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A man walks between two clusters of docked sailboats at the Santa Cruz Harbor, now 50 years old.

SANTA CRUZ

Harbor turns 50 in style

By Terri Morgan

Santa Cruz Sentinel

SANTA CRUZ — With pomp, circumstance, speeches and laughter about 250 people celebrated the 50th anniversary of the Santa Cruz Harbor on Friday afternoon. The re-dedication ceremony, which was held on the lawn at Mariner's Park, officially kicked off a year of events to honor the harbor's half century of existence.

Construction of the small craft harbor began in 1961 at Woods Lagoon, be-

tween Seabright and Twin Lakes Beaches. Funded by \$1.6 million in federal funds, it was opened in 1964 and has become a scenic, recreational landmark that draws people from all walks of life.

The harbor was expanded in 1973 when the upper harbor was opened. Today, it encompasses 92 acres and has berths for 1,000 boats, including 800 permanent slips with the rest reserved for visiting vessels. Recreational, commercial and research boats

are docked at the harbor, which also has launch ramps and is home to fishing, whale watching and sailing charters, and sailing lessons.

The ceremony began with five uniformed members of the Coast Guard Auxiliary formally presenting the colors. The volunteer honor guardsmen, who hailed from Monterey, Alameda and Livermore, said they were thrilled to participate in the celebration.

"We go out of the har-

bor all the time and do patrols (here) so it's a chance to give back," said Tracy Schultz.

The harbor provides more than just recreation for the community. Along with slip fees, the harbor drew revenue by providing temporary berth space for more than 10,000 overnight visitors last year.

"There are 30 plus businesses employing almost 800 people," said Stephen Reed, chairman of the Santa Cruz Port District Commission.

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