



THE DINGHY

The Newsletter of the SINCLAIR INLET YACHT CLUB
The best of yachting ~ In the heart of the Puget Sound

S*inclair Inlet Yacht Club is composed of yacht owners, and persons interested in boating and amateur yachting. Many of our members have boats located at the Port Orchard Marina. Some of our members come from Vashon Island and Seattle while others come from as far away as Mount Rainier and Everett. With low membership fees, many reciprocals and a great group of people enjoying good times we encourage anyone interested in boating to consider joining our Yacht Club!*

We hope you enjoy our newsletter and become interested in the Sinclair Inlet Yacht Club. See you on the water!

Supplemental

This is a supplemental edition of The Dinghy with items for your review now. Expect a formal edition soon. Please see next page for review items.

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Two items for your timely review:

New Member for Review:

We have received an application for membership. Please review the following and call Scott Jungquist at 360 769-2213 with any comments on these prospective members:

Steven and Bonnie Huff
Tollycraft 26'
"Little Big Bear"
Seabeck, WA

Action Alert from The Recreational Boating Association of Washington

The alert on the following pages will be sent out in its entirety and original form with access to the sites and links via a separate email. Although the first public hearing was set to take place last Thursday, we believe, due to the snow, the Capitol was closed and, therefore, the hearing would have been postponed. Regardless, we encourage you to investigate and get involved as soon as possible:





JANUARY 17, 2012

ACTION ALERT!!

PLEASE OPPOSE HOUSE BILL 2444

House Bill 2444, sponsored by Rep. Jeff Morris (D-Anacortes) takes \$150,000 of your Recreation Resource Account funding – capital dollars from throughout the state that go into the underlying infrastructure to support recreational boating – and uses it “to convene and staff a work group to develop a public private entity to be known as the Washington Center for Marine Innovation.”

Tell your lawmakers that:

- Recreational boaters were never consulted on this bill – Rep. Morris simply targeted your money, drafted it, and introduced it – without ever saying a word to boaters;
- This legislation would raid a dedicated capital account for infrastructure that drives jobs, and utilize it toward a work group and a study in one part of NW Washington;
- The Recreation Resource Account, created through a voter-passed initiative, was put in place to take unclaimed non-highway gas tax purchases that are technically eligible for a refund, and contribute them toward the infrastructure for recreational boating. The voters of this state created it for capital purposes – not an operating budget study;

- The Center for Marine Innovation would be housed at an institute of higher education (Skagit Valley College) – if this is a worthy idea, the Legislature should take the funding to study it from their higher education budget, or seek grants – not raid a capital account for boaters;
- The boating industry does not see this as a priority and is steadfast that it opposes HB 2444;
- If this precedent is allowed to stand, what stops the next legislators from taking dedicated account funds for their pet purposes?
- Boaters already pay \$35 million a biennium into the state general fund in the form of a “Watercraft Excise Tax” – no other recreational group has paid this excise tax since the passage of Initiative 695 over a decade ago. Legislators have general fund money, paid into them by boaters, if they consider the Center for Marine Innovation to be a priority;
- If we want to improve recreational boating, let’s take steps to make it more accessible and to invest in boating infrastructure – instead of spending boaters’ money on a study for a facility in Skagit County.

A first public hearing on this bill is at 10 a.m.

Thursday, Jan. 19.

Please act right away!

Please Call the Legislative Hotline at 1-800-562-6000 to let your legislator know you are adamantly opposed to this bill, or e-mail your legislator by using this format:

Firstname.Lastname@leg.wa.gov – Example: Marcie.Maxwell@leg.wa.gov

Please give particular priority to contacting all the members of the House Community & Economic Development & Housing Committee