



E—CURRENTS

June/July 2011

CALENDAR

- June 10-18 Big Rock Billfish Tournament, Morehead City, NC
- June 11 National Marina Day
- June 11 Reel N 4 Kids Fishing Tournament, Summerville, SC
- June 14 Flag Day
- June 13-19 Folly Beach Wahine Classic
- June 18 5th Annual Beaufort River Swim
- June 19 Father's Day
- June 21 Summer Solstice
- June 22-25 Carolina Billfish Classic
- June 28 Carolina Day
- June-August Harbourfest at Shelter Cove Harbour
- July 4 Independence Day
- July 7-9 MegaDock Billfish Tournament, Charleston
- July 14 Bastille Day
- July 14 SCMA Board Meeting
- July 15-24 56th Annual Beaufort (SC) Water Festival
- July 23 17th Annual Charleston Harbor Tarpon Release Tournament
- July 28-30 Edisto Billfish Tournament, Edisto Beach
- August 6-7 Rockville Regatta
- August 13-14 Ocean Expo & Surf Off, Surfside Beach
- August 26-27 Williamston Spring Water Festival, Williamston
- September 2-4 Beach, Boogie & BBQ Festival, Myrtle Beach
- September 3-5 Charleston Beach Music & Shag Festival
- September 4 End of Summer Celebration, Surfside Beach
- September 5 Labor Day
- September 5-10 Seafood Jazz & Brew Festival, Hilton Head Island

FROM THE PRESIDENT

For those that read my letter in the last newsletter, I figured I would step down from my personal soap box to give you a breather...just a breather, not necessarily a long break!

I want to make you aware of potential federal legislation that has been introduced in the US House of Representatives. H.R.1702 would remove the deductibility of interest on boats that are used as second homes. If this were to pass, it would have an adverse effect on many marine businesses and recreational boaters in our state.

The "Ending Taxpayer Subsidies for Yachts Act" needs to be defeated. A recent article from the *Boating Magazine* website states that the act "is both misnamed and wrong-headed and would accomplish nothing except putting American boat builders and other boating service providers out of work, precisely at a time when the industry has not recovered from the worst downturn since the Great Depression."

Undoubtedly, the legislation is meant to target the owners of megayachts but, for the rest of us, if our boats qualify as second homes, and land-sited homes and RVs, can qualify for the interest deduction, "why should a live-aboard boat be excluded simply because it floats on the water instead of being placed on land or driven down a highway?" the article questions.



As the article states, "Please go to <http://www.nmma.org/government/issues/federal.aspx> and find "Current Issues: NMMA Policy Briefs" for the sample letter you can use to email your Member of Congress and urge them to oppose H.R.1702.

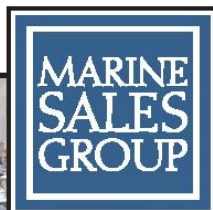
Please let us know how SCMA can better represent and serve you. We are always looking for members who want to get more involved. Even though SCMA might have started up with more members on the coast, we are the South Carolina Marine Association and are here to represent the interests of all recreational boaters and marine businesses in our state. I invite all SC inland boaters and marine businesses that are not members to please consider joining SCMA. A rising tide floats all boats!

Rion Salley

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New Members

Welcome to new professional members Marine Sales & Solutions, Hilton Head; Petroleum Recovery Services, Charleston; and Sea Hunt Boat Manufacturing, Lexington.

Thanks to the following members for their contributions to SCMA: Port Royal Landing Marina Fishing Tournament, Isle of Palms Marina, Ripley Light Yacht Club and Michael Ulmer. SCMA appreciates your generosity.

Member News

Tripp Fellabom announced a new website designed to promote sailing in the greater Charleston area. Check it out at

www.sailcharleston.org

**ABYC Electrical Certification Goes Self Study**

For over 15 years the American Boat & Yacht Council (ABYC) has continued to offer premiere marine technical education and workforce certifications to the boating industry at the lowest possible price. Keeping up with technology while keeping true to its worldwide customer base, ABYC has entered the world of distance learning by launching the first in a series of self-study educational programs using a DVD delivery platform.

For the first time, ABYC will now deliver its Electrical Certification program, by far the most popular and coveted non-proprietary certification in the industry, directly to the student by means of a DVD using slides, wiring diagrams, photos, videos and charts explained by voice-over instructor dialogue. Each chapter is introduced and explained by the ABYC Director of Curriculum and Instruction, Ed Sherman. The course material is presented using "shop floor" terms and explanations and can be reviewed multiple times before sitting for the certification exam.

Students can enroll in the class any-

where, have access to the DVD for 90 days, contact an instructor for answers to individual questions, and arrange local area testing while saving money whether working at sea, in port, in the office or the comfort of home. This delivery method is self-paced and more effective than physically attending a formal class.

Industry workforce certifications are the best way to distinguish one's skills and knowledge to a potential employer. They are also a credible measure of one's professionalism and potential earning power in the market.

The boat industry takes safety seriously and ABYC is at the heart of that commitment. The boating public deserves nothing less! Knowledge and use of ABYC standards help produce safe boats and have been shown to save lives. ABYC standards-based education and workforce certifications add to boating safety by creating a knowledgeable, skilled and effective technical workforce. If you are an industry technical professional, become ABYC certified. If you are a boater, seek out and use ABYC technicians.



