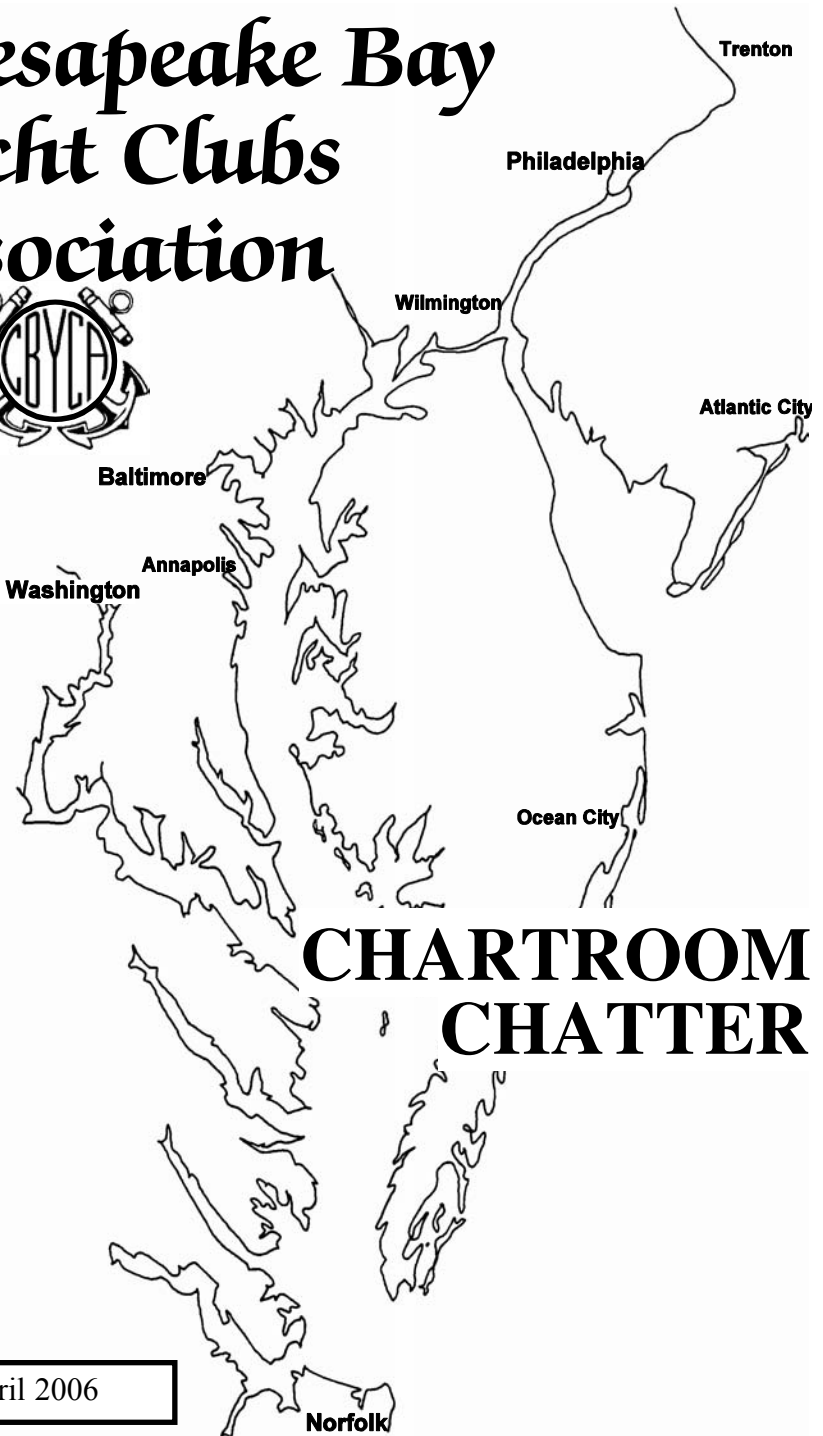


Chesapeake Bay Yacht Clubs Association



CHARTROOM CHATTER

April 2006

CBYCA, THE BOATER'S VOICE

2006 CBYCA BOARD OF GOVERNORS

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The Chesapeake Bay Yacht Clubs Association (CBYCA) is a non-profit, volunteer association of Yacht Clubs located throughout the five state Chesapeake Bay Region. Its purpose is to represent the interests of recreational boating at the national, state and local levels of government, and to promote boating safety and education. For information, visit the CBYCA homepage at:

