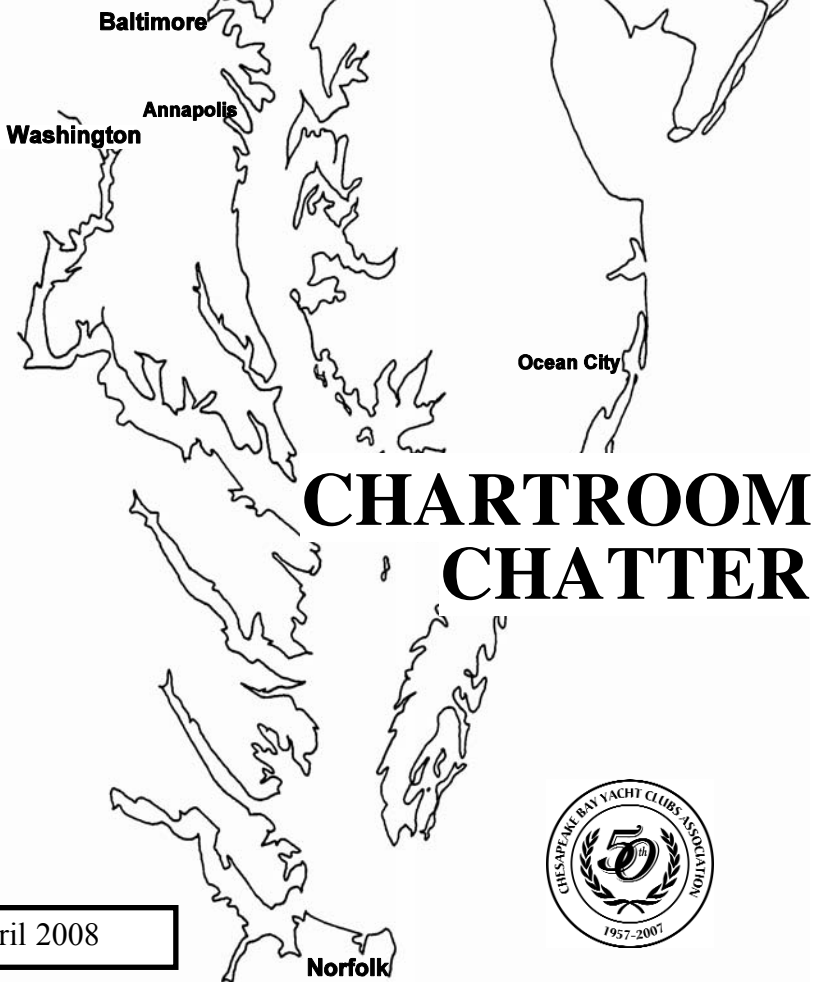


Chesapeake Bay Yacht Clubs Association



CHARTROOM CHATTER

April 2008



CBYCA, THE BOATER'S VOICE

2008 CBYCA BOARD OF GOVERNORS

Commodore.....	Coles Marsh.....	(H) 410-263-4907 (O) 410-974-9416, (E-Mail) marsheme@comcast.net
Vice Commodore.....	Kevin Noon.....	(C) 410-982-3131 (E-Mail) VC@CBYCA.ORG
Legislative Director.....	Robert Williams.....	(H) 610-461-6621 (E-Mail) LD@CBYCA.ORG
Rear Commodore.....	Pam Butler.....	(H) 410-788-4753 (E-Mail) RC@CBYCA.ORG
Qualifications Officer.....	John Zalusky.....	(H) 410-326-3037 (E-Mail) jonalusky@earthlink.net
Director, MD State Legislation.....	Kay Brawley.....	(H) 410-459-6282 (E-Mail) DSLMD@CBYCA.ORG
Director, VA State Legislation.....	Jacque Knight.....	(H) 703-780-7495 (E-Mail) DSLVA@CBYCA.ORG
Director,PA/NJ State Legislation.....	Art Friedman.....	(H) 215-331-1211 (E-Mail) art747@comcast.net
Director, De State Legislation.....	Cecilia Battaglini.....	(H) 610-566-0102 (E-Mail) georgepnut@yahoo.com
Secretary.....	Gene Schenck.....	(H) 717-252-1475 (E-Mail) Secretary@CBYCA.ORG
Treasurer.....	Carolyn McElwee.....	(H) 610-775-1524 (E-Mail) barrymcelwee@comcast.net
Publicity Director.....	June Donofrio.....	(H) 609-871-8682 (E-Mail) june.donofrio@verizon.net
District Representative (A).....	Vera Gortowski.....	(H) 856-848-1408 (E-Mail) DR@CBYCA.ORG
District Representative (B).....	James E. Kennedy Jr.....	(H) 215-949-0748
District Representative (C).....	Robert Parsons.....	(H) 410-515-2629 (E-Mail) DRC@CBYCA.ORG
District Representative (D).....	Richard Bruns.....	(H) 410-382-4561 (E-Mail) dickbruns@comcast.net
District Representative (E).....	Michael Death.....	(H) 410-437-0734 (E-Mail) bevdeath@hotmail.com
District Representative (F).....	Ed Ward.....	(H) 610-366-8418 (E-Mail) eward@chernay.com
District Representative (G).....	Jennifer Williams.....	(H) 410-820-7580 (E-Mail) jenniferw@goeaston.net
District Representative (H).....	Tom Cusick.....	(H) 310-464-3136 (E-Mail) DRH@CBYCA.ORG
District Representative (I).....	Harriet Bean.....	(H) 301-862-2840 (E-Mail) rbean@MD.Metrocast.net
District Representative (J).....	Howard Gasaway Sr.....	(H) 202-583-7121 (E-Mail) DRJ@CBYCA.ORG
District Representative (K).....	Tim Baker.....	(H) 703-719-5558 (E-Mail) TandJBaker@aol.com
