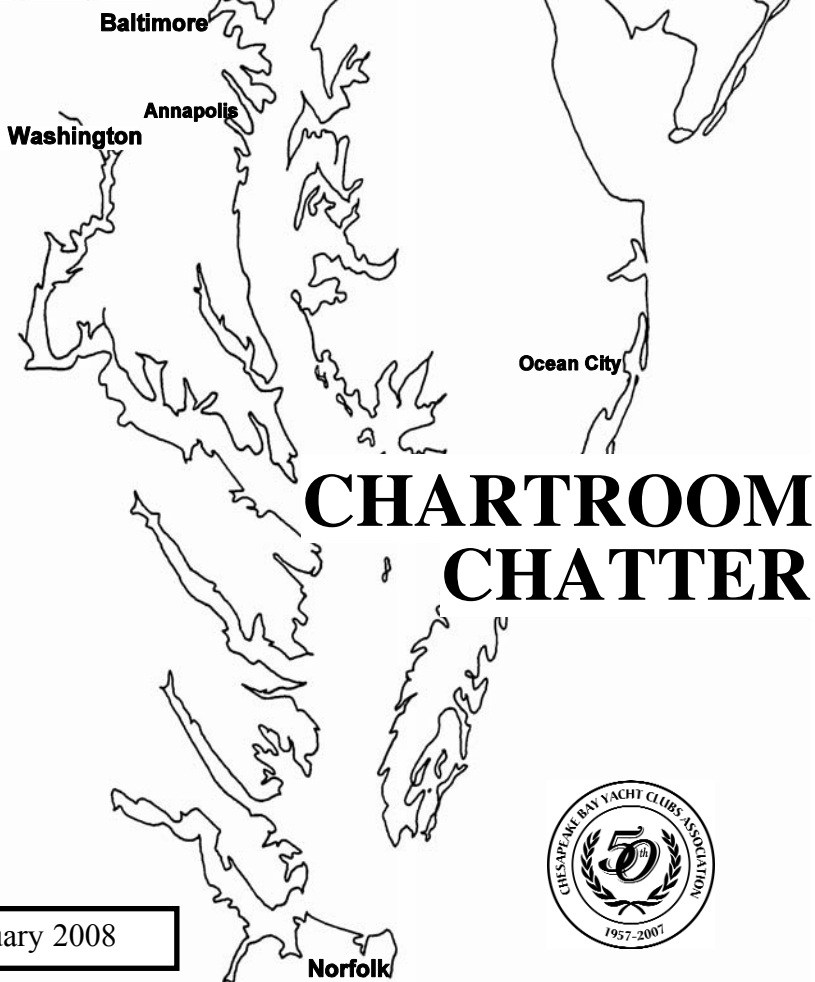


Chesapeake Bay Yacht Clubs Association



CHARTROOM CHATTER



January 2008

CBYCA, THE BOATER'S VOICE

2008 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 Coles Marsh, 103 Lakeview Dr., Annapolis, Md 21403

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Commodore's Corner

Coles Marsh •marsheme@comcast.net

YOUR VOICE IS IMPORTANT!



Happy New Year to All!

I would like to thank all the clubs that attended the 50th anniversary CBYCA Ball in Annapolis on December the 8th 2007. We did have a few surprises as promised. Chief Master Musician (Bruce Smith) from the Naval Academy Bank piped all officers to the Bridge. We had some beautiful paintings by artist around the Delaware and Chesapeake Bays display their Bay Scenes. I heard some wonderful comments about the Sheraton's hospitality. We honored our five founding and five charter members and danced to the wonderful sound of "The Front" band.

My first Board meeting as your 50th Commodore took place on Sunday morning the 9th at 9am. It was not my plan to run our meeting over 30 minutes but we had very important matters to discuss. Just a quick summery: we will work on the survey at our January meeting so we can deliver in the winter when you have more time to respond. We know our legislative sessions will be a busy time for your Directors. Please offer your support.

We look forward to serving you the members in 2008. Let your District Representative know if you would like a presentation at one of your membership meetings.

We have a great bridge for 2008. I look forward to working with them concerning matters that affect our Yacht Club members and the recreational boater in general. Don't forget the Clean Marina programs. Chesapeake Yacht Club is the latest club to join. I feel sure they would be happy to answer any questions you have.



Vice Commodore's Report

Kevin Noon VC@CBYCA.ORG



I want to Thank Commodore Marsh for arranging a wonderful Ball, everyone looked relaxed, the food was great and Deb and I enjoyed the evening. Combining our December meeting at the same location provided a strong turnout and I will try and keep that new tradition alive.