WWW.CBYCA.ORG or contact
Commodore Jerry Donofrio Sr.
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The *Chartroom Chatter* is an official publication of CBYCA, published nine times each calendar year. Reproduction is authorized with credit given to CBYCA *Chartroom Chatter*.

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Commodore's Corner

Jerry Donofrio • Commodore@CBYCA.ORG



Our last meeting was a combined CBYCA Board & Delaware River Yachtsmen's League event held at Quaker City Yacht Club in Philadelphia. Thanks to everyone and especially to COMO Ray Clark for the use of the Club facility and to DRYL President Paul Jusino for his assistance in obtaining our guest speaker, Representative Mike McGeehan. Rep. McGeehan provided us with his vision of more accessible, cleaner waterfronts and protection for the existing yacht clubs along the Delaware River from developers. He also detailed his plans to open dams on tributaries allowing better spawning runs of native fish. Rep. McGeehan went on to outline plans to protect the area from LNG ship terminals in the populated Delaware River areas.

The next CBYCA Delegates meeting is at Crescent Yacht Club on April 22nd. Several very important proceedings at this meeting demand every member's attention and representation. The New Roster Book will be distributed at the meeting. We will also VOTE on the previously submitted Bylaws Changes. There are significant provisions for Voting on Issues by Proxy and Voting on Elections by Published Absentee Ballot.

I will try to explain the basic changes that affect voting. As everyone recognizes, the CBYCA covers an area of 5 States and 160,000 square miles. The BOG realizes that not all Member Delegates can make every meeting due to illness, distance, weather or conflicts in schedules. For this reason, we endeavor to keep every member informed about issues by way of the Chartroom Chatter and the CBYCA website and the new Alert Email List. Also for these same reasons, any large organization like the CBYCA provides members an opportunity to have their opinions heard by way of a Vote, either by hand casting a ballot or via alternative methods. Therefore, the Revised Bylaws contain wording permitting members to send an Absentee Ballot on Elections and a Proxy Vote on other issues, thereby protecting the interest of members unable to attend for what ever reason.

Procedures for this Vote will follow existing Bylaws and your Club is urged to send your Delegate or send a Proxy Vote to the Secretary of the CBYCA to have your voice heard! Instructions and Proxy are provided on the insert. I recommend approval of the Bylaws. Dues notice was sent to the Commodore or Delegate of your club the first week of January. If your club has arrearages, it will not be in good standing to vote.

The CBYCA is the vanguard of Legislative matters we took the lead in testimony at simultaneous Public hearings at the Maryland House and Senate on three Bills. Vice Commodore Burton, Director of State Legislation Kevin Noon and I provided the hearing committees with the recently approved position papers against LNG terminal in populated boating areas. We were the first boating organization to publicly testify at these hearings producing rounds of applause from the gallery. It is remarkable how much good work can be accomplished when there are no other distracting issues usurping ones time

thereby permitting us to perform the work of the CBYCA.

Website coverage of all the CBYCA matters is your best source of information. Visit often and take the time to follow important issues that will influence your boating enjoyment. The CBYCA is working for you every day, constantly vigilant.



Vice Commodore's Report

Don Burton VC@CBYCA.ORG



The next Board of Governors and Delegates meeting is scheduled for April 22nd at Crescent Yacht Club. (BOG at 10:00am, Delegates at 1:00pm). There will be a light lunch at noon.