District Representative (L).....	Robert Warren.....	(H) 804-725-9776 (E-Mail) warren9776@yahoo.com
Immediate Past Commodore.....	Donald Burton.....	(H) 302-659-1823 (E-Mail) IPC@CBYCA.ORG

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 Coles Marsh, 103 Lakeview Dr., Annapolis, Md 21403

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Commodore's Corner

Coles Marsh • marsheme@comcast.net

YOUR VOICE IS IMPORTANT!



The March Board meeting was held at Baltimore Yacht Club on Saturday the 15th. Thanks to Commodore Frank Schepers, Rear Commodore Dick Bruns and the crew it was a great meeting at a great place. Those that stayed for lunch had a super meal and some quality time with each other.

The 2008 survey form will be sent to each Club house address; if no address is given it will be sent to the Commodore. It is very important that you take 5 minutes to complete and return to us. We would like to know if we can do more for you our valued members or should we change anything. THANKS FOR TAKING THE TIME!

One of the most important issues concerning boaters is the Clean Boating Act of 2008 Senate Bill # 2766 introduced by Senators Barbara Boxer and Bill Nelson on March 13th 2008. CBYCA supports this bill and will be alerting our members and partners who to contact to voice your support.

Our next Board meeting will be on April 19th at Northeast River Yacht Club. The board meeting will begin at 10am with lunch at 12 noon. This is Roster Book distribution day so please plan to attend and get your Clubs 2008 Roster Book. The delegates meeting will begin at 1pm.



Vice Commodore's Report


Kevin Noon VC@CBYCA.ORG



I want to Thank Commodore Frank Schepers and District Rep Dick Bruns for hosting our March meeting. The view from Baltimore Yacht Club is Breathtaking, the people friendly and the Club Beautiful, once again thanks.

The next Board Meeting will be April 19th at the North East River Yacht Club. This meeting is one of the MOST IMPORTANT of the YEAR. Rear Commodore Pam will be handing out the Roster Books. If a Delegate does not show up to claim their club's books; it is the responsibility of the District Rep to deliver the Roster Books to said clubs. So get on the phone Reps and remind your Delegates.

Remember; as always; Board Meetings are always open to any member Club.

