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# Worton Creek Windbag

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## MARINA HARDWARE STORE AND BUSINESS OFFICE

### MARCH HOURS

8:00am-4:30pm Mon - Fri

### APRIL HOURS

8:00am-4:30pm Mon-Fri

9:00am-3:00pm Saturday

10:00am-3:00pm Sunday

*Closed April 16 for Easter Sunday*

*Weekend Hours in April Dependent on Weather*

*Call ahead to confirm we are open*

## *Maryland Clean Marina Update*

On February 7 four Worton Creek Marina employees attended a Clean Marina Workshop hosted by the Maryland Dept. of Natural Resources. Included in workshop was a discussion of the new General Discharge Permit for Marinas which will be finalized in the near future. This permit concerns all pollutants discharged into Maryland waters, whether from storm water runoff or from power washing boat bottoms. From our customers' point of view, use of ground tarps and proper bottom paint selection are important in your spring work. The workshop also included a presentation from the Maryland Occupational Safety and Health Agency (MOSHA), which was primarily focused on employee and customer safety concerns. Most of the other workshop participants were from Kent Co. and Cecil Co. marinas.

Worton Creek Marina has been a certified Maryland Clean Marina since 2003 and is a strong supporter of the program. We encourage all of our slipholders and customers to be mindful and heed the common sense guidelines to prevent harmful chemicals from reaching the bay. We have "Clean Boating Tips" fact cards and Maryland Clean Boater Program pamphlets available in the marina store, so please pick up both of them on your next visit.

## Spring Planning in the Parts Department

With spring fast approaching and a record number of boats in our storage yard, we want to make sure that the launching season goes off without a hitch. With that in mind please keep the following tips in mind. If you are doing any work on your boat, remember that even though we have a well stocked parts store, we may not have the specific engine or paint product that you need. The good news is that we can order just about anything! Please call ahead and we can have your parts ready for you.

Also, while doing work please be cautious and courteous. With more boats on the hill there are more cords, hoses, ladders, pets, etc. to create hazards. This also means that you have more neighbors in closer proximity so please, leave the cursing and wrench throwing in the bilge where it belongs! As always, if you have any questions on parts availability, best practices, or clean marina guidelines give James a call in the store.

## FROM THE ENGINE ROOM

Hello from Worton Creek where it's March already! February was another mild month and we had days in the 60's and even hit 70°. The warm days gave us a head start on our outside work which is good since activity in the boat yard will start to really pick up as we roll into the 2017 boating season.

The big news for the month is that we have gotten the engines, generators and seakeeper stabilizers out of the Spencer. This was another milestone in the repair of the boat and was quite an operation. The engines weigh 10,000 lbs. each, so we had to rent a 40 ton mobile crane to lift them.

We removed the fly bridge hardtop, cut a 10' x 4' "hatch" in the fly bridge deck, removed a hatch in the salon deck and lifted everything straight out of the boat. (Patrick has been posting pictures on the Worton Creek Marina Facebook page.) We are also hot and heavy into the bottom repairs. We are in the stage where we're cutting out damaged fiberglass and exposing the laminated wooden stringers. Then we will cut everything back to undamaged areas and begin to add back the wood, foam and fiberglass that was removed. The wonderful thing about epoxy resins and glue is that we can make repairs in damaged areas that will be every bit as strong as the original bottom.

In other February news we bought two more distressed boats. They are both located on the west coast of Florida. The good news is that they both float! One of the boats is a 52' Sea Ray. The boat next to it in a marina caught fire and caused a lot of heat damage on the port side of the Sea Ray. Other than that the boat (2006) is in beautiful condition and everything works! We will bring the boat north in mid-April, repair the port side and sell her! The other boat we bought is an 80' Forbes Cooper Motor Yacht. This one had an engine room fire that destroyed a lot of wiring and electrical equipment in the engine room and pilot house. Our plan is to make wire harnesses, instrument panels, replace damaged pumps, install temporary starting batteries, etc. etc. and move the boat to Worton Creek in April. This will be a longer term project than the Sea Ray and we will work on her as time permits.

We are busy adding staff to ensure that the "distressed boat" projects do not affect our normal boat yard work.

I achieved zero progress on the Burger this month. I have decided that at this rate it will take another ten years to finish the boat and as part of our new hiring I am going to make sure we have enough staff so I can keep one person assigned to the Burger on a full time basis.

We are still working on our new well water treatment system and will have it operational in March. Please continue not to drink the water until we finish the project.

We installed new air conditioning in the Harbor House and are almost finished with the downstairs rest rooms. This will complete the

repairs to the inside of the building. This work was long overdue and I'm glad we're almost finished.

On a personal note the whole family will be together toward the end of March. Libby and I can't wait.

I think that's about it for this month. The 2017 Boating Season is here and it's time to start getting ready to go boating!

Happy Boating!

John

## ***SPRING WORK REMINDERS***

1. Included in your envelope this month is a Spring Commissioning Order. Once you have decided what work and services we can do for you and your schedule please complete the form and send it in.
2. Remember to bring your ladders, extension cords and water hoses.
3. **DO NOT MOVE YOUR OWN JACKSTANDS!** Call Tom and we'll move them for you for a nominal fee.
4. Please leave shrink wrap near your boat and we will pick it up for recycling. DO NOT put shrink wrap in the dumpsters!
5. Please keep the area around your boat neat and clean at all times.
6. If you scrape and/or paint the bottom of your boat you must use ground tarps to ensure bottom paint does not fall on the ground.
7. Please remember, you MUST inform us if you apply any paint, bottom paint or varnish to your boat. We are required to track all VOCs used in the yard, whether applied by us or the customer, and whether purchased from the marina or elsewhere.

***Congratulations to Worton Creek Employees celebrating March Service Anniversaries: Wilbert Thorpe (45Yrs!) and James Bedell (6 Yrs)***

**Decrease Clutter – Receive your Windbag via email. Send your request to [libby@wortoncreek.com](mailto:libby@wortoncreek.com).**