



TMTA NEWS

LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

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Officers and Directors for 2005/06: Officers:

President- Ken Knull
 Vice President- Keith Ruse
 Secretary- Onna Grim
 Treasurer- Martha Heric

Directors:

Janice Clark, Membership
 Eleanor Cash
 Guy Sorensen
 Don McCann, temporary
 editor, Newsletter

Good March to all !

As the sun approaches the vernal equinox, and warmer southerly winds begin to blow, so too, begins the torrent of requests that helps to solidify what our organization is all about. We are all part of an industry that in one way or another helps to provide a service to boat owners.

This past month was not unlike its predecessors, as it was busy. Inside this issue of the newsletter, albeit brief, you will find highlights of some issues that may be of interest. RCC has again successfully completed the ABYC offerings with a respectable success rate. The high school curriculum continues to move ahead, our strategic planning committee met for the

first time, and the economic impact of transient boats creeps forward. We will feature a representative of Enterprise Rental Cars who will provide information as to how their program can assist marinas with transportation for transient boat owners.



THE NEXT MEETING IS WEDNESDAY MARCH 15TH
 OUR SPEAKER WILL PROVIDE INFORMATION REGARDING
 ENRENTAL CARS FOR PATRONS OF MARINAS

- Pilot House Restaurant, Topping, VA
- Guest Meal Fee: \$15.00

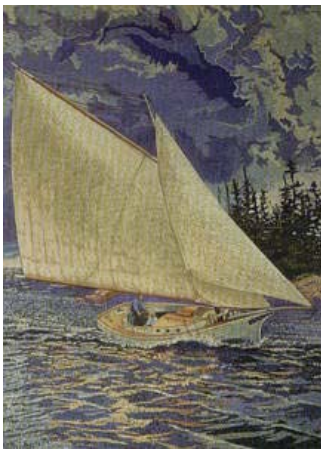
PLEASE BE SURE TO CALL FOR RESERVATIONS AT LEAST BY MONDAY SO THAT THE PILOT HOUSE CAN BE READY FOR US!

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

BRIEF EDUCATIONAL UPDATE

ABYC AND HIGH SCHOOL CURRICULUM

“...with hopes that this program will become a shining star for TMTA, the region, and the Commonwealth of Virginia”



The Marine Service Technology Program committee met this week to refine how the curriculum will be presented this fall. Ed Sherman, Educational Director for ABYC flew down from Rhode Island in order to address the several concerns expressed by RCC. (Unfortunately Ed, who not only got lost but had a rather costly encounter with our constabulary, ended up an hour late to the meeting) Dr, Sissy Crowther, President of RCC, was also on hand to help refine how this dual enrollment program will be presented. As most issues appear to have been resolved, the committee agreed there was no longer a need to continue as a body, and has not set any future meetings. Volunteers from our organization will be asked to present an overview of our industry to the various high schools in the region through the use of a PowerPoint presentation created by VIMS.

Dr. Maureen Murphy reported that the college received seven applications for lead instructor of this program, and will begin the interviewing process shortly.

On another note:

.Rappahannock Community College again successfully offered

- [Basic Marine Engines](#) 5 of 7 passed
- [Diesel and Support Systems Certificaton](#) 7 of 9 passed
- [Electrical Certification](#) 7 of 10 passed

ECONOMIC ACTIVITY ASSOCIATED WITH 'TRANSIENT' BOATERS IN VIRGINIA."

PRESENTATION OF SURVEY RESULTS PROMISED FOR OUR APRIL 19TH
MEETING

The intrepid and tireless Tom Murray has submitted the following in order to entice you to come to your next meeting

TMTA knows that local and out-of-state boaters are an important contributor to marine businesses in Virginia. Unfortunately, there has been no current estimate of the number of out-of-state boats that use Virginia waters during the year, or any indication of how long they stay, how much they spend, what makes them come here and what keeps them away. In order to understand the needs of boaters, the fiscal impact they have on Virginia's economy and to better understand the potential economic benefits of attracting boaters to Virginia, a survey of owners of boats measuring 26' and over was conducted during the fall of 2005. With participation of 6 TMTA member marinas 650 boat owners were surveyed as part of the study. Results from 218 boat owners returning surveys provide interesting findings and will hopefully open a lot of eyes. The information collected lays solid groundwork for estimates of the total economic contribution of Virginia's registered recreational boaters and those that come to Virginia during part of the year and also provides insight to what factors influence a boater's decision to spend time in Virginia. The study was conducted by the Virginia Sea Grant College Program at the Virginia Institute of Marine Science. A presentation of results will be provided by Tom Murray who conducted the work with TMTA.