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Legislative Director's Report

Robert Williams •LD@CBYCA.ORG



As representatives of many boat clubs and thousands of boaters, our responsibility is to promote the best interests of the boating community. With that thought in mind, nothing is more important, and requires our immediate attention more than the grey water issue. The Senate has proposed new legislation under S. 2766; Clean Boating Act of 2008. The bill needs to be enacted in 6 months. During which time is summer recess. What is being proposed now is to start all over again, but we have no choice... I feel for the present time all boaters need to personally visit their representatives and senators. Two weeks ago, in conjunction with the DRYL, PBA and the NBF, we concentrated on one representative in the Philadelphia area. Each one of us paid a visit to her office. At the end of that time the representative signed on. Unfortunately, we need to get support one person at a time. This will require everyone to be proactive in their area. We need to stress with our members that this will hurt them financially, if this legislation is not passed, we may be faced with the cost of a permit and additional equipment for our boats. We must stress to our senators and representatives, that this is an election year. I boat, I vote, times thousands. Letters, e-mails, phone calls and personal visits are a must. Several boat clubs in my area have been handing out sample letters at meetings and installation dinners. The CBYCA web page has a sample letter and more information. If you are not a letter writer then call your senators.



Rear Commodore's Report

Pam Butler •RC@CBYCA.ORG



Thanks to the boating and business communities for their generous response for support of the 2008 CBYCA Roster Book. Currently, our ad revenues are over \$17,000, and we appreciate the many advertisers that have helped us to reach this goal.

The funds from the Roster Book are vital in helping CBYCA produce a quality publication for the club members and its advertisers. These funds also help us in pursuing our major focus which is the legislative concerns of the boating community.

The Roster Book is now be prepared by our Roster Book Team and will be going to press the first week of April. Distribution is scheduled for the April 19th Delegates Meeting at North East River Yacht Club in North East, MD. Please mark your calendar to have a representative from your club in attendance to pick up your Roster Books. If there is no representative, the club must contact their District Representative to make an arrangement for pick up.



Maryland Legislative Report

Kay Brawley •DSLMD@CBYCA.ORG



Status of Action on MD Legislative Bills Regarding Boating or Industry

SB 7 Task Force to Study the Boating Industry in Maryland-Extension of Life Sponsored by Senator Astle & several House members

This bill passed favorably 46-0. I delivered my report and analysis to the Committee on Fri., Feb 29 in Annapolis on the tax laws, reciprocity and enforcement activity from Maine to Alabama; Report will be available at April Delegates meeting on April 19. Next meeting of Task Force will be Fri, April 4 at 9 am in Annapolis.

SB676/HB612 Property Tax Assessment-Commercial Waterfront Property Sponsored by 7 Senators and 6 Delegates; House Hearing scheduled Feb. 28

First hearing cancelled; rescheduled on 3.13; no action to date. This bill would provide for the assessment of commercial waterfront property based on its use instead of its market value for property tax purposes; intended to make it less likely that existing marinas would be forced by tax increases to sell to condo development or such other use that would eliminate the boating access currently provided. This is a Working Waterfront Commission bill supported by CBYCA, MTA and DNR; very similar to FL legislation based on use to protect boating activity of citizens.

Legislative Bills Regarding Chesapeake Bay Environment on Watch

I'll only give the status of those with favorable action:

SB 104 passed 43-0; Working Waterfront Commission-Reporting & Sunset Extension

SB213/HB369: adopted 46-0; Chesapeake Bay 2010 Trust Fund & Nonpoint Source Fund

HB 973: hearing on 2.29; no action. Water Management Administration-Living Shoreline Protection Act of 2008; Supported by CBYCA, DNR & MTA

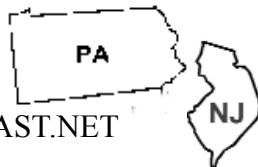
HB1056: hearing cancelled 2 times; rescheduled 3.12, no action. Water Management Administration-Wetlands & Waterways Program Fees

HB1253: hearing 3.6; no action & no amendments as suggested with support by MTA & CBYCA—good for CBYCA position since positive action may have had negative impact on future marine industry including yacht club waterway dependency.

Summary of all legislation will be provided at CBYCA Delegates meeting on April 19 at NERYC.



**Pennsylvania/
New Jersey
Legislative Report**
Art Friedman • ART747@COMCAST.NET



PENNSYLVANIA

HR 626 By Haluska (D) Resolution recognizing the month of April 2008 as "Outdoor Heritage Month in the PA Alleghenies." **H-Adopted by a vote of 199 YEAS 0 NAYS**

SB 1301 Kasunic (D) (PN 1806) The Great Lakes-St. Lawrence River Basin Water Resources Compact authorizes Pennsylvania to join the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence River Basin Water Resources Compact; provides for the form of the compact; and imposes additional powers and duties on the Governor, the Secretary of the Commonwealth and the Compact. **Mar 7, 2008 - S-Introduced and referred to Environmental Resources and Energy**

Pittsburgh river park project gets a boost

The South Shore Riverfront Park in Pittsburgh will benefit from a Boating Infrastructure Grant of over \$1.3 million from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to continue its revitalization. The Pa. Fish & Boat Commission was awarded the grant for the project.

