

Commodore's Message for 2025

A big thank you to the Board and all the Members who helped make 2024 a successful year for the Washington Outboard Club (WOC). Here are some 2024 highlights and 2025 goals for this year.

2024 Highlights

All Member Texting Service- We developed another form of communication to our membership. If you haven't been receiving these texts let me know. There is an opt out option.

WOC Facebook Page- Again another form of communicating to the membership and sharing fish stories and WOC events.

Organized a Swap Meet and lunchtime Fish Fry at the Port.

Two very successful striper derbies and Angler of the Year dinner.

2025 Ongoing Projects

- Continuing to work with the Department of Fish and Wildlife to participate in a "Fishing in the City" event for kids.
- Obtaining bids for a key card entry system for Port entry.
- Developing plans to widen the boat dock to make it easier to launch and retrieve a boat.
- Installing a camera on the dock.
- Developing a "Port Map" to assist new WOC members in fishing the Port.
- Creating a Media Board member position.

Key Dates for 2025

Membership meetings are the second Thursday of each month.

March 22 – Spring Striper Derby

April 12 – Spring Derby Dinner (Portuguese Hall)

May 31 – Last day to meet Membership requirements

September 13 – Fall Striper Derby

October 18 – Angler of the Year Dinner (Portuguese Hall)

On a sad note, Gary Voet, Past Commodore for the WOC passed on January 3, 2025.

A Special Thanks goes out to John Hardin, Warren Trumbly and Pam Scott for their work on the Board. We appreciate all the work that you've done for the WOC!!!

I just wanted to share a few things with the Membership to let you know some of the plans we have for the upcoming year. In addition, to completing the repairs to the ramp the Board is working on the following:

1. **TEXTING SERVICE** -The Board will be checking into companies that can set up a "texting" service. This service will allow us to "text" all members on upcoming events or activities. Emails and membership meetings are a good way to send out info and this is just another more reliable way to ensure that members are up to date. Members can opt out to receiving these texts. We just delete the phone number from our Master list. Members can send back responses but only to the originator (WOC). This service can cost from \$25.00 to \$45.00 a month depending on the number of texts that go out to the Membership.
2. **FACEBOOK PAGE** - We have developed a Washington Outboard Club Facebook Page for members who are interested. Members are encouraged to participate and share their own pictures and fishing experiences.
3. **KEY CARD VS. KEY ENTRY** -The Board is exploring the use of a key card entry to the main gate versus the key lock. As time has gone by many ex-members have not returned their gate key. About 95% of members who do not re-enroll keep their key. A key card entry system would allow the Club to delete former members' key designation from a Master list preventing them from gaining access to the Port. Additionally, replacement keys currently cost \$20.00 and a replacement key card would be less than \$5.00. This is in the early planning stages as we would have to work with all the other Port User Groups (PUG) to use this system.
4. **COMMUNITY SERVICE** – The Board is in the early stages of expanding our community services, particularly to the West Sacramento area. The WOC is dependent upon the City of West Sacramento to allow us to use the Port. Our hope is to work with community organizations to solidify our relationship with the City of West Sacramento. Clean-up crews, taking a child fishing, and neighborhood repairs are being considered.

5. **MORE SOCIAL STUFF** – The WOC is designated as a “social club” and the Board would like to develop more activities that give the members an opportunity to interact with each other. We will be scheduling at least one family picnic and one fish swap for the Spring/Summer time.

The Board looks forward to serving the WOC this year and appreciates any comments or ideas. Thank you. Tom.