

Maryland Cruising Club
The Scuttlebutt

**MEETING AND CRUISING FREQUENTLY IN AN ATMOSPHERE OF
SOCIABILITY AND GOOD FELLOWSHIP**



February, 2010



COMMODORE REPORT

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Let's give our snow blowers & shovels a rest, especially our aching backs. Spring is just around the corner, I think. The snow drifts are melting & my scrubs & small pine trees look like a cyclone came thru Pasadena. I'm looking forward to the quad ball at Eastern Yacht Club on the 20th. I can only hope that we will have a good turnout from MCC's members & past commodores. See you there.
thanks, John

Maryland Cruising Club Website

Check it out at <http://www.marylandcruisingclub.com/>.

REAR COMMODORE REPORT

MaryEllen Peters – vze1xizt@verizon.net
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Hi folks,

The Commodore Balls are in high gear now. I've attend a few so far. The next one is this coming this Saturday at Martin East. Crescent Y.C. is holding it. Most of the yacht clubs are looking forward to Spring as soon as we can get rid of the snow. I've been talking about getting

together with some of the clubs for parties and cruises, also invited them to our crab feast and fund raising sock hop.

Hope to see you all at our next meeting at Key Y.C., until then take care and stay warm.

Rear Commodore
Mary Ellen Peters

FLEET CAPTAINS REPORT
Joanie Ridnour Skinner
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Super Bowl for safety

NFL Celebrity event to honor tragedy, promote safe boating

By Doug Grassian
ESPNOutdoors.com

Most people learn to respect water at an early age. And with so many activities based in water that provide us with enjoyment, it's easy to get lost in the impression that oceans, rivers, lakes, etc., are bastions of entertainment. But Nick Schuyler knows better.



AP photo/U.S. Coast Guard This U.S. Coast Guard photo shows former University of South Florida football player Nick Schuyler clinging to the engine of an overturned boat in the Gulf of Mexico, as Coast Guard rescuers approach.

Schuyler and three other buddies went out for a typical fishing trip on a typical day on Feb. 28, 2009. Only [Schuyler survived](#).

The day started peaceful enough, but at about 2 p.m. while the quartet was looking for amberjack, the day turned sour and 38 miles out from Clearwater, Fla., their boat turned over, spilling four football players into frigid conditions.

None were wearing life jackets and none were properly prepared for danger of this magnitude. Like the others, Schuyler persevered by hanging onto the overturned 21-

foot Everglades craft. Forty-six hours of clinging to a boat in unimaginable conditions allowed Schuyler to hang onto his life. The others weren't so lucky.

To put things in perspective, let's consider that these were athletes in prime condition who proved to be just as susceptible to unfavorable conditions as any other average Joe. So, NFL players Marquis Cooper and Corey Smith and Schuyler's fellow University of South Florida football alumnus William Bleakley tragically died in the water that day.

With the tragedy nearing its one-year anniversary, the organizers of this week's South Florida Super Celebrity Fishing Classic hope to spread the message of boating safety and responsibility with Schuyler serving as the guest of honor. A stout list of NFL luminaries will participate, including Hall of Famer Jim Kelly and current Miami Dolphins Ronnie Brown and Jason Taylor.

Rodney Barreto, chairman for the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, was the driving force behind the creation of the event.

"We just want to take a tragedy and be able to do something positive for the outdoors community," Barreto said. "These guys would be alive today if they prepared properly and they had a plan of action."

Barreto said some of the simplest things — be aware of your surroundings, have proper communication devices and have a solid game plan if trouble should strike — are the most important. Boating safety education hits close to home for Floridians, Barreto said, as the Sunshine State boasts the most registered boats in the United States.



AP photo/U.S. Coast Guard Former University of South Florida football player Nick Schuyler rides in a basket to a U.S. Coast Guard helicopter.

"With all the advancements in electronics, you would be crazy not to have the proper equipment," Barreto said.

At the event, Barreto said that the Coast Guard team who saved Schuyler will be honored and will also have an opportunity to re-unite with Schuyler. The proceeds from the event will be shared by the IGFA and divided up to the four family's charities of choice who were involved in the boating incident.

"I am grateful to the South Florida Super Bowl Host Committee and the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission for choosing to honor the memory of my friends," Schuyler said. "While nothing will bring Marquis, Corey or Will back, it is my hope that something positive can come from our tragic accident.

"To that end I implore anyone going out on the water to do so with the proper safety equipment, pay attention to weather forecasts, bring warmer clothing than you think you will need and follow all recommended boating safety procedures."

