



# **TMTA NEWSLETTER**

**October 2007**

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**PLEASE PLAN TO ATTEND OCT, 17<sup>TH</sup> MEETING.**

**SEND A STAFF MEMBER IF YOU CAN NOT ATTEND.**

**RSVP DINNER RESERVATIONS: [ron@fishingbaymarina.com](mailto:ron@fishingbaymarina.com)**

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**(1) Nancy Lloyd from RCC Workforce Development will address the October 17<sup>th</sup> meeting regarding sweeping change made in their ABYC training program. Jack Stevens with CI Agent ([www.ciagent.com](http://www.ciagent.com)) will demonstrate an amazing new product that will encapsulate spills to facilitate easy clean up. Main speaker, Karen Knull, will discuss how to deal with Abandoned Vessels.**

(2) Boating Industry gains favor with Democratic Senators.

The boating industry claimed a key victory in the Senate yesterday with ballast water legislation. U.S. Senators Barbara Boxer, D-Calif., and Bill Nelson, D-Fla., unequivocally committed themselves to resolve the issue before a September 2008 permitting deadline. "A recent court ruling has cast doubt on whether recreational boaters - people going out for a day of fishing, or waterskiing - can continue to operate without a permit from the EPA," Nelson said in a statement. "They've never been required to have such a permit, and there's no reason for that to change. You shouldn't have to ask the EPA before you take your boat out on the water."

Environmental groups and several states' Attorney Generals successfully argued in a U.S. District Court case last fall that ballast water should not be exempted from government regulation as a pollutant because it introduces harmful invasive species into U.S. waters. Large ocean-going ships use

ballast water for stability, taking on water to weigh the vessel down. However, the court's ruling also includes boat-engine cooling water, bilge water, gray water and common deck runoff. The court directed the Environmental Protection Agency to develop what the NMMA says is "a complex and costly permitting scheme" for the nation's estimated 18 million boats by September 2008. "I don't think they should have to get these permits," said Boxer, chairwoman of the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee, in a statement. "I've committed with Senator Nelson to make sure we fix this before that time. We are going to make sure that individual boaters do not need permits - that's as simple as it gets. That's my commitment, and it will happen."

(3) RCC has revamped the ABYC program. The new program manager has invited TMTA members to a FREE Lunch & Learn on Tuesday November 27<sup>th</sup> 11:00AM-1:00PM at the Piankatank River Golf Club, Route 33 Hartfield, VA. RSVP to 804.758.6750 by November 13<sup>th</sup>, 2007

(4) We need better attendance at meetings if the TMTA is going to work. Please encourage a fellow member you know to attend and bring a potential member if you can. Dinner is no charge for potential members.

(5) Dan Worthington of Oceana-Donovan Marine Supply has been asked to set up a volume discount buying arrangement for TMTA members. For information email TMTA member Dan: [dworthington@donovanmarine.com](mailto:dworthington@donovanmarine.com).

(6)

**The Association of Marina Industries and Universal Insurance Services have rolled out a group health insurance plan designed especially for marina industry**

**Under the program, AMI members can offer their employees access to group health insurance without any administration efforts on the marina's part.**

**ALTA Health Plans provide guaranteed issue coverage and is available to association members full time, part time, hourly, temporary and seasonal employees. This limited medical health program can help employees eliminate the financial burden that is all too often associated with basic medical care, says**

## **AMI.**

**More information about the plan and how to enroll is available on the AMI Web site, [www.marinaassociation.org](http://www.marinaassociation.org).**

AMI has just agreed to give a 5% discount on their course fee and events (including this January's International Marina & Boatyard Conference) for employees of Clean Marinas. More details to follow.

