

Whoo News

April 2016



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Coming Up - Owl Harbor Events and Delta Loop Happenings

April Showers bring May Flowers!

February gave us the regular reprieve from rain despite that we were a little nervous it would be a repeat of last year. However, March started off with a bang - lots of rain. We are planning on having more rainy days, but hopefully we'll have the occasional dry day to get a few projects done. Great time to get some boat projects started and completed before you head out on the water for what is looking like a great season.

I hope you all had a great St. Patrick's Day and have a beautiful Easter (which is early this year) so you can skate passed April's two events; April Fools Day and of course Tax day. Neither of which do I find pleasant. I do however find great pleasure in seeing you and seeing you enjoy your boat. So get those projects going so you can enjoy the glorious year ahead.

Cheers,

Devery, Max, Abby,
Twitchell, Stephanie, and
Capt. Jack Sparrow

*April 7-10

Join in the fun for the Strictly Sail Boat Show NEW location, Craneway Pavilion and Marina Bay Yacht Harbor, Richmond

*May 7th

Owl Harbor Nautical Swap Meet. 9-Noon. Bring your stuff to sell or trade.

*Weekly

Join us Tues thru Thurs for morning stretches in the marina clubhouse. We gather at 8:15 am to do about 15-20 minutes of stretches.

*Every Sunday, Tuesday and Thursday Evenings

Join us in the clubhouse at 5:00 pm for Pilates, Yoga, Kick Boxing or Step exercise. We have a few extra mats if you need to borrow one, but you will need to bring a step for the step exercise. No experience is necessary - it's just fun and good for you.

We are gearing up for our summer visitors and reservations are under way. If you are looking at having family or friends for a weekend, please make reservations early to reserve a picnic area for your gathering. They do get busy during the summer season.

We will be inviting Latitude 38's "Delta Doo Dah 8" participants to join us for our "Movies on the Green" and our tenant BBQ, June 18th.



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Boating News

Boat Registration - Are you up to date?

Thank you to the many of you that have put your new 2017 boater registration stickers on your vessels. As we approach month 4 of the new year, please be sure your vessel is current on registration stickers, or come May 1 will be calling on you to find out the status.

Marine Tool of the Month

Life-Calk Sealant:

Long lasting, permanently flexible marine polysulfide sealant which can be sanded, painted, and used above and below the waterline. Tack-free in 1 to 3 days. Ideal for teak decks, to bed deck and hull hardware, and seal thru-hull fittings and underwater seams. Available in the Owl Harbor Office; 2.8 oz. White for \$15.00

Marine Tide App

Looking for a basic tide app? Look no further. Tide Graph is a good basic app for those just getting into tides. For those more advanced, or just like more information, there is Tide Graph Pro and Tide Graph HD. All found in the app store. Other brands are available, but I have found this to be a start.

Are you using the right fuel and oil in your engine?

I recently attended a conference in Sacramento to discuss some issues facing the boating industry. One of the "hot issues" was Ethanol Fuel. You may have read a letter on the topic, but if you aren't familiar with it, here is some information to consider.

The EPA (Environmental Protection Agency) is pushing the auto/truck standard from the current 10 percent ethanol blends, E10, to 15 percent blends, E15, to meet the mandates of the Renewable Fuel Standard. Unfortunately, there are some unintended damaging consequences for boaters.

Tests conducted by marine engine manufacturers under the direction of the Department of Energy's National Renewable Energy Laboratory concluded that E15 fuels not only damage marine engines, they exceed the EPA emission standards.

Many recreational boaters fill up their vessels, and gas cans for their boats, at gas stations. There should be a warning label posted at the pump indicating this potential damage that may occur. Unfortunately, many stations do not have these labels posted, or we aren't looking for them. As you prepare your boat for the season, you may want to be sure you fill your boat fuel tanks with the

best fuel to work with your engine - so far, marina with fuel docks seem to be the best choice.

On another part of your engine, you will want to be sure to start with the right lubricant. There are two main categories of marine outboard engines: two-stroke and four-stroke. Most newer engines today are four-stroke, but let's face it, there are still a lot of two-strokes out there. The lubrication requirements for each type is very different because of how each system works. In two-stroke engines, the oil is mixed with the fuel and lubricates the engine as it passes through. It burns along with the fuel and exits via the exhaust system. Four-stroke engines are lubricated by oil that repeatedly is pumped from and returned to a sump, just as in a car or truck.