This federal grant will improve Pittsburgh's status as a destination and layover location for traveling boaters. The commission will receive \$1.35 million through the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Boating Infrastructure Grant (BIG) program to build temporary docks for transient recreational motor boats 26 feet or longer on the Monongahela River near the Birmingham Bridge. The dock will include a 525-foot tie-up for transient boaters and day dockage for up to 17 large, non-trailerable boats.

Recreational boaters passing through the Port of Pittsburgh -- America's second largest inland port -- have free passage through a lock-and-dam system built to aid navigation and limit flooding. From Pittsburgh, boaters can travel 72 miles up the Allegheny River to East Brady; 131 miles up the Monongahela into West Virginia; and 981 miles on the Ohio River to Cairo, Ill., before turning to port on the Mississippi River and cruising another 900 miles to New Orleans.

Governor Edward G. Rendell continued Pennsylvania's commitment to the environment by announcing a \$22 million investment in more than 120 projects that will help restore the state's polluted streams, provide clean water, and help prevent devastating floods in communities across the commonwealth

PFBC

The House Game and Fisheries Committee held a public hearing to receive the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission annual report.

Doug Austen, Executive Director, PA Fish and Boat Commission told the committee his agency is facing new challenges such as a society's declining interest in outdoor activities, water quality issues, invasive and exotic species of fish in Pennsylvania waters and diseases that affect aquatic life.

Some of the new measures the Commission has implemented include two opening days of trout season, stocking larger trout, establishing an electronic

licensing system and implementation of state-of-the-art effluent filtration systems in state fish hatcheries. The agency also has seen the emergence of an active fishing access program and a grant program that has enhanced 50 boat ramp access projects.

Education

On Saturday February 23rd the Delaware River Yacht Club hosted 38 Boaters at a Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission Boating Safety Education Class. The FBC instructors were Bob Lyon, Allan Moyer & Bill Taylor. All 38 boaters passed the examination. Ship 484 provided the setup, dismantling and obtained the food service.

NEW JERSEY

Assembly Bill No. 1953

The Senate Transportation Committee reports favorably Assembly Bill No. 1953 (1R) with committee amendments. This amended bill, known as the "Donald W. McGloan Law," requires that every owner of a boat or watercraft and powered by a motor, or combination of motors, in excess of 25 horsepower, defined as a "vessel," registered in this State is to maintain liability insurance coverage insuring against loss for bodily injury or death sustained by any person arising out of the ownership, maintenance, operation or use of that vessel.

The committee amended the bill to change the liability limits of \$100,000 and \$200,000 to a single liability limit of \$100,000 to apply charge already made in the case of injury to or death of one or more persons in any one accident. They further amended the insurance identification card provisions of the bill by providing for a fine of \$75 for failure to exhibit the card and retaining the larger maximum fine of \$500 and 60 days' imprisonment for failure to return the vessel to point of departure or other designated location. The committee also made clarifying amendments restricting the scope of the bill to vessels registered in New Jersey.

Van Drew/Diegnan Bill Addressing Issues Over Abandoned Boats

The Van Drew/Diegnan measure (A-3767 S1390) would:

- Expand the statutory definition of abandoned vessels to include sunken vessels;
- Facilitate the removal of sunken or abandoned vessels from municipal waterways or land;
- Increase the penalties for violations of law concerning vessel abandonment.

The measure on 3/10/2008 was reported from Senate Committee with Amendments,

The bill authorizes a municipality to adopt an ordinance, or a harbor commission to adopt a resolution, requiring every owner or operator of a vessel that moors or docks in water, or grounds on land, to register with the official designated by the ordinance or resolution to have jurisdiction over the public land or waterway where the vessel is moored, grounded, or docked.

Once a vessel is designated abandoned, a municipality or harbor commission would be authorized to obtain the title of the vessel, remove and destroy it, and seek reimbursement for the costs from the vessel's owner. Failure to pay for the cost of removal and destruction also would be considered a disorderly persons offense.