Contact ABYC at www.abycinc.org or
410.990.4466

SCMA PLANS for Second Half of 2011

Join us **July 14th at 11 a.m.** upstairs at Rivers Edge Marina on the Ashley River in N. Charleston as members participate in a planning session for activities and goals for the rest of this year.

Pick a project on which to help or just add your ideas and advice to the discussions.

Topics to be considered are:

Ways to increase membership and to increase benefits to members

Improved communications

Plans for the 3rd Annual Nautical Flea Market in September along with an oyster roast/BBQ, possibly in conjunction with the Harry

Hampton Wildlife Fund.

Plans for the combined education conference and annual meeting in late November or early December.

A possible dinner cruise for members and friends

Please let Suzi or Rion know if you plan to attend.

Go Green & Clean Now

David Flagler, Clean Marine Solutions, has five bottom line reasons why you should bring your power wash wastewater operations up to current standards:

1. **Protect your Property Value:** most lending institutions are requiring environmental audits for boatyard and marina financing. Just like a home termite inspection, banks want to insure that a property has a clean bill of health and will not incur high environmental remediation costs.
2. **Free publicity:** ever notice how many media features focus on companies that adopt new "green and clean" practices that positively impact the environment? If a marina grabs a vanguard position in environmental compliance, its initiatives will likely be publicized in local, state and maybe the national press.
3. **Increased market share:** consumers are increasingly Green Conscious. Have you noticed how much of automobile marketing is now focused on the "greenness" of their new models? Market research reveals that the environmental friendliness of products and services plays a key role in purchase decisions.
4. **Avoid the Thin Ice:** would non-compliance put your marina on thin ice? Consider the possibility that a compliant marina would complain to environmental authorities.
5. **Positive Cash Flow:** If your facility goes clean and green, a positive return on your compliance investment can be realized. A boatyard owner recently estimated that it costs about \$3,500 to haul, paint, change zincs and launch a 45' sport-fishing boat. The average boat of this size will generate about 125 gallons of wastewater. If you have to haul that water away, it will cost about 2% of the job (based on 2010 rates in North Carolina).

Clean Marine Solutions has developed the VANISH 300 Marina Wastewater Treatment & Recycle System to answer power wash compliance needs. For more information:
www.cleanmarinesolutions.com

Growth of SC Clean Marina Program

South Carolina's Clean Marina/Boatyard program is growing, with more facilities expressing interest in how to qualify for certification.

SCMA is the lead organization in our state for the program, partnering with the SC Department of Natural Resources and the Department of Health & Environmental Control's Office of Coastal Resource Management. Supporting partners include the Clemson Cooperative Extension, Palmetto Pride, and the Ashley Cooper Stormwater Education Consortium.

To become a Clean Marina, click on



the Clean Marina flag at www.scmarine.org to download the pledge, checklist and guidelines. Once you are ready to commit to the process, let SCMA know. You must attend a workshop to thoroughly understand what the program wants. The cost of the workshop is \$50 which will be credited to your \$250 application fee if you submit your pledge and checklist within six months of the workshop.

After you submit the checklist, our

committee will schedule an onsite inspection of your facility. We may recommend improvements or require certain changes prior to granting the certification.

Once certification is achieved, you must be recertified every five years. Clean Marina status is a great achievement, showing that you have gone to great lengths to become an environmentally-friendly marine business with a stake as well in educating your customers on clean marina standards, including products and practices.

PATRON ADS AVAILABLE

On SCMA's Website

Only \$25/Month for SCMA Members!

Check with us on advertising in the newsletter also!

CPYB EXAM IN SEPTEMBER

SCMA, in conjunction with the Yacht Brokers Association of America (YBAA), will offer the Certified Professional Yacht Broker exam in Charleston in September. The date will be announced soon.

If you are interested, please contact either SCMA or Doug Ford at dford@intracoastalyachtsales.com. You **must be pre-approved** by YBAA to take the exam. For details on applying, call Colleen McDonough, the program coordinator, at 410.263.1014 or cmdonough@thompsonmanagement.com



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The only organization in South Carolina representing the boaters and boating businesses in our state!

MEMBER PROFILE:

Myrtle Beach Yacht Club—SC’s Newest Clean Marina

Myrtle Beach Yacht Club became South Carolina’s newest Clean Marina as SCMA’s Bob Pilcher presented Bud Coonfield, George Corvin, and Lynn Ball with their flag and certificate on National Marina Day, June 11th.

Myrtle Beach Yacht Club takes up 153 of the 550 slips in Coquina Harbor and are owned by 140 members. It’s a yacht club in name only as it is owned by the people who own the slips and run by a board of directors.

Coquina Harbor came into existence when the coquina was mined to create the basin. The original group that owned the property discovered, when they started to set pilings, that the basin had been dug too deeply, according to Bud. The company sold off portions of the property that became Lightkeepers Village, Coquina



Yacht Club,

Bud has been there as harbormaster since 1996 and, as Lynn said, “he is our history!”

The facility has a ship’s store, clubhouse and grill, swimming pool, and work out room. It is one of the few marinas in the area that maintains a pump out at the slips.

Receiving SC Clean Marina certification is not easy or inexpensive. The SC Clean Marina Committee (made up of representatives from SCMA, SC DHEC-OCRM, and SC DNR) required Myrtle Beach Yacht Club to make changes to its oil storage building and how the pool chemicals were stored. They were also given extra credit for their fuel nozzle containment system.



As Bob said, “They went the distance to meet the guidelines. Great effort and great outcome.”

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