Purpose

The Chesapeake Bay Yacht Clubs Association (CBYCA) is an association of yacht clubs, boating clubs, and marine associations located throughout the five-state Chesapeake Bay region and the District of Columbia. It is composed of dedicated uniformed volunteer men and women, who communicate, inform and work with legislatures and others to ensure member’s voices in each of the five states and District of Columbia are heard. Its purpose is to represent the interest of recreational boating at the national, state, and local levels of government, and to promote boating safety and education of its members and the general public.

For more information visit the CBYCA web page at www.cbyca.org or contact: Commodore@CBYCA.org

Chesapeake Bay Yacht Clubs Association does not distribute its mailing list.

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2019 Meeting Schedule

BOARD OF GOVERNORS MEETINGS

January 26th, 2019  9:30 am  Middle River Yacht Club
February 16th, 2019  9:30 am  Bush River Yacht Club
March 16th, 2019  9:30 am  Capitol Yacht Club
April 20th, 2019  9:30 am  Red Eye Yacht Club
**May 18th, 2019**  10:00 am  **Pleasant Yacht Club**
August 17th, 2019  9:30 am  Bodkin Yacht Club
September 14th, 2019  10:00 am  Miles River Yacht Club
October 19th, 2019  10:00 am  Delaware River Yacht Club
November 16th, 2019  10:00 am  Baltimore Yacht Club

DELEGATES MEETINGS*

February 16th, 2019  10:00 am  Bush River Yacht Club
April 20th, 2019  10:00 am  Red Eye Yacht Club (Book Distribution)
August 17th, 2019  10:00 am  Bodkin Yacht Club (Club Cruise)
November 16th, 2019  10:00 am  Baltimore Yacht Club (Change of Watch)

*Lunch will be offered for a nominal cost.
Well the warm weather has arrived and I can’t wait to get out on the Bay. Openings have already begun. Each area has its own traditions on how ceremonies are handled, but we all have the same goal... to welcome the start of the new boating season.

Saturday, April 20 was one of our largest meetings of the year, the Book Distribution Delegate Meeting. It was a very successful meeting thanks to the combined efforts of the Bridge and Committee Members. The books were distributed with ease, we had one of our shortest Delegate meetings on record, had a great presentation from Princess Stephanie of Middle River Yacht Club, and enjoyed a delicious meal provided by Erni Heiser from Red Eye Yacht Club. A great big Thank You goes out to Commodore Kim Ryan, the Members, and Officers of Red Eye Yacht Club for hosting us.

Something new this year that CBYCA is working to put together is the first ever Commodores Summit to be held in October. Please stay tuned for any new information regarding this Summit.

I look forward to seeing everyone out on the Bay. Have a safe and fun boating season.

Princess Stephanie
Middle River Yacht Club
Ahoy fellow boaters!

Well, we just enjoyed another successful meeting at the Red Eye Yacht Club. Having the Delegates and District Reps attend was great. I wish we had that turn out at every bi-monthly BOG & Delegates meeting! It was great to mix and mingle and meet. The success of CBYCA can only be enhanced with your involvement.

We had several new members attend from yachting clubs joining CBYCA for the first time and welcomed back Riverside of Maryland. Sue Haven was approved for reinstatement as well. There were two requests from the audience for membership packets for partner status; Westmoreland Yachting Association and Delaware Silver & Gold also were approved for Partner status. Qualifications Officer Yanni agreed to mail packets soonest. Increasing the number of member clubs benefits all of us. We also had Princess Stephanie Glinsky (Middle River Yacht Club) give a briefing on her Bay B Beautiful project and encouraged us to save the oyster shells being shucked at the Bull & Oyster Roasts being held. She has successfully collected almost 4,000 pounds of shells!

The 2019 62nd edition of the CBYCA Roster Book is now available. It has a new and more contemporary appearance and contains lots of good information. Congratulations to the Rear Commodore and the Publicity Director on an excellent job. If you’ve not received your books, please check to ensure that you didn’t have another rep pick them up for you. There will be lots of Openings coming in the next two months. The boating season has truly begun!

I’d like to thank the Red Eye Yacht Club Commodore, Kim Ryan & staff, for their hospitality and delicious luncheon. The next BOG meeting will be held on May 18th, 2019, 10:00 am at Pleasant Yacht Club, 1800 Wharf Road, Sparrows Point, MD. I’d also like to encourage you to stay tuned for the 1st Annual CBYCA Commodore’s Summit being planned for this fall. It promises to be a new and exciting event to learn how CBYCA can better support and inspire our member clubs.

Here’s to Sunny Days.
Just some updates this time around...

