
Worton Creek Windbag

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A Note from the Business Office

2018 summer slip customers will find an invoice for the remaining balance due on their slips in your envelope. This invoice is in addition to the deposit that was billed last September. Please note that all of our slip rates are the same as last year. Your slip assignment is shown on the invoice. If you have any questions about your slip number or would like to move to a different slip please call Libby to see what your options are. Also call if you are planning on a summer slip and didn't get an invoice.

We will send out spring commissioning forms with your March mailing. If you want to get started early please call and we'll send you the form now. Forms are also available on our website. Go to www.wortoncreek.com and click on the Forms tab.

Maryland Clean Marina Update

As spring approaches you are probably getting ready to prep your boat for the season. We are a Maryland Clean Marina and are also subject to a number of environmental regulations related to keeping chemicals and other harmful materials out of the bay. **Anyone scraping, sanding, or painting the hull of a boat is required to have a ground tarp in place to catch all paint chips and debris.** Call Tom on extension 14 and we can install, remove, and dispose of the ground tarp for you. If you prefer to use your own tarps, DO NOT move your own jack stands. Call the office and we will move them for a minimal charge.

Also as a reminder to our DIY customers, please let the marina office know when you will be painting your boat, what paint you are using and the total quantity used (including thinners and solvents). We are required to accurately report VOC usage for our facility, including all customer applied products.

MARINA HARDWARE STORE AND BUSINESS OFFICE WINTER HOURS

February & March

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

Parts Store weekend hours beginning in April

BOTTOM PAINT

Soon many of you will be thinking about your favorite job – painting the bottom of your boat! Before you purchase paint, please check out our store. We offer steep discounts that often bring our price in lower than the big chain stores on name brand paint. We are currently working with our suppliers to establish this year's pricing, so please call us first. We can buy exactly the product you specify and have your paint ready for you to pick up. Call Kevin in parts for recommendations and pricing information for your vessel.

FROM THE ENGINE ROOM

Hello from Worton Creek where January low temperatures averaged 30°F. Although we did get some higher temperatures during the month we were iced in for most of it. I was concerned that we might have ice straight through to March, but toward the end of the month it thawed a bit and the ice melted. Since then we have had some days with ice on the creek but it has been thin and melted quickly.

Hopefully we'll have a more "normal" winter from here on out and avoid further icy conditions.

We have a lot going on around here as we work on all of the winter projects we have in progress. The way our business has developed the winter is now one of our busiest times of the year. This is a good thing as it helps boat yard activity to stay pretty even throughout the year. Of course there will always be the spring rush (I'm not complaining!)

The Spencer is almost ready to pass a major milestone in February. We are scheduled to install the new engines and generators on the 20th of February. We are working hard to get as much of the engine room finished as we can before the 20th because once the engines are in our access to different areas in the engine room will be restricted. After the engines and generators are installed we can turn our attention toward getting the flybridge and hardtop reinstalled. We will also be able to start working on the new running gear, (struts, shafts, rudders, etc.)

While all this work is going on in the engine room we have also been working on the interior of the boat rebuilding cabinetry and getting the wiring repaired. Our target date is to have the boat listed for sale in May.

With so much going on in the yard I didn't get a lot done on the Burger this month. I'm working on the aft bulkhead in the salon which has a big window and two sets of double doors going to the aft deck. The plan involves a lot of fine cabinetry work as the bulkhead is curved. I want to have the vertical blinds for the doors "hidden" and there are four fluted columns separating everything. There is quite a lot of patterning and fitting of various pieces of wood and then I'll have to varnish everything. I'm probably at the 50% completion point on the aft bulkhead. It's going slowly but we're moving forward.

We've been trying to line up a project boat to work on when the Spencer is finished. After looking at a number of possibilities we've purchased an 83' Burger motor yacht. During one of the Florida hurricanes she was tied up next to a concrete dock and when the inflatable bumpers failed she sustained damage to her hull

on the starboard side forward. The good news is that the boat didn't sink or burn so we have aluminum and cabinetry to do but not a whole lot more. The boat is scheduled to come north in mid-March.

On a personal note I'm happy to report that everything is going well with our family. Libby is planning to visit Beth, John and the children in March and the entire clan will be together this summer.

I think that's about it for this month. We have about six more weeks to go, the weather will break and it will be time to get everything ready for the 2018 boating season. I can't wait!

Happy Boating.

John

Don't Forget About Your Boat!

During the winter, it's easy to forget about your boat. It's a good idea to take a trip down once or twice and make sure things are ship shape. We routinely check all boats and jack stands from the outside, but we don't board boats after lay-up unless we suspect a problem. Items to check for, especially after a snow or heavy rain, include:

1. Make sure your scuppers and deck drains are clear of debris and ice and that your boat is draining properly.
2. Check the bilge for excess water where you don't expect it.
3. Check the integrity of your winter cover. (We have had some high winds this winter).
4. Check your batteries. Plug in your battery charger to charge them up.
5. **Don't** leave a heater on when you leave.

After visiting your boat, call Tom Warner if you have any issues that you would like for us to take care of. Better to catch a problem now than in the spring!

**Reduce Clutter- Receive your Windbag via e-mail.
Send your request to joann@wortoncreek.com**