The legislation forbids the state Motor Vehicle Commission (MVC) from issuing or renewing a boating license or registration to any person who abandons a vessel or does not pay the outstanding costs for removal and destruction of an

abandoned vessel. Further, it gives the courts the power to revoke or suspend the operating license of anyone convicted of vessel abandonment or nonpayment.



Virginia Legislative Report

Jacque Knight • DSLVA@CBYCA.C



Boating Education Regs Stir Up Some Virginia Boaters

Judging from the public comments on mandatory boating education to the Virginia Department of Game and Fisheries up until the April 1 deadline, it's a good thing for boating safety backers that the Virginia law was passed during last year's legislative session and that the process of enactment is well on its way. Rather than offer many suggestions for improvements in the phase-in of the law, many comments seemed to be just happy to bemoan increased requirements. The April 1 public hearing in Richmond was expected to be a lively discussion of the rules covering the boating courses, their availability and the first phase of enforcement, which will start July 1, 2009.

You can view the comments at www.dfig.virginia.gov. CBYCA's comments are included. They cite our position, which supports mandatory boating education, particularly for operators of personal watercraft. We cite Coast Guard statistics that indicate 70 percent of all reported fatalities occur on boats where the operator had not received any boating safety education.



Delaware Legislative Report

Cecilia Battaglini • georgepnut@yahoo.com



Delaware National Estuary Research Reserve is seeking volunteers to assist with the annual bay wide horseshoe crab spawning survey in May and June. DNERR staff will host a volunteer training session 6-7:30 Wednesday, April 16th at St. Jones Reserve, 818 Kitts Hummock Rd. Dover for those interested.

DNREC Fish & Wildlife Hearing 3/27/2008 in Dover

Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission flounder management reg of 64,000 fish caught in Del waters this year, size between 18.5 and 19.5", and various creel limits from 1-4 fish per day, is a 43% reduction from last years total limit. Citizens may give comments re this regulation until April 2, 2008 by writing DNREC Fish and Wildlife.

2008 Delaware Fishing Guide, which gives answers to anglers frequently asked questions is again available this year in a handy, tackle box sized 56 page booklet that lists accessible areas for boat launches, state parks, and has a full color identification guide to Del's most common and sought after fresh and saltwater species. Booklet is also available at 125 statewide fish and tackle establishments.

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Qualifications Officer Report

John Zalusky • QO@CBYCA.ORG



The work of collecting Rosters is done, not because we have them all in, but we have run out of time. We have 29 clubs that did not submit Rosters. One club that closed its doors (the sad story of an aging membership). There are also two or three clubs that we have some inkling may be closing. For the clubs we do not have this year's rosters, we will use what we can from last year's Roster Book. We will indicate that the data may not be current.

Special acknowledgment goes to Ed Ward, with 14 yacht clubs in District F, Harriet Bean with 6 clubs in District I and Bog Warren with 8 Clubs in District L. They were able to get all their clubs information to us, and for the most part did it early. Completing this task takes a lot of work and it was made much more difficult because of the difficulties associated with the web site. Too many clubs made the effort of entering their Roster information only to have it disappear and they thought it had been transmitted, while it was never received on this end. Although some clubs were able to get the website to work, many were not successful. One Commodore, who runs a computer business, was so upset he took his phone off the hook and would not talk to any of us. Jerry Donofrio, Sr., in spite of severe illness in his family, has worked his heart out trying to get the web site to help rather than frustrate us. I hope we can put our collective talents or brains to work so we have a better way of getting this job done and make it easier on our volunteers and member clubs.

Nonetheless, my thanks to everyone for all the hard work. Next we have to get the Roster Books to our member clubs. All club Delegates are strongly urged to attend the April 19th Delegates Meeting at the North East Yacht Club and enjoy the wonderful hospitality of North East, Maryland. See you at the North East Yacht Club at 1300 hours.



