

*The Mission of the Port of Port Townsend, a county wide municipal corporation, is to responsibly develop property and facilities that encourage job creation, private investment, local economic stability and diversity, and to better the quality of life for the citizens throughout Jefferson county.*

*Regular Port Commission meetings are scheduled for the second and fourth Wednesdays of the month. The first monthly meeting takes place at the Point Hudson Marina Room starting at 1:00 PM, with a workshop preceding the meeting, beginning at 9:30 AM. The second monthly meeting is held at the Tri-Area Community Center in Chimacum starting at 7:00 PM. Check our website for information: [www.portofpt.com](http://www.portofpt.com).*

**Port Commission:**

**Robert "Bob" Sokol - President**

**Herb Beck - Vice President**

**Conrad Pirner - Secretary**

**Executive Director:**

**Larry Crockett**

**Director of Finance:**

**Donald Taylor**

**Operations Manager:**

**Ken Radon**

**Property & Facilities Manager**

**Jim Pivarnik**

**Commissioner's  
Comments**

*By Bob Sokol, President*

Port watchers will remember 2003 as the Year of the Plan. This has been an exciting and busy year as the Comprehensive Scheme of Harbor Improvements and the Airport Master Plan come to a close. The Comp Scheme approval has been scheduled for November and the Airport Master Plan approval in December.

The Port has been fortunate that citizen volunteers have stepped up to assist in the development of these plans. Twenty-two people representing businesses, neighbors, environmental interests, marina tenants, and more met frequently and developed alternatives for every Port property except the airport. In August, the Commissioners selected the preferred alternative for those properties. Basically, Point Hudson will have more public access, better marina and functional buildings; the Boat Haven will have more shipyard and an expanded marina; and Kah Tai will remain a nature park.

The Airport Master Plan development was assisted by two citizen committees. A technical committee composed of people who are knowledgeable about flying and airport operations assisted in those areas while a citizens group made up mostly of airport neighbors provided input from their perspective. The airport will have an Aero Museum, more hangars, and an instrument approach for flying safety.

Port staff have been the real heroes because they had this time-consuming planning process added to the normal day-to-day workload. In every instance, they rose to the occasion.



*2003 Wooden Boat Festival*

**Director's Update**

*Larry Crockett*

The Port has been working with the Jefferson County Economic Development Council to conduct a survey of our marine trades industry. The last such survey was taken in 1990. We all talk about the impact of the marine industry on our community but just what is the level of that impact? We now have the finished survey. A copy is available at our administration office, 333 Benedict St. It also appears on our web site: [www.portofpt.com](http://www.portofpt.com).

97 different businesses responded to the survey - here are some of the facts:

- total number of workers in the marine trades 462 (full time)
- average employment per business 6.73 workers
- average annual payroll \$219,149
- average hourly wage for skilled worker \$18.45

*(Con't)*

**WINTER WARNINGS FOR BOATERS**

DUE TO HEAVY WIND STORMS PLEASE REMEMBER TO CHECK ALL LINES AND TARPS TO MAKE SURE THAT THEY ARE TIED SECURELY. ALSO CHECK DINGHIES DURING RAIN STORMS, SO THEY DON'T FILL WITH WATER.

- 69% of the businesses say 75% or more of all their work is on recreational vessels
- 68% of all businesses say sales are stable or increasing

It was also determined that the economic multiplier for marine trades, in our district, is 2.75. That means for every dollar spent with our marine trade businesses - 2 dollars and seventy-five cents is generated in our community. Combined with the number of full time workers, there is no doubt, the marine trade industry is the largest economic element in Jefferson County.

There is much more in the report. Please take the time to learn about your marine trades industry. We will be using the information to help with marketing and future capital improvements to further assist all marine trade and related businesses.

Soon to be released is a similar survey of recreational boating and recreational vehicles in Jefferson County. We will have that data for our next newsletter.

*If you have questions or comments about this report or any other Port business please feel free to contact me at: [Larry@portofpt.com](mailto:Larry@portofpt.com) or by phone: (360) 385-0656 - or better yet, come by and see me, the door is always open.*

## Port Finances

Donald Taylor

As fall approaches, so does budget time. As with most other public agencies these days, your Port is constantly dealing with the issue of expenses which are rising faster than revenues.

To this end, we are always looking for ways to work smarter and more efficiently to reduce or contain expenses, all the while trying to increase usage and activity levels at Port facilities, thru promotion of our Port, to attempt to insure that we are maximizing revenues. For 2004 we will continue these practices. Currently we are proposing no increase in the Port tax levy for 2004, and only a 2% CPI increase in moorage and airport hangar rental rates. To help absorb continued substantial increases in items such as property and liability

insurance, utilities, contracted professional services, etc., and to attempt to keep the budget in balance, while providing some funds for capital improvements, one part-time staff position will be deleted next year. The development process for the 2004 Operating Budget began in August. To date, three public workshops have been held on the budget. Staff is currently preparing the draft budget document, and by the time you receive this newsletter, the budget will have been presented at the October 22<sup>nd</sup> regular Port Commission meeting, and copies will be available for public review at all Port offices.

As part of our regular Commission meeting, a public hearing on the budget will be held at 1:00 p.m. on Wednesday November 19<sup>th</sup>, at the Point Hudson Marina Room, and is open to all interested individuals.



*Pacific Grace's first visit to the Port*

## Port Facilities Update

Jim Pivarnik

People who frequent the Port might have noticed a 40-foot telephone pole with what appears to be three donuts atop, located just behind Galmukoff Marine. This unique pole is the first in the Puget Sound area and part of a broader State shoreline program. Its main purpose is to notify citizens of a Tsunami, or other major emergencies that might occur. Operated remotely by event codes from the Jefferson County's Department of Emergency Management, the strobe light and 800-Watt Siren is said to be able to alert most residents along the shoreline from the center of town to well south of the mill. Another one of these systems might be available sometime next year to be installed on the north-side of town to cover from Point Hudson to Fort

Worden. The Port is very proud to host the first installation in Puget Sound and looks forward to continuing our relationship with the State and County on these very important projects.

## Port Operations Report

Ken Radon

Another summer behind us. I might add the finest summer I have experienced here on the Peninsula in three decades. This year, while enjoying our corner of paradise, we were joined (as we are every year) by thousands of visitors (tourists) from all corners of the world.

As you may or may not be aware, Port facilities are the destination for many of these visitors. We accommodate these visitors at both the Boat Haven Marina and our Point Hudson Marina & RV Park. During the peak travel/vacation months of July, August, and September we provided nightly accommodations for over 8,700 guest boats and RV's.

We feel that if fall activity levels remain the same, as most years, by year-end we will have accommodated over 15,000 visiting boats and RV's.

This is no small feat and has significant impacts on the local merchants and community as a whole. One of the most significant points to be made regarding these numbers is the fact that most of these visitors did not add to the local traffic congestion.

This summer the Port contracted with the Jefferson County Economic Development Council (EDC) to conduct a survey of visiting boaters and RV'ers. They were very successful in getting a large number of guests to complete the survey. Later this fall we hope to have a final report, which can help us quantify the economic benefits to the community of guests at the Port. We also hope to get some idea as to when and why people like to come to town, where they come from, and what they would like to see improved or added for future visits. All of this information will help us in promoting our facilities and meeting customer needs now and well into the future.