Although the four-stroke performs the same function as a vehicle engine, auto lubricants should not be used for two primary reasons: water and wear! Oil made for autos are not set up to protect engines against the corrosion water may cause, and because four-stroke engines run faster and spend longer periods not being used, the same oil is not interchangeable.

So, with all this information, it is suggested to check out the manufacturer of your engine for the correct lubricant, and fuel, or to look for the National Marine Manufacturers Assoc. (NMMA) logo on the oil. You may find TC-W3 oils are certified for two-stroke engines, FC-W for four-stroke engines. Be sure to check them all out, to get the correct one.

Good luck!

ATTENTION
E15
Up to 15% ethanol

Use only in

- 2001 and newer passenger vehicles
- Flex-fuel vehicles

Don't use in other vehicles, boats or gasoline-powered equipment. It may cause damage and is **prohibited** by Federal law.

News & Noteworthy

The Fish are Biting!



Loaner Fishing Poles and Lures

We have had a great suggestion (from Scott) to have loaner fishing rods and lures available. If you would like to try this out, you will need to have a valid fishing license. For the lures we are looking at a "swap" so that you can try out different items and see what works for you. Children (12 or younger) fishing must be accompanied by parent or legal guardian in same proximity of youth. All safety precautions and boating etiquette apply while fishing in the marina. Please review the policies in your handbook under "Fishing" for more clarification.



Did you know that we are a world class location for Bass? I'm not just talking about Rio Vista or Ileton, I'm talking Owl Harbor Marina. We have bass that continually lay and hatch their eggs right here in our marina.

Check out the beautiful bass, pictured above, that Scott Duncan caught. He and his son are avid fishermen and catch many fish off the docks. They recently purchased a new fishing boat, to go along with their Tug, Frisky, to scour the Delta waterways. They are here almost every other weekend, along with their puppy Penny, to enjoy the Delta. If you need some pointers, I'd ask either father or son on some of their secrets.

Last month Rich caught a nice size bass as well, so we certainly have a few fishing experts to ask advice from. Another expert on the subject is our coworker, Javier. You see him around during the week working hard at keeping the marina beautiful and functioning, but on the weekends when the weather warms up, he's on the water with pole in hand. Even Kurtis is finding it to be a good time, and quite relaxing, throwing out a line before he starts his day.

So, if you are looking at "tinkering" with a rod and reel, please feel free to hook up with one of these people for some tried and true experience on the subject. It doesn't need to cost you a fortune, of course it can, but you can have a good time just tossing one out!

Fishy Information

*Scott turned us on to a fun source of tackle. "Mystery Tackle Box". Depending on what you sign up for, you can receive a "mystery" box each month filled with enticing lures and baits to catch specific fish. If you are not sure what to catch, they have options of salt water, fresh water, seasonal and more. It's a fun gift to get and you can change your box style any time any month.

*Need some ideas for boating and fishing in the area? Check out Takemefishing.org to find locations you would like to go.

*Fishing App's to help out the angler in you: Trimble GPS Fish Maps, Animated Knots by Grog HD, and more in your app store.

And then.....

Welcome to Spring in full bloom!

Kurtis, Javier and Luis have done a great job in the garden and it is growing daily. Please see them about getting some broccoli, cauliflower, onions, lettuce, spinach, kale, beets and more. They have many seeds growing to get a jump on the summer season once the ground warms just enough to plant. It doesn't get any fresher than this.

The garden isn't the only thing growing - the baby chicks have now reached the teen years. We have such a variety and some names have already been given. Below left with the feather tufted head is Phyllis, after Phyllis Diller, and we have a yellow version as well that we have named Rod, yes, Rod Stewart. Next to Phyllis on the right, meet Gracie, she was named from one of our regular summer friends Elise and Andrew from Texas. To the far left above Phyllis, we have a new rooster, thanks to my mom, that should have been a hen, but turned out to be a rooster. Her/His name is Vivian. To keep

Vivian company, we took a hen from our other coop and decided to name her Chuck - so meet Vivian and Chuck. When the chicks get big enough to go outdoors, they will be in the same area as these two.

In the lower right, you may recognize this little guy, or not, but it is Captain Jack Sparrow when he was a kitten - Happy Birthday Jack, you are now 6 years old and such a great part of our family.

