

SEPTEMBER 2011

South Carolina Marine Association

E-CURRENTS

CALENDAR

Sept. 2-4 Beach, Boogie & BBQ Festival, Myrtle Beach

Sept. 3-5 Beach Music & Shag Festival, Charleston

Sept. 4 End of Summer Celebration, Surfside Beach

Sept. 5 Labor Day

Sept. 5-10 Seafood Jazz & Brew Festival, Hilton Head

Sept. 15 CPYB Exam, Georgetown

Sept. 24 SCMA Nautical Marketplace, Johns Island

Sept. 30 Beaufort Shrimp Festival

Oct. 1 Leukemia Cup Regatta, Charleston

Oct. 6 Spirit Ball (Spirit of SC), Charleston

Oct. 8 Little River Shrimp & Jazz Festival

Oct. 10 Columbus Day

Oct. 15 Georgetown Wooden Boat Show

Oct. 22 Historic Bluffton Arts & Seafood Festival

Nov. 9-10 AIWA Annual Meeting, Marina at Grande Dunes, Myrtle Beach

Nov. 30-Dec. 1 SCMA Annual Meeting & Conference, Wild Dunes Resort

From the President:

SCMA has several interesting and exciting events ahead this year. I encourage all members and friends to come to the SCMA **2011 Nautical Marketplace** on Saturday, September 24th at St. Johns Yacht Harbor. There are a variety of ways you can participate. You can help out by signing up as a vendor, visit as a shopper, or volunteer and purchase a ticket for the **BBQ & Frogmore Stew After Party** that evening.

Go to the event website, www.scmanauticalmarketplace.org to learn more. You can pay for exhibitor space to sell items and the After Party tickets online.

Please encourage your customers, friends and neighbors to attend and participate in this event. A portion of the proceeds from the silent auction will benefit the Harry Hampton Memorial Wildlife Fund.

The event helps support SCMA's efforts and brings awareness of the purpose and benefits of membership to recreational boaters, and marine



Rion Salley & Family

businesses and their employees in South Carolina. Please help us make this event fun and successful!

The **SCMA Annual Meeting & Education Conference** is set for November 30 - December 1st at the relaxing and scenic Wild Dunes Resort on the Isle of Palms. The conference theme is Focus on the Future. It will be interesting, informative and entertaining for all of those that attend. This is a great time to catch up and network with friends, recreational boaters and colleagues in the marine industry.

I have been to quite a few of these conferences over the years. They have all exceeded my expectations. Suzi and the Board continue to put a tremendous amount of effort into making this conference a great one. I encourage you to make this investment for your business, SCMA and our industry's future. Please contact Suzi if you have an interesting speaker in mind or business that would like to sponsor the

conference. We will have more information soon at www.scma.org.

SCMA is looking for a few good men and women to serve on the SCMA Board. I have had the privilege to serve as a board member over the last two plus years. The time I have invested in SCMA has been well worth it. Having served as Treasurer and now President, I have realized that this experience has helped me to be a better person and marine industry professional. The Board is in need of more leaders that are committed and interested in the future of recreational boating and our SC marine industry. The future of SCMA and its effectiveness is dependent on the interest, participation and support from you, our members. If you are interested in serving on the SCMA Board, please let me know. Your service will be a rewarding experience!

A rising tide floats all boats!

Rion Salley

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MEMBER NEWS

Welcome to new individual member Reg Brown, Charleston.

AMI's newly revised sample Operations & Maintenance Manual is now available. Milt Hazel, CMM, owner of Benchmark Marine, and a former SCMA President, contributed to the new version.

NMMA recognized Bénéteau USA and Skeeter Boats as recipients of the 2011 Consumer Satisfaction Index Awards for April 2010 through March 2011.

Wes Covington recently caught a 21 lb. 15 oz. hogfish for a new South Carolina record and possibly a new world record for the species.

Pierside Boatworks is retrofitting a 35' wooden 1940 Elco motoryacht with a 75 hp hybrid engine that will run off batteries and diesel fuel. It's believed to be the largest horsepower hybrid engine installed to date.

Scout Boats announced that Sea Ray Scout of Charleston is one of its Top Ten Dealers for 2011.

SCMA VP Bruce Hawkins has been appointed the national sales manager for Premier Marine, a pontoon boat builder.

**SEND YOUR NEWS TO
SHARE TO**

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.COM**



HEALTH INSURANCE COSTS

SCMA Member Keenan-Suggs sent the following information:

PriceWaterhouseCoopers (PwC) issued two reports on the cost of health insurance and its resulting impact on employer-sponsored coverage. The first study shows that on average, employers can expect an 8.5% increase in their medical costs for next year due in some part to the health care reform law. A separate survey of large employers showed that as a result of that law and its cost-impact, many employers are being forced to make disturbing choices about their health benefit plans.

The report identified the following drivers as the reasons for the price increase:

consolidation among hospitals and physicians; increased cost-shifting to private insurers by providers seeking to make up the difference between low Medicare and Medicaid reimbursements; and stress-induced illnesses following the recession.

The big question is how much of the medical cost increase will be passed on to employees as employers recognize the economic burden on their workers, given that wages have been stagnant over the past few years. According to PwC's employer survey, more than 84% of employers are likely to make changes such as premium, deductible and co-payment increases to offset the increased costs.