National Boating Federation

Earl Waesche • emwaesc@erols.com

Legislative Director



EPA Permit for Recreational Boats: As most everyone knows, unless legislation is passed, we all will need an EPA permit to operate our boats after September 2008. Since the previous bills introduced have not succeeded, a new bill has been introduced by Senate Environment and Public Works Chairwoman Barbara Boxer (D-CA). S2766, The Clean Boating Act of 2008, fully restores the longstanding exemption for recreational boats to have a permit for water discharges incidental to the normal operation of a boat. Additionally, the bill establishes a three-year framework for the EPA to determine if any Best Management Practices (BMPs) are needed for incidental discharges. If the EPA determines any "reasonable and practicable" best management practices are needed, the Coast Guard would take over as the lead agency and write the regulations. The Coast Guard would be required to

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determine the impact on the operational capability, and safety of the vessel and the economic cost of any BMPs that might be recommended. Even if BMPs were determined necessary, the Coast Guard is not in a position to administer any such regulations. The bottom line is we must all ask our Senators to serve as co-sponsors of S2766. Ideally the Senate will take action in April on their return from Easter recess. The bill would then be sent to the House for a vote of Unanimous Consent. For details log on to www.boatblue.org.

Important Meetings: The American Boating Congress will hold its Legislative Conference April 27-29 in Washington DC at the L'Enfant Hotel. There will be speakers from government and industry on issues of importance to boating along with visits to Capitol Hill. The National Boating Federation's annual meeting will be held at the Hyannis YC in Hyannis MA, 11-12 April. Speakers are scheduled from the USCG, NOAA, NASBLA, USPS and ICOMIA.



IPC

Donald Burton • IPC@CBYCA.ORG



2008 NOMINATING COMMITTEE

The CBYCA Nominating Committee is requesting any Member of a CBYCA Member Club interested in serving in an elected position on the CBYCA Board of Governors for 2009, shall inform the Chairman of the Nominating Committee of the positions desired and provide a summary of his or hers qualifications for review by the Committee. All inquiries and responses will be kept in strict confidence.

If you have any questions on this matter, please do not hesitate to contact me by phone, FAX, or e-mail.

Donald H. Burton, IPC & Chairman
2008 Nominating Committee
59 Wheatsheaf Lane
Smyrna, DE 19977
Tel & FAX 302-659-1823
donburton@dmv.com



Publicity Director's Report

June Donofrio • june.donofrio@verizon.net

Deadline for the next

Chartroom Chatter is April 25, 2008

Be sure to get your event information submitted through the Cbyca Website so it can be included in the Goldenrod page in the Chartroom Chatter, this must be submitted through the Website no later than the 25th of each month.

If you will be away & your Chatter Newsletter will not forward, please let me know, I can change your address or delete the copy.

SUPPORT CBYCA ROSTER BOOK ADVERTISERS

"Every year in our country 250,000 to 400,000 people suffer from cardiac arrest. Ventricular Fibrillation of the heart is the most common cause of death from sudden cardiac arrest. Many lives could be saved if treated with early with defibrillation that restores the heart to a normal rhythm. It is for that reason the CBYCA Board has voted yes and recommends the following proposal."

**CBYCA PROPOSAL
REGARDING
THE PURCHASE AND USE OF THE
AUTOMATED EXTERNAL DEFIBRILLATOR (AED)**

In the interest of safety and health to close the gap of the vital link in the chain of survival from ventricular fibrillation.

The Chesapeake Bay Yacht Clubs Association (CBYCA) Board recommends that all our member yacht clubs, which have a clubhouse facilities: purchase, receive appropriate training, put into service and maintain Automated External Defibrillator (AED) devices

The CBYCA Board also strongly recommends that state and local Jurisdictional AED requirements be accomplished prior to the purchase and institution of the AED.

For information regarding the above proposal please contact CBYCA District Representative Thomas C. Cusick at (301) 464-3136 or tom@cusick.com
3/17/08



**2008 CBYCA Meeting Schedule
Mark Your Calendars !**

April 19	Sat	1000 hrs	Board	Northeast YC
	Sat	1300 hrs	Delegate	Northeast YC
May 31	Sat	1000 hrs	Board	Maryland YC
August 16	Sat	1000 hrs	Board	Chesapeake YC
	Sat	1300 hrs	Delegate	Chesapeake YC
September 20	Sat	1000 hrs	Board	Susquehanna YC
October 18	Sat	1000 hrs	Board	Dryl/Solomons TBA



**Chesapeake Bay
Yacht Clubs
Association**

c/o P.D. June Donofrio
11 Needlepoint La
Willingboro, NJ 08046

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