

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, the Seafarers' Memorial at Blaine Harbor was established in 1984 to promote community awareness and memory of fishers and other sailors who departed Whatcom County's safe harbors and were lost at sea; and

WHEREAS, the community of Blaine, Washington, continues in its concern of the safety and welfare of its seagoing ships and their crews; and

WHEREAS, the fisher's life is burdened with hazards and difficulties unknown to most of us; and

WHEREAS, strength and courage are basic requirements for anyone who chooses to work on the high seas, battling the elements in order to harvest nature's bounty; and

WHEREAS, the men and women who work on boats, living between God and sea, and never certain which will claim them first, are deserving of our respect, and our gratitude; and

WHEREAS, when fishers do lose their lives, their deaths impact the tightly knit fabric of this and all communities; and

WHEREAS, the citizens who constitute a Blaine Community Chamber of Commerce committee dedicated to preservation, enhancement, and promotion of the Seafarers' Memorial have planned a service for the **BLESSING OF THE FLEET** at the Blaine Harbor;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the community of Blaine and I, Bonnie Onyon, Mayor Pro Tem of the City of Blaine, Washington, extend our heartfelt thoughts and prayers to the families and friends of the men and women claimed by the sea, and wish the entire commercial **FISHING FLEET** a safe and prosperous season, and pray that all fishing men and women will return safely home to their loved ones, and I do hereby proclaim **MAY 7, 2006**, as:

BLESSING OF THE FLEET DAY

ADOPTED by unanimous vote of the Council of the City of Blaine on April 24, 2006.

MAYOR PRO TEM

ATTEST:

CITY CLERK