The 2006 Roster Books will distributed at this meeting. Please make every attempt to attend and pick up your Clubs' allotment of the new Roster Books.

Our speaker for the afternoon session will be Perry Waterfield, Port Security Man, with the U.S. Coast Guard. He will speak on the USCG's "Water Watch" program.

Please see the back page for the meeting schedule for the balance of 2006.



Rear Commodore's Report

Coles Marsh •RC@CBYCA.ORG



Thanks to the yacht club community for their response to the 2006 Roster Book. We appreciate each member club for the continued support of CBYCA.

The commercial advertisers were again very supportive of CBYCA and its members. We appreciate each of them for placing an ad in the 2006 roster book.

The roster book helps support the associations continued efforts to bring a quality publication to the club members. Legislative efforts continue to be a major focus of the association: the issues that affect the recreational boater are still there and CBYCA continues to be active to protect your rights.

The publication will be going to press the first week of April with distribution set for April 22nd at crescent yacht club. Thanks to crescent for hosting the board and delegates meeting.

Thank you again for your support!

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Legislative Director's Report

Robert Williams •LD@CBYCA.ORG



In the last few months additional information in regards to LNG has surfaced. At Sparrow Point we have major dredging planned. A pipeline from Sparrow Point to the new distribution center in Brookhaven, Pa is in the plans. A pipeline from Logan Township, NJ to the distribution center in Brookhaven, Pa. and possibly an additional pipeline to the Philadelphia site are also in the planning stages.

DSL/NJ/PA Art Friedman and I have developed a position paper on the VX Nerve Gas dumping issue. This dumping could prove to be a disaster to the Delaware River and its tributaries at a time when they are finally showing improvement after years of hard work and millions of dollars spent to improve the water quality. We all need to be aware of local and state officials meeting with LNG representatives. All members not just board members need to attend any public meetings about LNG or VX Gas.

The State Legislative Directors will be covering a variety of issues. Dredging Laws; PFD requirements; license and insurance changes have all come up over the last few weeks.

Please pay special attention to the web site and the CBYCA testimony at the Maryland hearings.



Maryland Legislative Report

Kevin Noon •DSLMD@CBYCA.ORG



HB 1670 & 1671 (Prohibiting the construction or operation of a liquefied natural gas facility without the approval of the Public Service Commission; and prohibiting the Public Service Commission from granting regulatory approval for the construction or operation of a liquefied natural gas facility in Baltimore County that is located within a specified distance of a residence.) Was heard on 3/22/06 and WHAT A TURNOUT. This was the most emotional outcry AGAINST LNG I have ever attended. The Senate heard a Companion Bill SB 996 & 997 simultaneously and both Meeting Rooms were STANDING ROOM ONLY. Commodore Donofrio and Vice Commodore Don Burton both showed up and we were one of only a few groups that testified at both hearings. Thanks men!! CBYCA is in Support of both these bills and we would urge you to call or write your government officials. The LNG project is the single LARGEST threat to the recreational boater in recent times. I do not believe we want to play tag with a 1000 foot ships surrounded by gun boats or disturb the most contaminated dredge spoils in the Chesapeake Bay, which at present; under law; we have no place to put!! The Bay Bridge & Key Bridge will most likely need to close when these tankers approach, you think traffic is bad now!! To create such a hazard so close to our friends and fellow boaters in Dundalk is reprehensible. The Coast Guard admits in its own publications the

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safest place for these terminals is OFF SHORE and not near populated areas.

Updates to:

HB 140 the Mandatory PFD bill seems to be a dead issue. Even if voted on now it would not include the recreational boater.

SB 787 (Requiring the Executive Committee overseeing the development of the State's plan for dredged material management to, in conjunction with stakeholders, review the State's dredging needs and placement requirements and make specified recommendations to the Governor.) had a hearing on March 7th and V/C Don Burton attended. At present the House has taken no action.