The next Board Meeting will be January 19th at the Otter Point Yacht Club. Commodore Randy and Delegate Bob are looking forward to showing the Membership their new club house, built after hurricane Isabel devastated the former. 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



The United States Supreme Court heard oral arguments in November regarding the suit between the state of New Jersey and the state of Delaware. A final decision is due in the spring. The first ruling was in Delaware's favor giving Delaware control over the water. BP and New Jersey probably have "Plan B C and D" waiting in the wings.

In December I was elected President of the Pennsylvania Boating Association Southeast Chapter. The PBASEC shares many of the same problems and issues with the CBYCA and we look forward to working together in the future.

After the 2004 Athos oil spill the Delaware River Protection Act was passed. Applications are being accepted for membership on the Delaware River and Bay Oil Spill Advisory Committee. (DRBOSAC) It will be a 28 member committee. None of the positions are open to recreational boaters. I have applied as "general public" I feel a representative from the boating community should be on board. I am doing further investigation.

Congratulations to Commodore Coles Marsh and I wish him a wonderful, fun and successful year. My wife Judy and I had a grand time at the Ball. We look forward to seeing the Commodore and First Lady Renee in the future. I wish everyone a healthy and Happy New Year.



Rear Commodore's Report

Pam Butler •RC@CBYCA.ORG



Happy Holidays to all! Fellow clubs, please review your club's and/or personal ads as soon as you receive the copy of your previous ad and the current invoice. If all remains the same, please submit the invoice and your check to me R/C Pam Butler, 6415 Craigmont Road, Baltimore, MD 21207. If there are major changes to be made, please provide a CAMERA READY COPY or Computer generated copy for PC, exactly as you wish it to appear in the 2008 Roster Book. If the changes are minor, return the copy of your ad with the changes, the invoice and your check. Please make all checks payable to CBYCA. If your club did not take an ad last year, please consider doing so this current year. We will certainly appreciate it and it will be beneficial for you also. I encourage each of you to get at least one new ad. Thank you for your cooperation.



Maryland Legislative Report

Kay Brawley •DSLMD@CBYCA.ORG



Governor's Special Legislative Session: On November 19, 2007, Governor Martin O'Malley signed into law Senate Bill 2 (Chapter 3) and House Bill 5 (Chapter 6), the Tax Reform Act and Transportation and State Investment Act legislation passed by the General Assembly at the Special Session of the General Assembly, which was convened on October 29th to address Maryland's budget deficit. This legislative action increases the sales and use tax rate from 5% to 6%; designates tax-free periods; requires distribution of tax revenues to the Transportation Trust Fund; increases the maximum amount of specified bonds; establishes the Chesapeake Bay 2010 Trust Fund among other things.

Impact from DNR Boat Services Unit: HB5 changed the source of funding that the Waterway Improvement Fund receives from the State motor fuel tax from special funds to general funds, takes the Fund out of the motor fuel tax formula and freezes the dollar amount at the current level that the Fund received from the motor fuel tax (0.3%), which equates to \$1,794,000. The law states that "The Governor shall include in the budget bill for each fiscal year a general fund appropriation to the Waterway Improvement Fund of not less than \$1,794,000." As long as the Governor includes general funds for this amount in the annual budget for the WWI Fund that's fine. However, this amount will never increase as was the case before when it was still part of the motor fuel tax formula.

Impact for Maryland Trades perspective: Good news... **The boat titling and excise tax was not increased**, as suggested in prior legislative language, **and remains at 5%.**

Task Force to Study Recreational Boating in Maryland: At the request of Senator Astle, the Governor's Task Force will continue scope of work with next meeting in C-4 conference room of the Tawes State Office Building on Friday, January 4, 2008, from 10:00 am to 11:30 am. The purpose of the meeting is to assign priorities and establish work groups on various issues and topics, so the work of the Task Force may progress while Senator Astle is involved in the legislative session. I appreciate Commodore Coles Marsh's willingness to represent me at this meeting.

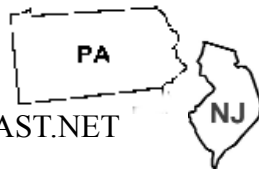
Maryland 2008 Legislative Session: Legislators will resume work on January 9, 2008; it seems like they've been in full speed ahead action since October. I have added Past Commodore Don Burton and Delaware Legislative Director Cecilia Battaglini to my committee along with Commodore Coles Marsh to assist when needed. I appreciate receiving your comments on CBYCA legislative issues and interest in Maryland.

Happy New Year! I hope you had a happy, healthy Holiday Season.