The 2019 Annual Chartroom Chatter Roster Book is out. I offer my great THANKS to all involved, especially to my bride Rose Marie, who helped me keep some of my sanity intact over the last six months. This is by no means a one person effort.

The majority of the books were distributed during the Delegates Meeting at Red Eye Yacht Club this past Saturday, 20 April. I have the books for District H (Annapolis Area) and will be delivering them. The remaining books are at the Red Eye Yacht Club in hopes that those attending the Marley Boat Club Opening Day were able to collect them.

The First Annual CBYCA Commodore’s Summit will be held on 12 October 2019. The Maryland Yacht Club has graciously offered their facilities to hold the Summit. Invitations to the 2019 and 2020 Commodores, Vice Commodores, and Treasurers will be sent out this summer, with a request to RSVP. The Maryland Yacht Club is limited to around 168 persons, so this will be a first come, first serve event.

Lastly...

IT'S BOATING SEASON!!!

Tear off the shrink wrap. Breakout the pressure washers, mops, buckets, and boat soap. Check your gear and get your inspections. We’ll see you on the water with Everything’s Rosie!!!
Happy Boating Season. Many of you are going through your Opening Day Ceremonies, Shake-Down Cruises, and just generally getting into the swing of the new boating season. Which makes this the perfect time for all boaters to do a quick refresher on the important steps to safe and enjoyable boating. The people at the Safe Boating Council thought the same thing, which is why...

...**May 18th – 24th is National Safe Boating Week!!**

This year’s focus is on wearing PFDs – including pointers on how to select and use the correct jacket for your boating type, age, etc. PFDs are available for adults, children, infants, and pets. You already know that, as a captain, you’re responsible for ensuring life jackets are available for all of your passengers. I keep jackets of all types aboard to ensure my guests can find something that not only fits, but will be effective in an emergency. That doesn’t mean that you have to go out and buy a ton of jackets. Most marinas have extra jackets should you need them. Borrowing jackets from neighboring boaters has never been a challenge. Most clubs have similar programs. It only requires that you ask before you leave the docks.

I can’t help but share that May 17th is “Wear Your Life Jacket To Work Day”. I’m being taunted by my CBYCA team to share pictures – and I promise I will do so in the next issue!! If you wear your jacket to work, snap a picture and send it to me at DRC@CBYCA.org... And I will post your picture on our Facebook page... and I’ll be happy to give a $50 West Marine gift card to the most interesting photo received.


I’m looking forward to your photos!!
Hey y’all, it’s that time again! Boats are going in the water!

It is also that time when the 439th session of the Maryland General Assembly has just concluded on April 8th.

The bigger picture, as I saw it, was the continuing effort to care for the waters of our State, within our budgetary means.

What to do in reference to Oyster husbandry, the challenges presented by the Conowingo Dam, and the prospect that the Federal funding for the EPA will continue to be under pressure for reduction were a few of the threads that appeared here and there during the session.

Two points of other news:

I get the distinct impression that the half dozen tanks just West of Bloodsworth Island may be re-removed as part of ongoing operations of the Patuxent River Complex; they were placed there in 1942 as part of the war effort at the time and used for many years for target practice. Their useful life was over about 25 years ago as they sunk under the water level. The six of them are clustered near the center of a circular exclusion area of about 2010 acres (3.14 square miles). I didn’t realize a Sherman M4 series tank ran between 66,800 and over 84,000 pounds. Lotta scrap steel there! (Although my second-grader’s memory is that a tank sure does have “beef”--My mother’s older brother used to give me the key to open the Sherman tank that he donated to the Veteran’s Post next to his auto dealership in Berlin, Md. Great fun. It’s still there, too!)

I was able to buy ethanol free gas on April 4th at the new WAWA at 128th St. in Ocean City, Md for $3.09/gal. The news here is that WAWA has followed Royal Farms in this way. The website www.puregas.org lists, State by State, town by town, now over 14,000 places including both gas stations and marinas that provide ethanol free gas. I have tried to add this new Ocean City location, but so far have not had success.

Anyhow, see y’all on the water real soon!
Pennsylvania

The following bills could affect your club and its members. Please let me know (DSLPADE@CBYCA. ORG ) if your club is interested in any of these bills.

