

TMTA NEWS

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Our 39th Year

March 2005

President's Message *by Mark Drexler*

Mark wasn't available to write his usual message this month due to a recent death in his family. We all send our condolences to Mark and his family. If he were here I know that he would be asking each of our members to consider how much good work we as an organization can do if we all work together. All too often the work of the TMTA comes down to the work of the few board members. We need to encourage more participation in our committees and possibly most importantly on the committee to abolish or reduce the boat taxes in our various counties. If you are willing to help in this regard, or in any capacity, please see one of the officers or directors. Additionally we are in the process of putting our slate of officers together. Pete Hall is heading that committee. If you have an interest in being on the board or being an officer, PLEASE contact Pete at Ginney Point Marina at 804-725-7407. As I understand it we still need a Vice President, a Newsletter Editor and a couple of Board Members!

Next Meeting will be March 16, 2005 at 6:30 PM

Pilot House Restaurant, Topping, VA Call (804) 462-7018 to make your reservation. If there is no answer, please leave a message!

- Guest Meal Fee: \$15.00
- Menu: Mixed Salad, Baby Flounder, Baked Chicken, Cole Slaw, Apple Pie a' la mode.
- PLEASE BE SURE TO CALL 804-462-7018 FOR RESERVATIONS AT LEAST BY MONDAY SO THAT THE PILOT HOUSE CAN BE READY FOR US!

The speaker for March will be Ed Schwab of the American Heritage Life Insurance Co., A member of the Allstate Group. He will discuss Group Disability Insurance. He also has group policy rates for Accident, Cancer, and Term Life Insurance. The policies must be pretty interesting because Lynn Haynie said that when he made the presentation at AMPRO, all her guys signed up!

Crown Pointe Marina is having an Open House on April 9th from 11 am until 4 pm. We are working with the Coast Guard Auxiliary to offer boat inspections and demonstrations. We will be having a feast of barbeque and strawberry shortcake. We invite you to come down and see the changes at the marina since we purchased it as Cooks Landing in August.

Marina Appraisal Tidbits *by Martha Heric, MAI*

After the short, dry presentation on appraising marinas at the last meeting, I was asked to provide some tidbits of information for the newsletter. A point for a property owner to ponder is that the care taken with the condition of the business often reflects the care taken with the maintenance of the real estate. If there are projects piled haphazardly in various stages of completion in different areas of the property, it can suggest that there are projects involving the maintenance of the property which are partially complete or forgotten. If the requisite and omnipresent multiple projects at the business are current and neatly laid out, the real estate is probably in the same condition. An example would possibly be the planned construction of a new shed which was set aside after partially framing the structure and which now has weeds growing throughout the lumber that has become scattered from too many months of sitting in the yard.

Trade School Update: *by Ken Knull*

First, there is talk of a reduction in price of the various ABYC Courses but it is not clear what the new costs will be as of this writing. Stay tuned.

The Electrical course will be over by the time of our meeting on the 16th. It is the Marine Electronics Certification Course and spans 4 days from Mar 7-10. Two people have signed up for the course which Ed Sherman is teaching and RCC has graciously agreed to underwrite the cost of the remaining minimum number of slots to help get the school going. This is at a significant cost to them and it is because our membership has not been able to fill the course. We believe the timing of the course is the real key as we are now into the beginnings of boat prep season. The first three courses, postponed due to the ice storm, have been re-scheduled to March 21-23 for the Basic Marine Engine Course. It will be followed immediately by the ABYC Diesel Engine Course and the Certification testing, which will be given on March 24-25. Ed Sherman, Director of Training for ABYC, and author of several books, will be giving both courses and they will be held at RCC in Warsaw. There are still openings available and members receive a \$25 discount on the courses over non-members.

Here is a summary of enrollments to date and the number that are member of TMTA:

Electrical Certification– March 7-10 – 8 enrolled (1 for exam only) – all members

Intro to Outboard – March 14-18 – 6 enrolled – all are members Member price \$405.00

Basic Marine/Diesel – March 21-23 - 11 enrolled - all are TMTA Member price \$

Diesel Certification – March 24, 25 – 9 enrolled – all members

Adv. Outboard – March 28- April 1 – 1 enrolled - a member

Gasoline – March 28, 29 – 1 enrolled – a member

Note: Onna Grimm will pass out a form to members at the March meeting to get some general feed back on the Trade School. If you need any info on the school or courses, please contact Gayle Wood at RCC at 804-758-6751 as soon as possible. REMEMBER, an ABYC Certificate for your mechanic translates immediately into increased sales and service rates! It is a wise investment.