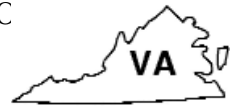
HB 751 (requiring the insurance policy to provide for payment up to at least \$10,000 for claims arising out of an accident for bodily injury, death, or damage to or destruction of the property of another; etc.) received an unfavorable report by the Economics Matters Committee and no action has been taken.

HB 666 (Requiring the Department of Natural Resources to coordinate with the Motor Vehicle Administration to develop a specified database; requiring the Department to develop and implement a program to require owners of motorized vessels to obtain a specified affidavit from a person to whom they are renting, leasing, or lending the vessel, or whom they otherwise are allowing to operate the vessel; etc) was referred to the Judiciary and No action in the House or Senate.



Virginia Legislative Report

Jacque Knight • DSLVA@CBYCA.C



Virginia Saves Fuel Refunds, Adds To Boat Safety Education

Virginia recreational boaters can still save their gas receipts and turn them into the Department of Motor Vehicles to get refunds. Senate Bill 678 to eliminate that option died a quick death prior to the March 11 adjournment of the General Assembly.

Surprising for Virginia, which has been conservative on safety requirements, Governor Tim Kane signed into law legislation that will require any boater who has been convicted of a Class 3 misdemeanor or a greater charge to pass a boating safety course. The course would have to be acceptable to the state's Department of Game and Inland Fisheries. The state does require youths 14-16 to pass a boating course to operate a PWC, but so far lawmakers have stopped short of approving a boating education law for all operators.

The successful bill requiring boat safety education for anyone who commits a Class 3 misdemeanor on boats was in response to two fatalities last summer on Smith Mountain Lake. It applied only to the lake when introduced and passed after it was amended to apply to all Virginia lakes and rivers.

However, it could happen. The new boating education legislation was approved after a tougher bill first was tabled, reconsidered and then continued to the 2007 session for consideration by the Agriculture, Chesapeake and Natural Resources Committee. The tabled bill would make it a Class 4 misdemeanor for anyone to operate a motor boat without completing a mandatory boating safety education course. This required safety course would be phased in so that all

motorboat operators would be required to take and pass exams by July 1, 2015. Equivalency exams and valid maritime licenses would also be considered as legitimate compliance with the mandatory education requirement.

In other action prior to adjournment-- and pending a March 27 special session on the budget to be followed by reconvening on April 19---the General Assembly did little to directly affect recreational boaters. There was no movement to enact requirements for personal flotation devices on children aged 13 and under, even though the Senate had passed such legislation last year.

One bill requiring persons being towed on water skis or other devices to wear life preservers was tabled. It would also have required boats that were towing skiers or other devices such as inflatable tubes to carry an observer.

Eminent domain legislation that could have had affected the Old Dominion Boat Club in Alexandria failed to make headway with state lawmakers. HB 94 and HB 408 would have prohibited a city or county from considering an increase in its tax base when considering condemnation of private property for public use.

CBYCA Participates in Maritime Security

I represented CBYCA on March 23 in Portsmouth at the second meeting of the Virginia Area Maritime Security Recreational Vessel Subcommittee. A Coast Guard official discussed the necessity of planning for the safety and traffic of recreational boaters in the Hampton Roads area if heightened security would become necessary. Committee members agreed to divide into subcommittees to provide suggestions for action and communications plans for recreational boaters if Navy vessels, bridges or tunnels were threatened or attacked.



**Pennsylvania/
New Jersey
Legislative Report**
Art Friedman • DSLPA@CBYCA.ORG




LNG

Philadelphia Gas Works has broken off talks with Hess LNG about developing a liquefied natural gas terminal on the Delaware River. But a spokesman for the city-owned utility, which had been discussing the idea with Hess LNG for nine months, said the idea was not dead. "We still remain committed to the development of an import terminal," PGW spokesman Doug Oliver said. "It's not that the project is not occurring, it's just that these specific negotiations have ended."

