

TMTA NEWS

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Our 39th Year

November 2004

President's Message *by Mark Drexler*

Dear Fellow TMTA members,

Several TMTA Members have been working very hard on getting the Marine Trade School up and running. We as a group need to be supportive of their efforts and be willing to help as needed. We have the first class scheduled for January and are working on other classes to follow soon thereafter. We need each and every member to do two things. First, if you have employees who would benefit from these classes, enroll them now. Second, let's get the word out to non-members about the school in hopes they will join TMTA and participate in all the benefits of Membership.

Now that we have made the Marine Trade School a reality, we need to re-visit the Boat Tax issue. We currently have a committee in place and I want to urge them to begin in earnest working to come up with a plan on how TMTA should address this issue. Once again, I ask for your help and input.

Let us know what you think about the issue. There are opportunities in several counties where your Board of Directors feel we can make progress on this issue. Over the next few months John Hornby and I will be spearheading the effort concerning the Boat Tax issue.

In closing, I encourage every member that can come to our next meeting to please attend. It is important to show your support for the Trade School and to your Officers and Board of Directors. I look forward to seeing and talking with you on November 17th. Mark Drexler

Next Meeting will be November 17, 2004 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: Salad, Prime Rib, Fried Oysters, Baked Potato, Stir Fry Vegetables and Desert
- PLEASE BE SURE TO CALL FOR RESERVATIONS AT LEAST BY MONDAY SO THAT THE PILOT HOUSE CAN BE READY FOR US!

The November Meeting is Family Night ! Grid Michael is going to give a short talk on the Outboard Motor Courses that he is developing for the Trade School! Plan on coming for good food, good fellowship and a great exchange of ideas!

Grid Michael, The Motor Doctor *in his own words!*

I've been working in the outboard industry since 1960, working for my father at his marina, owning my own source of hemorrhage (marina), operating a solitary mobile outboard service, working for American Suzuki traveling the country as a mobile tech for the bass boating industry. I now work for Brown's Marine in Deltaville. I write monthly columns for SEA Magazine, Go Boating America, and some for the Primedia group, such as In-Fisherman, Walleye-Insider, and Catfish Insider. I know absolutely nothing about fishing, unless the fish are at Captain's Choice in White Stone, or Tri-Star. I also have a Q&A forum on the 'net with Go Boating and In-Fisherman. Those allow me the safety net of being wrong from a long distance away.

When I wasn't a mechanic, I was in college, or working for Hertz, where I started the Hertz Number One Club in Newport News VA, before being transferred all over the place to teach what service is. I even had time to turn wrenches while I had a yellow jacket and bumble-bee tie on.

My mother was an English teacher, my eldest daughter is an English teacher. Somewhere along the line I thought enough DNA transferred both ways to make me a teacher, too. We'll know soon enough.

Trade School Update: *by Ken Knoll*

Hopefully by the time of our next meeting, all members and all firms that responded to the training school survey last year will have received a flyer about the first courses being offered by the ABYTS! The first course will be given on January 24-27, 2005. It will be 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 January 28 and 29. 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. The Gasoline Engine Certification Course and test will be given on Jan 31-Feb 1 by another instructor from ABYC as Ed is not available. We don't have that individual's name at this point in time.

TMTA Member Appointed by Governor Warner to the Board of VMRC

Kyle Schick of Colonial Beach Yacht Center, Inc., has been appointed by the Governor of Virginia to sit on the Virginia Marine Resources Board of Directors. Kyle will take Gordon Burkett's chair. Congratulations Kyle, please keep our concerns out there in front of the powers that be!

Fork Lift Operator and Travel Lift Operator Training and OSHA Certification

INDUSTRY TRAINING COURSE COVERS NEW GROUND -"Marine Forklifts and Hoists" represents a culmination of industry insights and best practices highlighting the "do's and don'ts" of safely moving boats and marine equipment around a boat plant. While generic forklift training is available, this course concentrates on industry instructional needs, demonstrating proper forklift and hoist operation while moving such items as boats, drive shafts, shower stalls, and other marine equipment that demand special skills to maneuver safely and without damage.

NMMA's Professional Development Committee created the course by pooling the experience of veteran industry instructors. Available in DVD format in three modules, the course is adaptable for specific in-house training needs for both group and individuals. The upbeat presentation—taped in a boat manufacturing setting featuring actual industry operators—encourages interaction and will hit home with employees. Trainers will be able to download instructional guides, lessons and course tests to satisfy OSHA requirements for forklift training. The 59 minute DVD is available through NMMA and will provide training and the written test and OSHA Certification (if the student passes the test) for Travel Lift Operators and training and the written test for Fork Lift Operators. OSHA Certification for Fork Lift Operators also requires a practical test which is tough to do on a DVD! The cost of the DVD is \$235.00 for non-members and \$200.00 for members of NMMA. It can be obtained by faxing a Purchase Order to Chris Keil at NMMA at 312-946-1461. Payment can be made via credit card or COD Payment. For more information, contact NMMA at 312-946-6209.

Outboard Motor Course(s) Preliminary Outline by Grid Michael

INTRODUCTORY OUTBOARDS -The purpose of this class is to introduce the novice to outboards, specifically introducing him to the theory of power head operation, intermediate housings, tilt and trim, cooling systems, and gear cases. The course will include written material, and American and Japanese engines to work with. It will include 2-stroke engines, but not 4-stroke. "Cause and effect" of engine installation, modification, minor troubleshooting, and repair will be examined at length. The student will be required to take notes, be able to read service manuals, and answer written and verbal questions. At the conclusion of the class, the student should be able to easily diagnose problems and relate them to the dealer or engine owner, saving on costly diagnostic work.

ADVANCED OUTBOARD - The intent of this class is to take the currently-employed outboard technician to a higher level of expertise, with more trouble-shooting tips, power head and gear case rebuilding techniques, and interpretation of customer complaints. Fine-tuning normal engine repairs will be covered extensively. It will focus mainly on American and Japanese two-stroke engines, and four-stroke theory with existing engines. Hands-on will be prevalent in each class, as will written and verbal testing. AT the conclusion of this class, the technician should be comfortable with everyday diagnostics and problem solutions, utilizing "probability" to save time and reduce repair costs.

ABYTS Scholarship Rules and Qualifications

- 1) Scholarship will be awarded during the November Membership Meeting.
- 2) Scholarship will be awarded to a TMTA member to be used as tuition for any ABYTS offered class during the current class year. (2005 scholarship must be used in 2005) Scholarship will pay the entire tuition for the class taken.
- 3) Only TMTA Members who have paid their dues are eligible.
- 4) Applications must be received by a TMTA board member prior to or at the November meeting but members do not have to be present at the November meeting to be awarded the scholarship.
- 5) Scholarship must be used by the Member awarded and cannot be transferred to another Member.

ABYTS Scholarship Application School Year 2005 (tear off, fill in and get it to the meeting on November 24 for consideration for the scholarship)

TMTA Member Company _____
Address _____
Contact Name _____
Phone Number _____
Class enrolled in _____
Class interested in _____
Signed (Company Representative) _____

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

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