

Florida Sport Fishing

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AQUA MARINE PARTNERS OPENS NEW LUXURY MARINA IN POMPANO BEACH

Aquamarina Hidden Harbour is Broward County's first new conventional dry storage marina in the last decade

Pompano Beach, Florida (June 3, 2009)-- South Florida boaters have a new place to store their prized investments with the opening of *Aquamarina Hidden Harbour* in Pompano Beach. It's the first newly constructed conventional dry storage marina in the region in more than a decade and the first in Broward County since a three-year moratorium on new commercial marina construction was lifted in 2007.

Aqua Marine Partners (AMP), a vertically integrated marina company based in Aventura, Florida, designed, developed, constructed and will manage the marine facility that cost \$8 million to construct. On Wednesday, June 4, 2009, the company held a grand opening event at which more than 400 boating enthusiasts came out to tour the facility. **Thirty people signed storage leases on the spot according to AMP Marketing Director Katie Baron Nullman.** One lucky boater, Robin Flory, won a raffle for complimentary storage for one full year.

Aquamarina Hidden Harbour is a full-service facility with 384 dry-stack slips designed to hold boats up to 43 feet in overall length inside its Category 4 Hurricane-rated facility. Located at 2315 NE 15th Street in Pompano Beach, Florida (Broward County), the marina is just minutes from the Hillsboro inlet on the 14th Street canal with no-fixed bridges, providing fast, easy access to the Atlantic Ocean and the Bahamas.

In addition to location, another key selling point is safety. *Aquamarina Hidden Harbour* was built to stringent South Florida building codes and capable of withstanding Category 4 hurricane-force winds, giving boaters peace of mind that their investments will be safe in a storm and providing them with an approved hurricane plan. Other amenities include: a ship yard with 75-ton travel lift, high-speed gas and diesel pumps, ice, bait, pump out and well-stocked ship's store.

During the grand opening party, Pompano Beach's Mayor Lamar Fisher remarked that a project of this caliber was a long time in coming to the city and that he hopes it spurs a revitalization effort in the neighborhood. AMP has future plans to develop retail, restaurant and office space along Federal Highway on this unique 6.7-acre site.

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Aquamarina Hidden Harbour comes on line at a critical time according to Andy Sturner, founder and CEO of Aqua Marine Partners. He noted that over the past decade, the amount of dock space in South Florida has severely dried up. A big reason for that is many marina owners sold out to residential developers during the recent real estate boom. Secondly, he cites the three-year moratorium on new commercial marina construction in Broward County that was put in place while Broward County crafted a detailed manatee protection plan.

“Even though the economy has struggled over the past year, there is still a strong need for a full-service quality marina that caters to the boating lifestyle,” said Sturner. “Our goal is to bring affordable luxury back to the South Florida boating experience. Toward that end, we have spared no expense in the design of this state-of-the-art marina. To complete the promise, we are offering special pricing on all our products.”

“We are so proud to bring this elegant facility to Pompano Beach. As a Lighthouse Point resident and avid fisherman, it is an honor to have been involved in constructing this beautiful and much needed addition to our community,” said John Ross, SVP of development and construction and president of general contractor Rosasco Construction Services Inc., a division of AMP.

Aquamarina Hidden Harbour replaces another marina facility that had been torn down by its former owners, a corporation controlled by Huizenga Holdings. Aqua Marine Partners purchased the property in January 2008 and construction began less than three months after.

Aquamarina Hidden Harbour is the 6th facility under the Aquamarina flag. For leasing information, contact 954-376-5771