harbors appreciates the opportunity to help out TSI and the Juneau community.

**AAHPA Conference:** CBJ Docks & Harbors is honored to be the host community for the 40th Annual Alaskan Association of Harbormasters & Port Administrators (AAHPA) Conference from September 30th to October 4th. AAHPA members include 42 harbors around the state and we anticipate 100 attendees. There are sponsorship opportunities for interested businesses to participate. Juneau last hosted this conference in 2007. More information can be found: [www.alaskaharbors.org](http://www.alaskaharbors.org)

**Archipelago Construction Update:** Trucano Construction and its subcontractor Enco are making considerable progress in preparing the bank to build a retaining wall which is pile supported. Pile driving operations are anticipated to run through the end of the calendar year.

Go Green with Docks & Harbors! If interested in having your statement sent via email, please send an email to harbormaster@juneau.org
Employee of the Quarter: Please join me in congratulating Harbor Officer John Forchemer as Docks & Harbors Employee of the Quarter for the 2nd Quarter of 2019. The citation read in part: You distinguished yourself with tireless dedication to training the Statter Harbor seasonal staff and efforts in the repair of the storm damaged Statter Harbor breakwater. The two seasonal harbor officers and the seasonal harbor technician assigned to Statter Harbor this summer had never worked at this facility. Although your co-workers are skilled and experienced in other harbors, they had never faced the challenges that a dynamic harbor like Statter demands. You recognized this early on and took a personal interest in their professional development. Relying on your many years of experience, you quickly brought the staff up to speed and ensured proficiency in their duties, with no loss of productivity of your own assigned responsibilities...Auke Bay was severely impacted with an April westerly storm resulting in vessels from a local tour company seeking shelter on the inside of the Statter breakwater. The resulting damage caused to the breakwater was significant; and, it was critical that repairs be made as the breakwater is the primary moorage for multiple super yachts throughout the summer. Assigned the task of completing repairs to the breakwater, you did not hesitate...Your positive can-do attitude and dedication, enabled this project to be completed safely and efficiently.

New Port Engineer: Docks & Harbors has hired former Deputy Port Engineer Erich Schaal, P.E. to be the new Port Engineer. Erich has been with Docks & Harbors for 9 ½ years and developed a stellar reputation. The position became vacant with the retirement of Gary Gillette on August 1st.

End of Season Meetings: Each April and September, Docks & Harbors’ facilitates meetings with our heavy user groups with the goal of constant improvements to better serve the public. Of course, the general public is always welcome to communicate with the Port Director, Harbormaster, or Harbor staff and attend Docks & Harbors Board meetings on issues pertaining to infrastructure, regulations or policy. However, twice a year, we make a point of inviting users of Statter Harbor, the downtown transportation providers and the downtown vendor booth brokers to meetings to discuss the season ahead and the season which has passed. We try to choose days in which there are few cruise ships in port to maximize attendance.

On Wednesday, September 25th at 9 am in Assembly Chambers, we will be conducting the post-season meeting with downtown transportation providers. We will present the latest update to the downtown “transportation and expanded deck-over project” to all in attendance. The meeting will focus on improving the safety and efficacy of moving passengers out of the downtown core using many modes of transportation.

On Wednesday, September 25th at 10 am in Assembly Chambers, we will be conducting the post-season meeting with downtown vendor booth brokers. This user group, which is permitted thorough Docks & Harbors, is very important to the tourism industry. It is our desire to work with the vendor booth brokers to promote an image which is consistent with the Juneau community.

On Wednesday, September 25th at 11 am in Assembly Chambers, we will be conducting our post-season meeting for Statter Harbor users. Items for discussion will be operational improvements ideas, updating the Statter Harbor “For Hire Float” project, management of the ABMS 100-foot Float Extension and TBMP. Interested members of the public, charter operators and the Statter boating community are highly encouraged to attend and participate.

Help stop theft in our Harbors! If you see something, say something. Call suspicious activity to JPD Non-Emergency Line at 907-586-0600 and report to the Harbor Office at 907-586-5255.