As a reminder, the TMTA website bulletin board is up and running. If you have any comments, concerns or positions available, log on and let us know!

CLEAN MARINA AND NATIONAL MARINA DAY UPDATE

We have received news that despite the best efforts of many folks in this organization, the bill to fund the Clean Marina Program was defeated in the House of Delegates. The program will hopefully continue to limp along. That said, I have included the overview of workshops remaining this month. Please note that one will offered at the Pilot House, which may result in additional guests at our meeting. Ron Hall has provided us with information regarding National Marina Day in August (It might be worth considering a local event in conjunction with this National initiative,) and the NMMA sponsored Boating Congress .

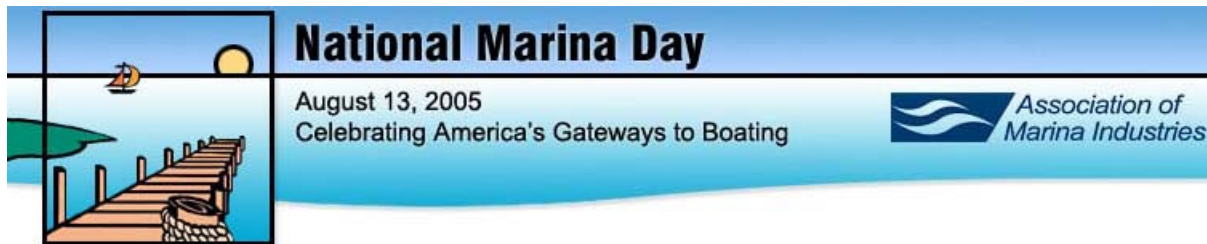
Boating Infrastructure Grant (BIG), Clean Vessel Act (CVA) and Virginia Clean Marina (CMP) Workshop Announcement Sponsored by Tidewater Marine Trades Association in conjunction with the Virginia Department of Health and the Virginia Institute of Marine Science Sea Grant Clean Marina Program

Wednesday, March 15, 2006 Pilot House Restaurant, Topping, VA, 3-6 pm.

Wednesday, March 22, 2006 Town Hall Building, 314 Mill Street, Occoquan, VA, 10-1 pm.

Tuesday, March 28, 2006 Hampton City Health Department, 3130 Victoria Boulevard, Hampton, VA, 10-1 pm.

Each workshop will cover the BIG, the CVA and the CMP. Registration is \$5 per workshop and will include light refreshments. Please RSVP by Monday, February 20, 2006, indicating your workshop selection. Please mail registration fee to: TMTA, c/o Pete Hall, Post Office Box 40, Cobbs Creek, VA 23035. Contact information: Preston Smith, (804) 864-7468, Preston.Smith@vdh.virginia.gov; Tom Murray, tjm@vims.edu, (804) 684-7190



For more information, here is the link <http://www.marinaassociation.org/nmd/home.cfm>

The upcoming Boating Congress, Sponsored by NMMA, will be held in Late April. As the Board of Directors has not addressed this issue, and because it is applicable to our organization, perhaps we should discuss sending a representative.

The American Boating Congress is a comprehensive two-day legislative conference that brings together recreational boating industry leaders to formulate public policy and present a unified front on issues that impact marine businesses.

- Discover how current state and federal regulatory issues affect your operations
- Learn the status of key federal legislation concerning the marine industry
- Hear updates from experts about how pending legislation and regulation can impact your bottom line
- Get first-hand knowledge from state and federal regulators, key congressional staff and industry experts as to trends that impact the marine industry.

For more information here is the link

<http://www.nmma.org/abc>

THE TRAILING EDGE

During our strategic planning session this week, I was reminded that while many folks in this organization are supportive of the educational initiative, they have grown somewhat weary of the blow by blow description of progress. Fair enough. My fervor is not your fervor. As noted on page one, we nevertheless are all part of an industry that in one way or another helps to provide a service to boat owners. That said, the suggestion was made that we begin grouping our membership in a manner that reflects the various interests they represent. And of that grouping, the most prominent would be under the heading of marinas. So what's on your mind marina owners? Thereafter we have repair facilities, marine appliances, insurance folks, etc. The point to be made is that each of the sub groups has interests, concerns or general information they might wish to share with the membership. That's makes us all richer.



Several members of this committee expressed a desire to hold an hours worth of discussion, germane to whatever the topic of the day might be, only prior to the general meeting. Sounds ok to me, but what do you think?

Again, we all have our part to play, but if done correctly, all should benefit by insuring that the experience of the boat owner is as pleasurable as we can make it.