Phila. gets state help for revitalizing river areas

Philadelphia riverfront-revitalization projects were pushed forward with the designation of two sites for Brownfield Action Team Assistance by Gov. Ed Rendell. The Schuylkill River and northern Delaware River areas received the designations, which will help accelerate redevelopment deals and give investors an incentive to clean up contaminated industrial sites. Plans for the Schuylkill site include the remediation of several properties into residential neighborhoods and supporting service businesses. In addition, the Schuylkill River Development Corp., a nonprofit community organization, was awarded a \$400,000 grant to help develop a recreational trail along the Schuylkill River. Hopefully they will include new boat ramps.

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Fish & Boat Commission

The Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission (PFBC) re-opened its Frankford Arsenal Access Area in Philadelphia County. The site had been closed for the winter since December. On a temporary basis, Frankford Arsenal will be open for public fishing and boating use from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. The PFBC anticipates resuming normal hours of operation sometime in April, depending on the weather.

Governor Edward G. Rendell announced that he has nominated outdoor enthusiasts Thomas C. Shetterly, William R. Worobec and Leonard Lichvar to be commissioners at the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission." He urged the Senate to quickly confirm their nominations."

Boat Registrations

Total for the 2005 Boat Registrations are down by all most 4,528 state wide and 2,161 in the S/E

New Jersey

Environmentalists back LNG open-loop system

Crown Landing spokesman Tom Mueller said the facility proposed for Logan would use a closed-loop system to reheat the gas with "a glycol liquid," a fluid which allows for heat exchange. This is welcome news to local environmental groups. "A closed-loop system will entirely eliminate the concern of discharging superheated water back into the environment," said Richard Thomas, treasurer of the Federation of Gloucester County Watersheds. "And, natural gas absolutely is clean-burning, much more so than any other fossil fuels available to us for generating electricity and energy."

VX Meeting

The Maurice River Township Committee held a meeting with speakers from DuPont and the Corps of Engineers. Two hours of questions and answers failed to change the minds of the residents who were against the program. Tracy Carluccio, of the Delaware Riverkeeper Network, distributed four pages of information, with arguments as to why the plan to pre-treat stockpiles of VX nerve agent at the government's Newport Chemical Agent Disposal Facility in Newport, Indiana, was faulty. DuPont chemical engineer Todd Owens and Col. Jesse Barber, of the Army Corps of Engineers gave the presentation. Owens and Barber distributed three pages of fact sheets detailing the history of the project. Col. Barber said the contract with DuPont is not a "done deal" and although the VX is being systematically destroyed at the Newport plant, DuPont will not begin treating it until The Centers for Disease Control issues its final report on an analysis of the technology.

(Please see separate insert for info from the NJ State Police)



National Boating Federation

Earl Waesche • emwaesc@erols.com

Legislative Director



U.S. Coast Guard News - The U.S. Coast Guard is adding harm to the environment as a reportable marine casualty. The requirement to immediately report a marine casualty that involves significant harm to the environment will apply to: (1) any vessel on navigable waters of the United

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States; (2) any U.S. Vessel wherever such casualty occurs; and (3) any foreign tank vessel operating in the U.S. exclusive economic zone (EEZ). The rule came into effect on January 17, 2006.

The U.S. Coast Guard issued a press release stating that it has completed the investigation of the November 2004 oil spill from the tanker ATHOS 1 in the Delaware River. The report concludes that the tanker came into contact with a submerged anchor. There was no evidence that any violation of applicable international rules, Federal law, or regulations contributed to this incident. Cleanup took over one year and cost in excess of \$150 million.

Finally, President Bush has nominated Vice Admiral Thad Allen to serve as the next Commandant of the U.S. Coast Guard. VADM Allen will relieve current Commandant Admiral Thomas H. Collins when he retires in May. From Holland and Knight.