Pennsylvania/ New Jersey Legislative Report

Art Friedman • ART747@COMCAST.NET



Pennsylvania

Pennsylvania Boating Association South East Chapter (PBASE)
New Officers 2008

- President Bob Williams:
- Vice President: William Garwood,
- Treasurer Frank McAfee:
- Secretary: Nick Noderer

Senate Bill 1: This is the Right-To-Know Law and states that a Commonwealth agency, local agency, legislative agency or judicial agency would provide public records in accordance with this act unless otherwise provided by law. Agencies may not deny a requester access to a public record due to the intended use of the public record by the requester unless otherwise provided by law. **Third consideration and Final Passage by a vote of 191 YEAS 0 NAYS**

HB 1109 Amends Title 30 (Fish) further providing, in fishing licenses, for nonresident and tourist licenses, for one-day resident fishing licenses. The bill extends the period during which a One-Day Tourist Fishing License and One-Day Resident Fishing License can be issued to March 15 to April 30 (from April 1 to April 30). The cost of a replacement license is increased from \$4.25 to \$5 and the transaction costs associated with the Pennsylvania Automated Licensing Service (PALS) would be actual cost, not to exceed \$1. **Final Passage by a vote of 46 YEAS 3 NAYS**

Special Session SB 1 Supports research and development of alternative energy technologies, helps municipalities and businesses implement clean-energy projects, and provides assistance to consumers to cover up to 25% of the cost to install energy-saving equipment. The bill also increases funding of the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) by \$100 million. The bill invests a total of \$650 million over 10 years, funded by anticipated growth in the state gross receipts tax. **Final Passage by a vote of 44 YEAS 5 NAYS**

Judge says Lake Erie landowners' rights go to water's edge. Landowners along Lake Erie have won a victory in their long battle over where their property rights. A county judge has ruled that the homeowners' property rights extend to the water's edge. The decision also says property owners can build docks without paying the state a fee for land beneath the waters. The Lake County judge says the ruling doesn't block people from walking along the water's edge. He says people can walk the shore as long as they can keep their feet wet.

Congress provides funding for Army corps study of Upper Delaware Watershed flooding. The Army Corps of Engineers is going to have \$700,000 at its disposal to conduct a comprehensive study to identify ways to prevent future flooding of the Upper Delaware River Watershed. The funding was secured in the Congressional Omnibus bill that was approved this week before lawmakers went home for the year. House Members Maurice Hinchey, John Hall

and Kirsten Gillibrand secured the funds. Of the total, up to \$300,000 will be used to address the severe flooding problem along Little Beaverkill Creek, especially in Livingston Manor in the Town of Rockland.

The Pennsylvania Boating educational programs are the established criteria for Safe Boating Education in Pennsylvania and other States. The Pennsylvania program is excellent and has been emulated by several states. I took the course last year with instructors from the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission. The one day class provided interaction learning that could only be achieved with classroom instructors.

When you successfully complete the Pennsylvania Fish & Boat Commission boating course and take the examination you are issued a Boating Safety Education Certificate good for a lifetime. You should note it is mandatory to have past an accredited course to boat in New Jersey waters. This includes the Delaware River.

The Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission will hold a Boating Safety Education Class on February 23, 2008 at the Delaware River Yacht Club, 9635 Milnor Street . FBC Instructor Ryan Walt 717 705 7919. All boaters are invited to take the class. This would be a good refresher course for those who are certified. The class will be from 9am to 4:30 pm . Continental breakfast and lunch will be served. The cost of the food is \$8.00 and the cost for taking the exam is \$10.00. Make your reservation by e- mailing Art Friedman at art747@comcast.net

New Jersey

Power Plant Pollution: New Jersey Sues over Pennsylvania Power Plant Pollution, because air pollution recognizes no borders. The state of New Jersey filed suit against the owner of a coal-fired power plant across the Delaware River in Pennsylvania. The lawsuit alleges that Reliant (the power plant owner) has violated the federal Clean Air Act by modifying and operating the Portland power plant without required pollution control equipment and construction permits and without the best available pollution control technology.

Cape May-Lewes Ferry's: The Cape May-Lewes Ferry's marine operations will be consolidated next year in Cape May, N.J., in a cost-cutting move that will affect 13 Lewes-based employees. Only marine employees, pilots, mates and others who actually work aboard the ferry's vessels will be affected. Other operations at the Lewes terminal will not be affected by the consolidation, which is intended to cut into an operating deficit that totaled \$6.8 million in calendar 2006. The only vessel now based in Lewes will be moved to New Jersey.

