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## AUTUMN NEWSLETTER

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September 18, 2009

### **GREETINGS:**

What a wonderful summer it has been! The season was extra long, thanks to an early Memorial Day and a late Labor Day, and the weather was mostly mild. I hope that you were able to enjoy your boat, and don't forget that some of the best boating weather is still to come. The Marina Pool will remain open for a few more weeks and there are many special events in Solomons this fall, so we hope to see you at the Marina often.

### **FALL EVENTS IN SOLOMONS:**

The Calvert County *Waterman's Festival* will take place on September 27<sup>th</sup> at the Waterman's Wharf in Solomons. There will be a *Wine Fest at Sotterley Plantation* on October 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> from noon until 6:00pm and the *Patuxent River Appreciation Days (PRAD)* will be held the weekend of October 10<sup>th</sup> at the Marine Museum. Don't miss the *Calvert Hospice Festival of Trees* at Huntingtown High School the weekend after Thanksgiving and of course the *Solomons Christmas Walk* will take place throughout the town on December 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup>. You can find all the details at the Solomons Business Association Website.

### **SPRING COVE BOAT YARD:**

Don Reimers and the crew are beginning to plan for the winter season ahead. Now is the time for you to start thinking about major projects that need to be done on your boat while she is laid up for the winter. Please give Don a call soon to discuss the work and answer any questions you might have. A reminder that our wide variety of services are performed to ABYC Standards and include:

\*Mechanical Repair/Repower, \*Air Conditioning/Refrigeration installation/repair, \*Bow thruster installation, \*Fiberglass/Gelcoat Repair, \*Quality Awlgrip topside painting, \*Carpentry/Cabinetmaking, \*Electronic Installation, \*Electrical rewiring/troubleshooting and more – call Don to talk about your special needs.

### **WINTERIZING AND DRY STORAGE:**

As always at this time of year, we do need to start planning for our winter storage. Enclosed please find the *Work Request Form* for you to complete if you would like to dry store your boat and/or have it winterized by us. Please complete it as needed and return to us ASAP. Our yard is already quite full so **WINTER STORAGE SPACES ARE LIMITED!**

Every boat in the Marina will have to be winterized as we do not allow any heaters of any kind to be left unattended. Please note:

- When topping off your fuel tank, please leave room for expansion. Expanding fuel will pour out of the vents on the first warm day, causing pollution and a hazardous situation. We sell various fuel additives formulated for today's E10 fuel and stabilizers for extended storage in the Ship's Store.
- Our Shrinkwrap prices include a recycling fee. Shrinkwrap may not be disposed of in the dumpsters – it must be recycled.
- Don't forget to empty your refrigerator and galley cupboards – cans and bottles will freeze.
- If you are doing an oil change, please dispose of the used oil in our *Used Oil Containers* (not the used antifreeze drums) in the boatyard area.

- Do not tie your winter covers to the boat stands and use a number of small covers rather than a single, large one in order to keep the windage and flapping down.
- Sailors please remove roller-furling sails before you are hauled.
- Boats may not be left plugged in to any electrical outlet on shore.

**HURRICANE PREPAREDNESS:** Please read the following on how to prepare your boat in the event of a tropical storm in our area.

1. Remove all canvas – sails, biminis, covers etc. and store below.
2. Secure all loose items on deck – dinghies, boat hooks etc.
3. Double lines where possible. Use all available pilings, avoiding the use of cleats on the dock. When tying to a piling on the dock, wrap the line at least twice around the pole and then use two or three half hitches to secure the line. Do not use a clove hitch around the pole. Make the lines as long as possible (use neighbor's pilings on the dock) to allow for tidal surge, but not slack enough to allow the boat to move around in the slip too much. Allow for adjustment of your lines from the dock. If extreme conditions are expected, it will be acceptable to take lines across the dock. Make the spring lines almost as long as the boat – in other words bring the lines from the outside poles all the way towards the stern of your boat, and from the dock carry the spring lines well forward, and make them all fairly taught.
4. Disconnect your boat from shore power – turn everything off except your bilge pump. All power to the docks will be turned off if the rising tide warrants it.
5. If your water hose is wrapped around the pole in such a way as to interfere with adjusting the dock lines, please remove the hose and stow it.
6. The marina is not responsible for your boat. However, if you are out of town and cannot easily get to your boat, please call us and we will do everything we can to help you. We will be walking the docks and doing what we can in any event, but our resources are limited.
7. If conditions warrant, all boats will be evacuated – the lounge will be made available for anybody wanting to stay at the marina, but it is not recommended.

**HAUL-OUT REQUESTS FOR HURRICANES:**

When a hurricane is threatening, our phone starts ringing off the hook with folks wanting their boats to be hauled. We are limited in the number of boats we can haul in a given time and do give preference to our slip holders. To this end, we started a *Hurricane Haul-out List* a couple of years ago. If you would like to get on the list, please let us know (in writing) and we will add your name. The list is already quite long, but we can add your name to the list and it is possible that we would be able to get to you. Those boats on the list will have preference in the haul-out schedule. Hauls will begin at the issuance of a *Tropical Storm Watch* for our area. Being on the list will not guarantee that your boat will be hauled – unforeseen circumstances (equipment problems for example) might preclude us from hauling any boats, but all boats hauled will be done in the order in which the requests were received and we will work down the list for as long as is practical or possible.

**MARINA SECURITY:**

Due to an increase in crime in Solomons and the surrounding area, we have installed a new, multi-camera security system in the Marina and Boatyard. These cameras will serve as a deterrent to crime on our property as well as a source of information in the event that something should happen. Please remember to lock your boat when you leave the Marina.

**STORAGE OF FLAMABLE MATERIALS:**

Storage of gasoline and other flammable materials is not allowed in any Marina Lockers.

**SHIP'S STORE:**

Thanks for another great season in the Ship's Store! Please stop in to check out our weekly specials this fall, including discounts on sweatshirts and gifts. And don't forget to pick up your holiday greeting cards, ornaments and that special "Nautical Gift" for the boaters on your list!

**Solomons Volunteer Rescue Squad and Fire Department :**

Our local rescue squad and fire department is trying to raise much needed funds in order to maintain services in our area. One of their top priorities is to repair the fire and rescue boat as well as updating their equipment and supplies. If you are interested in making a tax-deductible donation to SVRS&FD, please stop by the store to pick up a donation form, or we will be happy to mail one to you.

**WATER AND PUMP-OUT ON THE DOCKS:**

We normally try to keep the water on the docks and the pump-out open until Thanksgiving, but please note that if we have an early cold snap, we will have to turn things off sooner.

The Marina Office, Store and Boatyard will be closed November 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> for Thanksgiving and also December 24<sup>th</sup> through January 1<sup>st</sup>.

We will be mailing out the 2010 Slip Contracts on December 1<sup>st</sup> with deposits due by January 4<sup>th</sup>. If you know already that you will not need your slip next year, please let me know.

Enjoy the rest of the boating season, and if you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact us.

Kind Regards,

Trevor, Liz and Crew