



**ALASKA ASSOCIATION OF HARBORMASTERS
AND PORT ADMINISTRATORS**

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Hello all!

How do I describe the 2010 Annual Conference hosted by Wrangell? **INFORMATIVE & FUN!** A big hand goes out to Greg Meissner, LaDonna Botsford and the rest of their crew that did an astounding job of putting together this year's conference with more than 60 in attendance. Thanks for all your hard work!

A big **THANK YOU** as well to all our sustaining member partners that attended, made presentations and otherwise supported the conference. Their ongoing sponsorship of the breaks, lunches and banquet is greatly appreciated.

The 2011 conference will be hosted by Homer October 10-14, 2011. Mark your calendar and plan to be there!

At the Conference banquet the membership of AAHPA recognized Marty Owen of Kodiak as Harbormaster of the Year for 2010. Alan Sorum, Training Director of Prince William Sound Community College and John Stone, Port Director of Juneau, both received recognition as Life Members of the AAHPA. Harbor Employees recognized were Dan Berg of Ketchikan, Steve Miller of Wrangell and Dennis Holloway of Juneau. Congratulations to all for well deserved recognition!

During the conference there was again considerable discussion regarding the Municipal Harbor Matching Grant Program and funding for it. Earlier this year AAHPA President Steve Corporon sent out individual letters to the Governor and every Legislator asking them to fully fund all the projects submitted for the Alaska Municipal Harbors Matching Grant Program. John Stone stated that everyone should help update the 2005 municipal needs spreadsheet. Kim has emailed it out (done again 11/2/2010 and again 11/9/2010). When it is updated John will get it to the Legislature. They need it completed by Thanksgiving.

AAHPA Resolution No. 2010-1: To support full funding for the State of Alaska Municipal Harbor facility Grant Program in the FY2012 capital budget was passed at the Annual Meeting. SE Conference supported a similar resolution asking for the Governor and Legislature to support the funding. AML is also going to present a similar resolution at their conference November 18, 2010. (Kim sent an updated resolution to Kathie Wasserman of AML 11/2/2010 and she received confirmation it is in the AML resolution packet.)

Steve Corporon reported that AAHPA has had a booth at the Seattle Boat Show a couple of years and the Board approved continuing that support. AAHPA has paid for the booth space in the amount of \$1,600 which will be divided by however many harbors participate and then be reimbursed back to AAHPA. Ketchikan, Juneau and Kodiak have committed to participate so far. It is a 10 day event

starting January 21-30, 2011. It helps to have 2, preferably 3 people for weekends, 2 during the week. If you don't want to attend but want your information in the booth let those participating know and get it to them. Marty Owen will coordinate schedules. Sitka and Homer will probably participate. Anyone wishing to participate needs to confirm as soon as possible. Steve suggested using Port & Harbor Commission members as he has done in the past if you don't have personnel to spare. The Board is also considering supporting the registration fee for someone to attend the Anacortes Trawler Fest in May 2011 to see if it would be something that should be routinely attended to promote cruising vessels to visit Alaska.

Due to many harbors having an ongoing problem with Stellar Sea Lions AAPHA President Steve Corporon will write a letter to NOAA/NMFS Enforcement Office asking for guidelines on how harbors are to handle the problem. They will also be invited to attend the 2011 Conference to speak on the subject.

AAHPA bi-annual elections will be at next year's conference and it is time for folks to start thinking about who is willing to serve. There is the potential for quite a few open seats. Contact Phil Benner in Juneau if interested. It is not extremely time consuming with one spring board meeting via teleconference and the annual meeting.

Clean Harbors Certification –the AAHPA Board gave Rachel Lord of Cook Inletkeepers the \$1,000 conference attendance grant after no one else applied for it so that she could attend the conference and give everyone an update on the program. She reported that standards for the program have been set which are on-line so a harbor can get certified. They just need to get the guidelines and start working through it. She can help a harbor identify what they need to do to finish the program. Sometime between August and November she will have funding to complete it. The AAHPA needs to have a person on a Clean Harbors Advisory Committee. After some discussion Bryan Hawkins volunteered to represent AAHPA on the committee. Others organizations that might be contacted to serve on it were suggested to her such as Sea Grant, DNR, ADF&G, the Marine Exchange, Kachemak Bay Research Reserve, the Alaska Marine Conservation Council, and United Fisherman of Alaska.

The Board of Directors also decided to continue to offer a reimbursable conference attendance scholarship. It is recognized that smaller communities with harbors have financial limitations that may make it difficult to send someone to our conference. In an effort to help these communities, we offer this grant to help defray the costs of attending the conference. We have \$1,000 available. The conference registration fee will also be waived. Since we have limited funds and may receive multiple requests, please let us know why your community would be the best candidate for a grant. To apply, send a letter of interest to Kim Elliot, AAHPA Executive Secretary at 7 Maksoutoff Street, Sitka, AK 99835 or email to aahpa@gci.net. If you have any questions, email or call Kim at 747-7677. Reminder notices will be posted on the website well ahead of the conference as well as being sent out with the conference packet.

In closing, I want to wish you all the best of holiday seasons and a prosperous 2011!

Sincerely,

Kim

Kim Elliot, AAHPA Executive Secretary