Setting of fish and lobster traps: A-3986 is the bill that would ban the setting of fish and lobster traps on the state's artificial reefs. Only one Assembly session is left, Jan. 3, and the measure has not been posted for a vote on that day thus far. A companion bill in the Senate ? S-2635 ? has been posted for a vote Jan. 7. If the Senate bill passes, and the Assembly measure is not posted, or posted and not voted favorably, the initiative will die. The bill has considerable public support and there is opposition only from a small group of commercial trap fishermen and their lobbying firm. Two of the reefs are actually in state waters. They are the Sandy Hook and Axel Carlson reefs. The other 13 reefs off the state's coast are in federal waters.



Virginia Legislative Report

Jacquie Knight • DSLVA@CBYCA.C



It appears 2008 will be a quiet year for boaters in Virginia. Pre-filing of bills to be considered in the 2008 General Assembly began on November 19, and no bills had been introduced by Chatter deadline time in key areas of CBYCA interest: marina and gasoline taxes, further boating education changes, personal floatation device laws, discharge from boats, or eminent domain protection for public access for boaters. All drafts for pre-filed legislative were to be due at midnight, December 28. The legislative session was to start on January 8, and adjournment is scheduled for March 8

I represented CBYCA on December 20 in Portsmouth, VA at the quarterly meeting of the Virginia Area Maritime Security Recreational Vessel Subcommittee.

Topics included an update on the status of implementation procedures of the Virginia Boating Safety Education Bill. Approval of the final regulations by the Board of the Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries is expected by April 22. Publication is expected by July 1, 2008. Compliance will be phased in over a six-year period. By July 1, 2016, all personal watercraft operators and motor boat operators will be required to show proof of completion of an approved boating safety education course and exam. The first phase will apply to personal watercraft operators 20 years old or younger, who must complete a course and exam by July 1, 2009. Anyone who cannot show proof of completion of the course will be subject to a \$100 fine.

Fifth District Coast Guard officials reported that recreational boaters are abusing the use of Emergency Channel 16 to request the opening of drawbridges. They urged boating associations to inform their members to restrict use of the channel. Coast Guard officials also reported that false alerts from EPIRBs on recreational vessels had cost millions in fuel, personnel and maintenance expenses. They said the two main causes for the false alerts were incorrect mounting of the EPIRBs in brackets and missing or out-of-position magnets. They urged boaters to follow owners' manuals for the devices or to contact an approved EPIRB servicing facility.

Coast Guard officials also discussed preliminary plans for a possible exercise in the Hampton Roads area with recreational vessels in May. The exercise would activate a calling tree to notify boaters of zones where they would be prohibited from traveling during a terrorist attack.

Get started on your updated roster info for the upcoming 2008 CBYCA Roster book. The Website is working, go to www.Cbyca.org, click "**Enter**", on left hand side 6th box down, under Communications click on "**Roster Yearbook, online entry**", next page click on "**Roster information online form**" then fill out the form, at the bottom **before** you click on Submit, you must enter the code in the colored box then click "**Submit**", you should then receive a Thank-you. If not please contact the webmaster Jerry, boatervoter@verizon.net

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Delaware Legislative Report

Cecilia Battaglini • georgepnut@yahoo.com



In a move with direct significance for the Mid Atlantic Region, US Interior Department released a final proposal for regulating off shore wind turbines and other "alternative" energy projects in Federally Controlled Waters. Mid Atlantic region has 70% of offshore wind potential in water depths of less than 60 meters. Off shore wind turbines could power 10's of millions homes, based on current calculations of wind speeds. Environmental aspects would be examined for each site, but the new agency plans to issue nationwide rules and generic "best practices" next year for protecting birds, aquatic life and for managing disruptions to other interests, including recreational boaters and divers.

Public Service Commission staffers in Delaware have recommended dropping Blue Water Wind's plan as too costly and risky as a new study raised the cost (originally 1 Billion) as high as 2.7 Billion in current dollars.

Wednesday, December 19, 2007 Dover State Lawmakers have blocked an off shore wind and power contract forcing a deadlock among 4 state agencies and relegating the project to an uncertain fate.

House Speaker Terrance Straford was concerned the huge cost down the road would be a possibility and he "hoped the matter could be resolved in the next 30 to 60 days."

Controller General Russ Larson, a voting member, was instructed to spread costs statewide beyond Delmarva Power customers, the other agency heads would not agree to his conditions.

None of the 4 voting groups was prepared to kill the project according to DNREC Secretary John Hughes. But none wants to see the issue drag on indefinitely. Hughes said he'd like to see a resolution by spring.

The 4 state agencies were unable to reach a decision on Blue Water Wind's agreement on a proposal to direct Delmarva Power to sign a 25 year contract to buy wind power from Blue Water. Informal discussions are expected between Blue Water Wind and legislatures.