The one-day event is scheduled to kick off on Wednesday. Competitors will be fishing for dolphin, tuna, king and wahoo. Each team is allowed to bring in three fish per species (a 10-pound minimum will be required) and the winner will be awarded based on total aggregate weight.

For more information, visit southfloridasuperbowl.com/Celebrity_Fishing.

MEMBERSHIP

John Vogel - jvogel8474@aol.com

Maryland Cruising Club is always looking for new members. We are a social club as well as a cruising club.



CBYCA DELEGATE REPORT

Dion Guthrie

As we enter a new year and a new decade, 2010 also marks a new generation of possibility for the Chesapeake and all of its waters.

After 25 years of well-intentioned effort through the Chesapeake Bay Program (the collaboration of six states, the District of Columbia, the Bay Commission and the federal government), everyone including the CYBCA has come to recognize our shortcomings, and collectively we are making a resolution that 2010 is the year to commit to an effective, rigorous pollution diet.

It starts with the efforts outlined by a new administration, with the EPA and the other departments within the federal government working together to plan an effective national approach to restoring the rivers and streams that make up our national treasure, the Chesapeake. However, strategy and planning can only go so far. We need to back these words up with action.

An act of Congress is required to match resources sufficient to meet our newfound dedication to finally stop the dangerous pollution clogging our

waters, as well as improve the health and well-being of the millions of people who depend upon these rivers for their economy and their very livelihoods.

Fortunately, CBYCA is pleased to endorse new legislation that does exactly that. The Chesapeake Clean Water and Ecosystem Restoration Act, sponsored by Sen. Ben Cardin (S. 1816) and Rep. Elijah Cummings (H.R. 3852) will reauthorize the decades-old Chesapeake Bay Program with a stronger pollution-reduction program to get us back in shape, while providing the funding and market-based approach to meet our goal of healthy rivers and streams.

The Chesapeake Clean Water Act establishes for the first time a firm deadline for implementing Bay restoration activities. Importantly, the legislation significantly expands the amount of federal support available for restoration activities throughout the region to reduce our pollution waistline. Specifically, the bill includes targeted grants and technical assistance for both farmers and local governments-two areas that need the extra attention and support-which will go a long way toward meeting our overall goals.

The efforts on behalf of clean water in the Chesapeake region should be applauded and rewarded. Passage of this bill redoubles these efforts, starting a new, healthier water generation, by making common sense pollution reduction practices commonplace on the land and in our communities.

As co-chairs of the Choose Clean Water campaign, a coalition of more than 100 Chesapeake regional organizations, CBYCA calls on all advocates of clean water to rally behind this legislation. Passage of the Chesapeake Clean Water Act is critically important in the new year.



SICK AND WELFARE

F/S Sharon Rebbel – rebsraft@comcast.net

Janet Yodris's mother fell and is in the hospital recuperating from back pains associated from the fall. Please keep her in your prayers.

LET'S KEEP ALL OF OUR MEMBERS IN OUR PRAYERS.



CHAPLAIN'S REPORT

P/C Donald Antos – donantos@comcast.net

Heavenly Father, creator of us all, we thank you for the many blessings and mercies, which are new every morning. We are grateful for the opportunity to share our good fortune with others. We pray for your help and guidance as we deal with our daily responsibilities, make the decisions that are required, fight off the temptations that may challenge us, and come to peace with the disappointments that surface. Lord, guide us and strengthen us.

We pray that you watch over our men and women who are serving in hostile lands. Keep them safe and speed their return to their families. Bring your healing comfort to the families who have lost a loved one or have a loved one declared missing in action.

DATES TO REMEMBER

Next General Membership Meeting April 16, 2009

Our March meeting would have been March 19. Our ball is March 20 so we have canceled our March GM meeting and hope to see everyone at the ball.

Maryland Cruising Club Commodore's Ball See invitation attached

Together with Key Yacht Club, Marley and Charlestown Yacht Club
To be held at Eastern Yacht Club
March 20, 2010

Board Meetings

Thursday April 15, 2009



BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

Congratulations to everyone who is celebrating a special day this month!

BIRTHDAYS

FEBRUARY

16 Nick Weatherby

ANNIVERSARIES

FEBRUARY

3 Larry and Sheila Summers

**REMEMBER THE MARYLAND CRUISING CLUB MOTTO:
MEETING AND CRUISING FREQUENTLY IN AN
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