

## **Member Communication**

Hello RBAW Members and Friends,

During the 1950s, RBAW formed and led the effort to acquire Sucia Island in the San Juan Islands and donate it Washington State Parks. As a result of this effort, Sucia is now recognized as one of the finest marine parks in the world and is enjoyed by thousands of boaters every year.

Today, I am thrilled to announce that the RBAW, through its 501(c)3 marine parks conservancy, has been successful in raising the money to acquire the historic Lakebay Marina in south Puget Sound. RBAW and the State of Washington are teaming up to acquire and renovate this beautiful property located on the Key Peninsula. After two years of hard work and community support, we successfully reached our fundraising goal -- allowing us to acquire the marina and surrounding uplands and ensuring public access for future generations to enjoy.

This acquisition is a monumental moment and extends the legacy of RBAW as an organization dedicated to protecting cruising grounds for recreational boating. While we are delighted with our progress, there is still a great amount of work to do. Soon we will begin the planning process to map out the needed improvements to the infrastructure including new docks, utilities and other services such as pump-out, fuel and a venue for the community to gather. Several more years of work and additional monies will be needed to fulfill the potential of this location and we hope we can count on your sustained support.

Please see the DNR press release below. We look forward to seeing you on the water!

Bob Wise, President

<u>Recreational Boating Association of Washington</u>
Recreational Boating Association of Washington Marine Parks Conservancy 501c(3)

PRESS RELEASE - DNR, RBAW Conservancy to Renovate Historic Lakebay Marina