Boating Access, A Growing Problem - We are seeing access to our waterways continue to diminish in many areas of the country. This is especially true in Florida where developers are purchasing marinas, launch ramps, and boat storage facilities and building condominiums. A boat haul out and repair facility in Key West is threatened and if closed the nearest alternative would be Ft. Lauderdale or Cuba. In our area, several facilities are under threat or actually in reconstruction. The Old Dominion Boat Club was threatened with a declaration of Eminent Domain by the City of Alexandria. The ODBC is in negotiation with the city. The Tides Lodge marina in Irvington VA is scheduled for closure and condominium construction. At Windmill Pt. marina, at the mouth of the Rappahannock, all boats have been moved away and construction started on a new mixed use facility. It is not clear what the answer is to this trend except perhaps legislation limiting development of public facilities on our waterways.

LORAN C - Coast Guard Seeks Closure - In its FY07 budget request the US Coast Guard has cited savings by decommissioning LORAN operations nationwide. It is trying to get a decision enabling shutdown beginning Jan 1, 2007. This in spite of the fact that Congress has recently appropriated \$160M to modernize the Loran stations, improving their performance and making them less manpower intensive. While many are now using GPS, LORAN serves as a backup to GPS, is used by general aviation and as a master timing source for a number of other applications. NBF has successfully supported continuation of LORAN and we continue to believe it should be maintained as a National asset. We have written key members of Congress on this as has CBYCA. Como Donofrio has gotten a positive response from Chairman Frank LoBiondo and I have heard from Senator Barbara Mikulski who was very helpful.



Qualifications Officer Report

Tom Powers • QO@CBYCA.ORG



Sorry, if your club has not sent their roster in by now, it's too late. It is odd that there are always a couple of clubs that procrastinate each year. If you did not send in your roster information you will find last years in the roster book when you pick it up at Crescent Yacht Club on April 22nd.

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Now that April has arrived we will be working on our boats in preparation for cruising on the Chesapeake Bay this summer and meeting new people. Don't forget to take your CBYCA roster book with you to find some of the member clubs that you have not visited before. With the roster book you will know the names of their officers and it will make it easier to get acquainted. Also as you cruise throughout the bay and you happen to meet someone belonging to a club that is not a member of the CBYCA have them get in touch with me so I can talk to them about the benefits of joining. CBYCA's legislative people and officers have been doing a great job in fighting for us boaters. To help make this happen we need as many clubs around the Chesapeake Bay to join the CBYCA as we can get. Numbers are what perks up the ears of our State Representatives. Thanks for your cooperation.



Publicity Director's Report

June Donofrio • PD@CBYCA.ORG

Deadline for the next

Chartroom Chatter is April 25, 2005

With this April issue of the Chatter we are using a new mailing list taken from your Roster info, if there are any corrections or comments please contact me **PD@CBYCA.ORG** or regular mail, 11 Needlepoint La, Willingboro, NJ 08046. Also we have been receiving many "return to sender" Chartroom Chatters, if you are going to be away for months at a time, please contact me at the above address with your new mailing address, or the time of your return. otherwise your copy may have to be deleted from our mailing list.

National Safe Boating Week

May 20th - May 26th

Visit www.safeboatingcouncil.org

2006 CBYCA Meeting Schedule

Mark Your Calendars !

April 22	Sat	1000 hrs	Board	Crescent YC
		1300 hrs	Delegates	Crescent YC
Roster Book Distribution				
June 3	Sat	1000 hrs	Board	Maryland YC
Opening Weekend & Queens Pageant				
August 19	Sat	1000 hrs	Board	Maryland YC
		1300 hrs	Delegates	Maryland YC
Elections				
September 16	Sat	1000 hrs	Board	Mount Vernon YC
October 21	Sat	1000 hrs	Board	Open
November 18	Sat	1000 hrs	Board	North East River YC
	Sat	1300 hrs	Delegates	North East River YC
Change of Watch				
December	Sat	1000 hrs	Board	Key YC (Tentative)
Christmas Party				

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