(7)  
September 25, 2007, Annapolis, MD: The American Boat & Yacht Council (ABYC) has teamed up with Rulefinder.net to offer ABYC members a new web-based version of the ABYC standards titled "ABYC Standards Powered by Rulefinder.net." This new and innovative product is available to members only, and includes: access to the most current ABYC standards on the Rulefinder.net platform; access to the USCG Rules & Regulations for Recreational Craft; all five USCG Compliance Guidelines; access to the ABYC standards revised in 2003, 2004, 2005 and 2006; ABYC Comparison Reports that reveal the changes in the new and old ABYC standards; as well as notification as new features and documents are added to the product throughout the year. The introductory price for ABYC Standards Powered by Rulefinder.net for the first year is U.S. \$495.00 for one user, with an additional licenses available for multiple users for \$159.00. After that, there is an annual renewal fee of U.S. \$395.00, plus the extra licenses fee if applicable. Discounted ABYC member pricing for the ISO and EU documents can be found by clicking on the "Online Standards Access" menu button on the ABYC Web site ([www.abycinc.org](http://www.abycinc.org)).

ABYC will continue to offer the standards in the traditional blue manual, CD-ROM and the basic online version (Web-STIR). For information on how to join ABYC or

purchase the ABYC Standards Powered by Rulefinder.net, please call the ABYC office at (410) 990-4460, or visit the ABYC Web site at [www.abycinc.org](http://www.abycinc.org) and click the "Online Standards Access" menu button.

(8)

### **NMMA backs Recreational Boating Act**

The Recreational Boating Act, designed to protect recreational boaters from new commercial ballast water permitting regulations, was introduced in the U.S. Senate.

U.S. Sen. Mel Martinez, R-Fla., last week introduced the Senate version of H.R.2550. Requiring family boaters to secure a Clean Water Act permit so they can wash their boat, fish or go water skiing is ridiculous, Martinez said in a statement. This permit requirement is unnecessary and onerous. For 34 years the federal Environmental Protection Agency has exempted discharges from recreational boats from the Clean Water Act permit system. However, a recent court ruling (Sept. 26 U.S. District Court) intended to address the ballast water issue permitting issue cancelled this exemption.

Without congressional approval of the Recreational Boating Act, the court's existing decision means that everyday boaters will have to apply for the same expensive permits as ocean-going commercial vessels said Thom Dammrich, president of the National Marine Manufacturers Association, in a statement.

Large ocean-going vessels are blamed for some 10,000 invasive species introduced into U.S. waters.

NMMA is strongly backing passage of the Recreational Boating Act of 2007 and encourages the public to take action before the ruling goes into effect next year. A court-mandated deadline is set for September 2008, which would require the EPA to have the permitting requirements in place.

We now have the enormous task ahead of passing a legislative fix before time runs out, said Dammrich.

The NMMA, in partnership with the Boat Owners Association of the United States and other outdoor recreation partners, created a grassroots Web site at [www.boatblue.org](http://www.boatblue.org) to mobilize the boating community on the ballast water permitting issue.

(9) For a great way to teach your new staff members, kids or customers how to tie common knots or learn to do decorative knots, visit: [www.animatedknots.com](http://www.animatedknots.com).

(10) President Ron Hall recommends: : 2008 International Marina & Boatyard Conference - January 19-22, 2008 in Atlanta, GA. "**IMBC** is where everyone gathers to exchange information, talk about the future of the marina and boatyard industry, explore new methods and techniques, receive updates on revised standards and established rules, and see what's happening in other

parts of the country. Come network with internationally acclaimed marina-industry professionals while mingling with Certified Marina Managers, potential Certified Marina Managers, other marina operators, boat repairers, and more. Over the course of three days, join the other 600 conference attendees at the highly informative seminars then walk the show floor to visit with any of IMBC's 130 exhibitors. At the end of the conference, re-establish contacts made at the show or connect with new people on a field trip to area marinas."

(11) Because of Thanksgiving, the November meeting will be held on November 28<sup>th</sup> meeting will be Family Night. Please plan to bring your family, friends and employees. Make reservation with Ron Hall at [ronhall@fishingbaymarina.com](mailto:ronhall@fishingbaymarina.com)

## **TIDEWATER MARINE TRADE ASSOCIATION**

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