DID YOU KNOW: that the Workforce Investment Board (through your local One Stop/Job Assistance Center) can provide scholarships to eligible employees that want to improve their job skills? Contact your local office (if you don't know which one serves you, contact the Virginia Employment Commission Office nearest you), or give me a call (Ken Knull 804-462-7018).

Board Meeting Reports:

Membership: 143 mailers were sent out that told people who TMTA was and included in that mailer was information on the Marine Trade School. Janice Clark will do a phone call to follow up. This is an attempt to both increase membership and to encourage members to participate in meetings and on the board.

TMTA Membership Certificates are being designed and will be presented to all paid-up members for 2005-2006.

Nominating Committee: Pete Hall is currently working on the slate of officers and board members. We are currently lacking a Vice President nominee and a Newsletter Editor. The slate will be presented at the next board meeting.

Clean Marina Act: Pete could not find anything in the VIMS budget about the Clean Marina Act funds but he will check on the status of the Clean Marina Program and it's funding for the next meeting.

New Website: The board approved a motion to hire a website design firm to re-design and modernize our website by the April meeting. The attempt will be to get a site that is easy to use and update, and one that will give each member a page to provide information on his/her business. It also needs to be able to display current and past newsletters and display an easily updated calendar of events. If you have ideas on what should be on the site, please contact Pete Hall at pete@boatersource.com or at the meeting.

Boat Tax: The Board agreed it was time to ask Tom Murray, TMTA Member and VIMS Marine Business and Coastal Development Specialist, to update his study of the Boat Tax issue that was prepared for the Northern Neck Planning District Commission a few years ago. Hopefully this would be the basis for a grass roots campaign to request our local elected officials to significantly reduce or eliminate the county boat taxes. Undoubtedly we would have to go out as a group and request our customers that live in our respective counties to either sign a petition or send in a letter asking for elimination of the boat tax. If you agree with this, please stand up at the meeting and be counted!

Revitalization of the Upton Point Marina: - The Town of Urbanna is a-buzzing with the exciting news of the start of construction on the Town's marina that was destroyed by Isabel in 2003. The construction started in February of this year and will be completed by mid-summer 2005. With the building of the new marina there will be 32 open slips, of which 16 will be for transient boaters and two will be handicap accessible boat slips. They will have access to 30 or 50 amp service, water, cable and telephone hookups, pump-out station, a 86 foot long pier for larger yachts, a small boat ramp for launching of canoes and kayaks, a new bath house that will include a men's and women's bath, a laundry and vending room and an administrator office. There will be a picnic area and observation deck that will be 24 feet by 40 feet on Jamison Cove. This marina will have a new name to go with its new look, once completed this marina will be known as Urbanna Town Marina. The design of the marina was done by Don Caskie, P.E. of Bay Design and the construction is being handled by Joe Hyman and Karen Ambrose of the Allen Group Inc.

Schroeder Yacht Systems, LTD, Jeff Schroeder, owner of Schroeder Yacht Systems, LTD operating in Deltaville recently spoke at Stingray Point Yacht Club's Spring Seminar. His presentation was titled "How Important is Routine Maintenance? Consequences of Nature or Neglect" The subject allowed Schroeder to display the extensive collection of broken boat parts he has collected over the years, in a show-and-tell format. Following the seminar, Schroeder and his crew hosted an oyster roast for club members and customers at his yard on the grounds of Stingray Point Marina. Schroeder was manager of Deltaville Yacht Yard, located at the same location, since the fall of 2000. In September of last year, he purchased the yard and will continue operations as owner/operator with the same crew that previously worked with him. The yard offers boat owners a full service facility, and intends to focus strictly upon repairs, maintenance, upgrades and new system installations.

Brown's Marine Owned and operated since Oct. of 1993 by David and James Brown; they are looking forward to an exciting start to the spring with hosting an In-Water Boat Show at Timberneck Marina in Deltaville on Saturday April 23rd from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Featured boats are Power Catamarans 18' to 36', powered by 4-Stroke outboards from Honda and Suzuki. Electronic packages represented by Marine Electronics of Hartfield. All are invited to attend, for more detail call 776-6365.

If you are receiving this Newsletter via mail and would like to get it via Email, please contact Ken Knull at ken@yankeepointmarina.com or call 804-462-7018

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