National Boating Federation

Earl Waesche • emwaesc@erols.com

Legislative Director



Impact of the New Energy Bill on Boating: The energy bill President Bush just signed into law will order a massive increase in the amount of renewable fuel (ethanol) required to be in the national gasoline supply to 9 billion gallons by 2008 and 36 billion by 2022. This will make it more difficult to find non-ethanol based gasoline for boats. Many have read the effects of ethanol which loosens sediment in fuel systems, the way it mixes with water, its effect on older

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boats, and on those boats equipped with fiberglass fuel tanks. This is good news for farmers who grow corn from which ethanol is derived but bad news for the boating community. The bill also increases the minimum fuel economy standards for passenger vehicles. The down side of this is that increased economy reduces power and thus limits towing capacity for those of us who tow boats.

Coast Guard meeting on Boater Education Legislation: NBF and other boating interest groups met at CG headquarters to discuss proposed Federal requirements for boating education. Previous CG legislative proposals for vessel operator proficiency and identification requirements had met with criticism. The National Marine Manufacturers Association made a number of proposals, some of which are included below:

- The proposal should focus on getting the boater educated. Identification requirements for maritime security should be separately proposed, justified and, if found necessary, limited to apply to areas around existing security zones.
- All NASBLA certified boating education courses or equivalent courses determined by the Coast Guard should be allowed.
- Experienced boaters should be allowed to challenge or bypass education and go straight to a test for certification.
- If a boater forgets to carry his or her boat education certificate while boating or leaves it on shore there should be an opportunity for that boater to produce it later to avoid a penalty.

The meeting group limited the focus of the education requirement to motorized vessels and did not support the creation of a boat operator license. NBF fully supports mandatory boater education but is opposed to operator licensing.



Qualifications Officer Report

John Zalusky • QO@CBYCA.ORG



Delegates please check to be sure your Club has mailed in the change in officers and other information for the 2008 Roster Book, and District Representatives you can help too. Contact the Delegates in your District to be sure they are not having trouble getting information to us (at the same time you might ask about dues payments). The web site is now working, see instructions at bottom of page 6, if you still have problems, please follow my instructions below.

On Christmas Eve we have received 22 and have yet to receive 108 – long way to go by the end of the year. We want to get the 2008 Roster Book printed on time, so please lend a hand.

All Delegates should have received a hard copy of the information form in the last few copies of the Chartroom Chatter. But if not, or it is miss placed, print a new one from the web site (www.cbyca.org). After “Entering” the web site go to the 6th box on the left, under “Communications” you will find “forms.” Double click and go to the 1st box on the right called “Officer Rosters.” At the bottom of this box you will find the option to print a ‘PDF Versions.’ Please print a copy, fill it out, make yourself a copy, proof it (one had the Princes’ name

miss spelled) and sent it on to me at John Zalusky, Q/O, 13018 Barreda Blvd., Lusby, MD, 20657. I will check the information, as best I can, and enter it on a form and get it in the system. Please print clearly.

You can also copy the form to the "Document" file on your computer, fill it out and email it to me at jzalusky@earthlink.net. But, to insure I am able to use it do not use the quick "Attachment" option. Please copy the two entire pages and paste it to your email. I am using the new Microsoft Vista program with Microsoft Word 2007 and some work done on older versions of Word is often not readable. Please do not send the form to me as an attachment, copy and paste it.

We are all sorry for the trouble and extra work. Jerry Donofrio is doing all he can fix this web site problem. So for now save yourself a frustrating hour or two and do not even try to send your Roster information in using the web site

Thank you one and all for this extra effort, and I wish you all happy New Year.



Publicity Director's Report

June Donofrio • june.donofrio@verizon.net

Deadline for the next

Chartroom Chatter is January 25, 2007

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.

Please submit your new Roster info as soon as possible, through the website, www.cbyca.org. The Website is up & working, please see page 6 for instructions. You should receive a Thank-You after you have submitted your info online. If you don't please contact the webmaster, Jerry Donofrio at Boatervoter@verizon.net

2008 CBYCA Meeting Schedule Mark Your Calendars !

January 19	Sat	1000 hrs	Board	Otter Point YC
February 16	Sat	1000 hrs	Board	Farragut S.A.
	Sat	1300 hrs	Delegate	Farragut S.A.
March 15	Sat	1000 hrs	Board	TBA
April 19	Sat	1000 hrs	Board	TBA
	Sat	1300 hrs	Delegate	TBA



**Chesapeake Bay
Yacht Clubs
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c/o P.D. June Donofrio
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