Other survey results indicate that 86% of employers surveyed are likely to re-evaluate their overall benefits strategy; more than half did not expect to maintain "grandfathered" health status — meaning employees will forfeit their current health coverage and pay higher premiums as a result of federal mandates introduced on their new coverage; 65% of employers expect to be affected by the "Cadillac" tax on employer health plans; 45% of the companies indicated they were likely to change subsidies for employee medical coverage, possibly sending their employees to government-run exchanges; and 50% are considering significantly changing or eliminating company subsidies for dependent medical coverage.

More Fisheries Changes on the Horizon?

At the most recent South Atlantic Fisheries Management Council meeting, an amendment to the Snapper-Grouper Amendment 18A is being considered that would affect both the commercial and recreational black sea bass fisheries.

The Amendment 18A decision document only became available September 9.

The amendment was originally proposed to limit commercial participation and effort. However, it is now being expanded to include a possible change in the fishery rebuilding strategy and some recreational fishery issues like bag limits in anticipation

of the black sea bass stock assessment in December.

Management actions proposed include: updating parameters based on the stock assessment and consider modifications to the rebuilding strategy; limit participation and effort in the black sea bass pot fishery; limit bycatch in the black sea bass pot fishery; modify the current system of accountability measures; modify the current rebuilding strategy to account for an increasing biomass; improve the accuracy, timing and quantity of fisheries data; and consider management measures such as: a spawning season closure, a trip limit, a modified bag limit and modi-

fied size limits.

A lot of the decisions on amendment alternatives cannot be made until the stock assessment results are available in December. Hopefully the assessment will justify a substantial increase in the annual catch limit. However, I think it's important for fishermen to be considering the alternatives now in anticipation of the upcoming November/December public hearings.

Tom Swatzel, SCMA member and member of the SAFMC

843.222.7456

The link to the document:

<http://www.safmc.net/LinkClick.aspx?fileticket=KMUNRRMKh%2b4%>



SCMA 2011

Nautical Marketplace

www.scmanauticalmarketplace.org



St. John's Yacht Harbor
9am-5pm
Saturday, September 24th

Hosted at and with the generosity of

Free Admission



Exhibitor Space Available
(Fee & Registration Required in advance)

New, Old, Used, Never Used
Nautical Items and Collectibles
South Carolina's Only Open Air Nautical Market

Followed by BBQ/Oyster Roast
from 5:30-8pm
(Advanced Tickets Required)

Live Music, Food & Spirits, Raffle & Silent Auction

For more information or to rent space please go to our website,

www.scmanauticalmarketplace.org
 or call 843.889.9067 or 843.997.4134

A portion of the proceeds will be donated to the *Harry Hampton Wildlife Fund*

AFTER PARTY TICKETS

\$35 person/ \$60 per couple

Includes Pulled Pork BBQ, Frogmore Stew (sorry—
 SC oysters won't be in season yet!), sides, open
 bar and silent auction.

Tickets must be purchased in advance **no later than**
Wednesday, September 20th!

SILENT AUCTION ITEM

CUSTOM OYSTER TABLE





South Carolina Marine Association

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

MEMBER PROFILE

BUIST MOORE SMYTHE McGEE MERGES WITH WOMBLE CARLYLE

SCMA Member and Charleston law firm Buist Moore Smythe McGee, represented by Julius "Sam" Hines, has merged into Womble Carlyle, creating the largest law firm in both North and South Carolina.

The Charleston law firm was established in 1970 with the merger of two of Charleston's oldest law firms, Buist, Buist, Smythe & Smythe, and Moore, Mouzon & McGee. Buist was founded in 1827 by Richard Yeadon and Charles McBeth (later Mayor of Charleston). McBeth then formed a partnership with Henry Buist and, shortly after the Civil War, the firm became Buist & Buist. Smythe & Smythe was the successor to a law practice founded in 1866 by Augustine T. Smythe.

Moore, Mouzon & McGee, founded in 1939, had its beginning with a firm established in the 1890s. B. Allston Moore formed a partnership with Harold A. Mouzon, a noted admiralty lawyer.

Womble Carlyle had its origins in Winston-Salem, NC, in 1876 as Watson & Glenn.

Buist Moore's offices began at #5 Exchange Street in a 19th Century building overlooking Charleston Harbor. It expanded into #12 Exchange Street in 1981 and added a 3-story wing to the original building in 1989 and a 10,500 square-foot addition in 2005.

The firm is known for its advocacy on behalf of corporations, part-

SCMA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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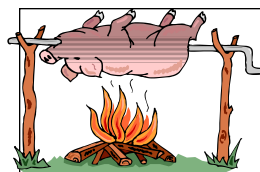
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nerships, limited partnerships, limited liability companies and other business associations in all aspects of commercial activity.

Eight of the firm's attorneys are included in *Chambers USA: America's Leading Business Lawyers Directory*; 21 have been selected for inclusion in *The Best Lawyers in America 2010*. The firm itself has been named among the "Best Places to Work in South Carolina" for three consecutive years.

Sam Hines will be addressing the SCMA Annual Meeting & Education Conference on maritime law and the aspects that affect our members. Mark your calendars for the event November 30—December 1 at the Wild Dunes Resort.



Tickets are still available for the Party after the Nautical Marketplace!

Pulled pork BBQ, Frogmore stew, open bar, silent auction and live music for only \$35/person or \$60/couple.

Saturday, Sept. 24th at St. Johns Yacht Harbor from 5:30 to 8:30 PM. Call 843.889.9067 or 442.1229 for reservations.