HB 473 stormwater 1st class township  
HB 474 stormwater town and borough  
HB 514 merge fish and game commissions  
HB 763 clubs 6 pack legislation-may permit selling of malt or brewed beverages for use off club property  
HB 808 PA Fish and Boat Commission authorization to establish own fees  
HB 829 Delaware River Basin on-lot-sewage maintenance  
HB 929 fishing license prices with salmon elimination  
HB 982 free fishing for disabled  
SB259 property owners' bill of rights, eminent domain, compensation  
SB 315 disabled veteran fishing license  
SB 481 exemption of fishing license cost for therapeutic recreation

The only movement remains on these 2 bills:

HB 763 clubs 6 pack legislation-(you may be able to sell beer for take-out)  
HB 808 PA Fish & Boat Commission may become authorized to establish license and permit fees (to support its programs for anglers and boaters, but still only with an okay from legislators)

Items emailed to clubs:

- Pennsylvania clubs have received emails concerning the following items so that immediate action could take place.
- A temporary Coast Guard Safety Zone for all navigable waters of the Delaware  
- New ownership of Great Oak Landing marina, a destination for many Delaware River boaters  
- Department of Environmental Protection Invites Comments on Draft Plan to Reduce Pollution and Improve Water Quality in Pennsylvania’s Part of the Chesapeake Bay Watershed

Click here. The comment period ends June 7th.

- Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) Report on Impaired Waterways in Pennsylvania and Role of Restore PA to Bring Back River Health
PA and DE Legislative Reports continued:

- Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) Report on Impaired Waterways in Pennsylvania and Role of Restore PA to Bring Back River Health

- On April 18, the Department of Environmental Protection released its 2018 Integrated Water Quality Monitoring and Assessment Report, the biennial comprehensive analysis of the water quality status of the more than 86,000 miles of streams and rivers and more than 160,000 acres of lakes in Pennsylvania required by the federal Clean Water Act. Click here to see more about the report and to submit comments until June 4th. The report includes, for the first time, an assessment of the Susquehanna River as a whole, thanks to new scientific analysis techniques pioneered by DEP staff.

- U.S. House Subcommittee on Water Resources and Environment Hearing on Ports, Harbors, and Inland Waterways

Is dredging a concern for your club members? Recreational areas are low priority for keeping channels deep.

According to a letter from the National Marine Manufacturers Association (NMMA) to U.S. House Subcommittee on Water Resources and Environment, “The Harbor Maintenance Trust Fund (HMTF) was created to ensure that our nation’s harbors would always be properly dredged and fully operational, yet much of the fund’s annually collected revenue doesn’t make its way back to where it was originally intended and is desperately needed. In fact, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) estimates that full channels at the nation’s 59 busiest ports are available less than 35 percent of the time. The result of insufficient funding for maintenance and dredging projects is deterioration of our nation’s ports, harbors, and waterways that support thousands of jobs and commercial and recreational economic development nationwide.

“NMMA also encourages the U.S. House Subcommittee on Water Resources and Environment to consider reforming the Corps’ dredging project prioritization process to accurately account for the economic benefits of investing in projects that facilitate recreational use. Under the current process, the Corps gives priority to coastal harbors and inland waterways with the most commercial traffic and provides priority for maintenance of channels at small ports that support significant commercial fishing, subsistence, or public transportation benefits.”
PA and DE Legislative Reports continued:

• Student-Crafted Hellbender Bill Signed by Governor Wolf

A legislative proposal championed by the Chesapeake Bay Foundation’s (CBF) Pennsylvania Student Leadership Council and Lycoming College’s Clean Water Institute was overwhelmingly approved by the House of Representatives.

The House approved Senate Bill 9, by a vote of 191-6, which designates the Eastern Hellbender as the first official “State Amphibian” of Pennsylvania.

CBF’s Pennsylvania Student Leadership Council, consisting of high school students, invested many hours studying the Eastern Hellbender and the problems the amphibian is facing within the state. With assistance from Lycoming College in Williamsport, the students drafted the legislation during the 2017-2018 Legislative Session, meeting with elected officials to outline why they felt it should be the state amphibian. To read more, click here. Pennsylvania & Delaware clubs have received emails concerning the following item so that immediate action could take place.

BOAT U. S. has shared a link which encourages boaters to speak their minds concerning ethanol and E15. Please share this link with your boating friends as well as others who may be using small engines that can be ruined by E15. https://advocacy.boatus.com/boatusv2/app/act-on-a-regulation?0&engagementId=498632

Delaware

No new bills affecting fishing or boaters have been introduced but the Delaware Department of Natural Resources has a new website!

HAVE YOU TAKEN YOUR BOATING SAFETY COURSE YET?

DNREC offers several different ways you can complete a boating safety course. Get certified or brush-up on your skills with one of their boating courses.
Status of Coal Ash in Virginia

A bipartisan effort, including Governor Northam and Dominion Energy, was instrumental in passing legislation to require the excavation of the state’s legacy coal ash now stored in Dominion Energy ponds. The four sites in the Chesapeake Bay watershed are as follows: Chesterfield Power Station, Chesapeake Energy Center, Possum Point Power Station, and Bremo Power Station.

