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October 25,2007 By



Vertical Yacht Club debuts dry storage for megayachts

Aqua Marine Partners and Vertical Yacht Club Development announced plans for its newest project, Vertical Yacht Club Marina Mile – the marine industry’s first vertical dry storage facility designed exclusively for yachts up to 85 feet and 90 tons.

Vertical Yachts spent three years devising the concept for Vertical Yacht Club Marina Mile, located at 3000 W. State Road 84 in Ft. Lauderdale. The state-of-the-art indoor facility will house 46 yachts and provide protection with a hurricane-resistant design that can withstand up to Category 5 force storms.

The revolutionary Hercules system transports each yacht and stores it in a fully enclosed, air conditioned suite within the building. The Hercules system uses an overhead bridge crane and a high-tech open-rack system to maneuver boats with precise guidance.

Suite platforms are to be custom designed for each hull. A 250-square-foot mezzanine as well as a fire suppression system and biometric controls will also be included. Domestic and European power will be accessible, along with standard hook ups in each suite.

Vertical Yacht Club will feature a monthly maintenance program to ensure engines, electronics and systems are preserved.

The Club will feature a lounge, business conference center, gym, spa, concierge and offices for captain and crew.

The project is expected to break ground this summer. For more information, visit www.verticallyachts.com or www.verticallyachtclub.com.

City board OKs New River marina

The city of Ft. Lauderdale’s planning and zoning board approved the re-development plans for the 12-acre Ft. Lauderdale BoatClub yard and marina, formerly Jackson Marine.

BoatClub has already acquired state and federal environmental permits but awaits the OK from city commissioners, who have voted down several big marina projects this year.

Ft. Lauderdale BoatClub will include 300 dry slips available for purchase for boats up to 49 feet. Fourteen wet slips are available for boats up to 160 feet. There will also be 14 executive offices for captain and crew management and 14 air-conditioned garages for storage and parking.

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Featured Author

David Wieldt

David Wieldt, a former refit engineer and salesman with Esprit Nautics, now owns Tender Care, a Ft. Lauderdale-based company that sells pre-owned yacht tenders.

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"We are redeveloping the entire property, down to every last seawall, floating dock, and including 25,000 yards of underwater dredging surrounding the marina," said Ruff. "When completed, we will have over 300 combined wet and dry slips and over 80,000 square feet dedicated to service, repair and marine-related retail.

"The list of amenities at the new Ft Lauderdale BoatClub is extensive – encompassing 12 acres located on the New River, there is a lot of room to design with big ideas in mind."

This is Ft Lauderdale BoatClub's first showing at the Fort Lauderdale International Boat Show.

"Over the next year we will be exhibiting at every major Florida Boat Show throughout the state. But, this is the show of shows – and we wouldn't think of missing it!" said Ruff.

Ft Lauderdale BoatClub is located off of I-95 from the Davie Road exit and by water is 30-minutes to the Atlantic via the New River, through downtown Ft. Lauderdale.

Bradford starts rewards programs

The Shipyard Group (TSG), the brokerage arm of Bradford Marine, has begun two megayacht Rewards Programs for its listed and charter vessels to offer owners and captains complementary services and discounts on services in both the company's Ft. Lauderdale yard and Grand Bahama yard.

Benefits include 5 percent discount on all services at their shipyards, free annual haul out, free dockage while the yacht is centrally listed with TSG for sale, free flights for emergencies to the Bahamas, free emergency towing, free New River towing to and from the Ft. Lauderdale shipyard, free airport shuttle, free parts delivery, priority yard bookings, and ticketing/event assistance for recreational events

For more information, call +1-954-377-3900 or e-mail info@theshipyardgroup.com.

I Bradford also hired two new employees:

Edwin Bless joins as a project manager. Originally from Long Island, he spent 35 years in the U. S. Merchant Marine and has compiled over 40 years of industry experience with various engineering positions at companies, including New York Shipyard and Atlantic Dredge Company. Bless holds licenses for Chief Engineer and First Class Stationary Engineer.

Dennis Dandria also joins as a project manager. A South Florida native, he has been in the marine industry for six years. He helped establish a rental boat fleet in Arizona and worked on electric-powered boats.

Dockmaster trains for marathon

Scott Salomon, dockmaster at Hall of Fame Marina in Ft. Lauderdale, is once again preparing for the Walt Disney World Marathon in Orlando in January. The 26.2-mile course takes more than 13,000 athletes from around the world through all four Disney parks.

As in the past, Salomon is raising money for Helping Hands of Harbour Towne, a sister Westrec marina located in Dania Beach, and the Plywood Regatta Scholarship Fund.

Helping Hands of Harbour Towne is a non-profit organization that helps families with sick children by giving financial assistance and support. The Plywood Regatta Scholarship Fund provides financial support to deserving and qualified Plywood Regatta participants for advanced education towards recreational marine industry careers.

The regatta is produced each year by the Marine Industries Association of South Florida for local middle and high school students.

For more information, contact Salomon at +1-954-764-3975 or hfmariascott@bellsouth.net.

Tampa to add 700 dry, 40 wet slips

Yacht Club of the Americas (YCOA) will make its debut in Tampa Bay at the former Tampa Bayside Marina with a 700-slip dry rackominium.

Called the Tampa Harbour Yacht Club, members receive reciprocal privileges at all YCOA-affiliated locations, including those in Destin, Key West, Sanibel, Naples, Tampa, Stuart, New Smyrna, Riviera (Ft. Myers), Ft. George (Jacksonville) and Grand Bahamas.

The dry slips will accommodate boats up to 50 feet; the wet slips are for boats up to 80 feet. For more information, visit www.ycoa.com.

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