The legislation would require Dominion to excavate its ash ponds and recycle at least a quarter of the 27 million cubic yards of existing coal ash. The rest would be moved into new, modern landfills. The deal allows Dominion to recover from customers the full cost of the project, estimated at $2.4 billion to $5.7 billion, including financing costs and a profit. Lawmakers estimate the project will add $5 to the monthly bills of average households for the next 15 to 20 years.

The new bill will require Dominion to do the following:

• Excavate all of the coal ash at the four facilities listed above, and either recycle the ash into products like cement and concrete, or place it in modern, lined landfills. At least a quarter of the coal ash must be recycled, and the construction of any new landfills will be subject to local zoning and permitting requirements;
• Develop a transportation plan with the affected localities where any coal ash needs to be moved offsite, and
• Prioritize the hiring of local workers throughout the closure process.

It will be a long process to dispose of 27 million cubic yards of coal ash, but there is an end in sight.
Congressman Mike Thompson Reintroduced the Authorizing Critical Conservation and Enabling Sportsmen & Sportswomen Act: The bill is otherwise known as the ACCESS Act, legislation, that would help protect important fisheries and enhance recreational access. NMMA joined other recreational fishing and conservation organizations on a letter to Congressman Mike Thompson (D-CA-5) expressing the community’s support for the bill.

The ACCESS Act takes steps toward restoring and protecting important fisheries across the nation, including the Great Lakes, which is home to more than 3.1 million boaters. Additionally, the bill would reauthorize the Chesapeake Bay Program, a partnership between federal and state agencies that protect and enhances the specific fishery.

**Congressional Hearing Alert: Securing America’s Transportation and Maritime Systems & the FY 2020 Budget Request:** Coast Guard Commandant Admiral Karl Schultz testified at a Congressional Hearing focused on the Coast Guard’s budget. The Hearing title “Securing America’s Transportation and Maritime Systems: A Review of the Fiscal Year 2020 Budget Requests for the U.S. Coast Guard and TSA”, before the House Committee on Homeland Security Transportation and Maritime Security Subcommittee. A summary of the Hearing will be available in two weeks.

Boating Industry Representatives Testify at EPA Hearing on Year-Round E15 Sales: Last Friday, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) held a public field hearing on its proposed rule to lift the restriction on summertime sales of gasoline with 15 percent ethanol (E15). NMMA and its coalition and industry partners have long opposed increasing the volume of ethanol in the fuel supply and are weighing all options to thwart EPA’s proposal.

**According to Nicole Vasilaros of NMMA:** EPA’s rule allowing year-round sales of E15 is an affront to consumers who use gas-powered products and expect the EPA to look out for their best interests. With year-round sales of E15, the risk of misfueling will lead to potentially disastrous consequences and jeopardizes the safety of the consumer. In the interest of consumer safety, the agency should consider abandoning the rule.

A recent Harris Poll commissioned by the Outdoor Power Equipment Institute shows that more than 3 in 5 Americans mistakenly assume any gas sold at a gas station is safe for their gas-powered products. Additionally, many gas stations have E15 labels smaller than a pack of gum. Boat owning Americans who have small, towable boats that they fill up at their local gas stations remain at increased risk of misfueling. The EPA is expected to make a final decision on year-round E15 sales in the coming weeks. NBF tried to call EPA and emailed them to try to find out if a final decision had been made, with no success.
NBF and NMMA Welcomes Senate Hearing on Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure: The U.S. Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources held a hearing last month on improving access, infrastructure, and permitting for outdoor recreation. Ahead of the hearing, NMMA senior vice president of government relations and legal affairs, Nicole Vasilaros stated, “Today’s Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources hearing reaffirms that outdoor recreation is a uniting issue that brings lawmakers from both sides of the aisle together. We would like to thank Senator Lisa Murkowski (R-AK) and Senator Joe Manchin (D-WV) for their leadership in fostering an important dialogue today on how we can improve our country’s outdoor recreation infrastructure.”

Vasilaros continued, “The outdoor recreation industry makes up 2.2 percent of annual U.S. GDP, a larger share than mining, utilities, and chemical product manufacturing, with boating and fishing representing the top contributor to the industry’s economic output. Each year, the recreational boating industry generates $170.3 billion in economic activity, supporting 35,000 businesses and 691,000 American jobs across the country. Responsibly modernizing of our diverse public lands and waters, by strengthening public-private partnerships, building more boat ramps, expanding broadband access in outdoor recreation areas, among other solutions, is crucial to ensuring the industry continues to serve as a critical growth and job creator for our country.”

Wear Your Life Jacket to Work Day

17 May 2019

Be a safety hero. Wear your life jacket to work and share why safety matters to you. Send your photos to PD@cbyca.org or DRC@cbyca.org!