



THE COVE

NEWS AND EVENTS FROM CASWELL COVE MARINA.

What's New at the Cove This Season!

On a cold, blustery, snowy/rainy day in March, our marina manager Dave Phillips and his crew unloaded the new sections of concrete floating docks that will be utilized for the new and improved pumpout station and visitor dock. The new dock replaces the old wooden docks that wrapped around the clubhouse.

The new docks were delivered in 4 partially assembled sections from Bellingham Marine in York, PA. The individual pre-manufactured sections weighed about 25,000 lbs ea. and were offloaded into the water using a 70 ton capacity crane. The sections were 1st staged in the water behind A-dock.

The sections were then towed to the new location using the work skiff and were assembled in the water over a period of one very exhausting week. The assembly required floating the sections into place, installing steel thru-rods to hold the sections together, installing pile hoops to hold them to the existing pilings, installing wooden walers along the outside, installing cleats and fastening the new sections to D-dock. The new dock will have vinyl fendering the entire length to make docking easier on your boat. The pumpout system is being entirely rebuilt and everything should be up and ready before the season gets underway!

The old wooden docks are going to be reused in various locations as dinghy docks, a place where members can slide their dinghies up and out of the water onto the wooden dock. We all know how quickly the bottoms of dinghies get scummed up after being left in the water for only a few weeks, so we feel the new dinghy docks will be a nice addition for our members.

The new dinghy docks will have limited room, so assignment of spaces on the dinghy docks will be on a 1st come/1st serve basis. Rules regarding use and assignment of dinghy dock spaces will be established once the docks are finished. The dinghy docks will be in various locations, some on A dock, C-dock and D-dock, and some at the far end of the new pumpout dock.

BOARD MEETINGS

ARE HELD IN THE MARINA CLUBHOUSE **SECOND TUESDAY** OF EACH MONTH



NEXT MEETING: April 12th at 7:00PM

Owners are encouraged to attend!

Marina Manager

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Board Members

Dave Brickley – Commodore
Tony Faresich – R. Commodore
Paul Viscount – Treasurer
Tat Murphy – Secretary

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A Word About Our Rules and Regulations

Rules and regulations are a part of everyday life. Our rules exist to protect the safety of our members, to protect our marina from damage, to help maintain our facilities as beautifully as possible, and to assure all our members have an enjoyable time each season. Our Executive Board has invested considerable effort over the years to assure the rules are fair and protective of everyone's rights. As such, we request all our members to please adhere to our rules – they have helped to keep Caswell Cove as one of the nicest marinas in the area.

We have posted new signs around the marina and clubhouse summarizing our rules. Also, each month we will be providing a segment regarding our rules explaining the purpose and background behind the rule, so all our members can appreciate their importance



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West Marine Opens in Stratford

West Marine has relocated their Milford and Fairfield stores into one 1300 square foot "superstore" located at "The Dock" Shopping Center in Stratford, right across the Devon Bridge off Route 1. They are having a grand opening on April 8 – 10 and have many prizes and discounts! The new store is huge and has much better inventory than the old stores.

In conjunction with West Marine's relocation to Stratford, Boardwalk Marina at "The Dock" shopping center (located just down river under the I-95 bridge on the west side of the river) is putting out the welcome mat for boaters on the Housatonic River to shop at "The Dock" shopping center by boat! The Marina plans to offer transient slips on 'B' Dock for boaters' shopping convenience. According to Scott Mitchell at Boardwalk Marina, there will be 6 transient slips in front of the travelift and a shuttle available upon request.

For those who show a receipt from West Marine, there will be no charge for a 30-minute stay. For the more adventuresome who want to do some additional shopping, i.e. groceries, liquor or get a bite to eat, the charge depends on the size of your boat at \$10, \$15 or \$20 an hour. To make reservations, contact Scott Mitchell at 203-378-9300 or stop by the office.

A MESSAGE FROM THE COMMODORE

The boating industry is under attack in CT! In order to get the state budget under control, there have been several proposed acts that will drastically increase the buying and operating costs of our boats and the marina industry in general. To summarize, the proposed changes are:

1. Add sales tax to winter storage (wet or dry).
2. Add sales tax to the labor portion of maintenance repairs.
3. Add sales tax on brokerage fees.
4. Trade in values will not be deducted from new boat purchases; you will have to pay the sales tax on the total new cost of the boat.
5. Add a luxury tax of an additional 3% (above the proposed 6.35% sales tax) for boats costing more than \$100,000.
6. Extend the personal property tax to boats (similar the way vehicles are taxed by your local town).

These added taxes will not only drastically increase an individual's cost to own and operate a boat but will be detrimental to the boating industry in general. Boat sales will drop, people will stop maintaining their boats as often (major safety concern), storage facilities will lose business, brokerage fees will go up and the average boater will spend a lot more money to enjoy their favorite pastime.

Will the state make any additional money for our budget deficit, who knows? In the end, a lot of boaters will give up the hobby and businesses will lay-off workers.....and I would venture to say the net add in revenue will not be there. The luxury tax placed on boaters in the early 1990's was a complete disaster and resulted in a lot of boat manufacturers going out of business and the boating industry in CT suffered dearly. The tax was repealed shortly thereafter. It did not work then nor will it be effective today.

Boaters and the boating industry should not be singled out to help the deficit or our "shared responsibility" as the Governor likes to say. We need to write letters to Governor Malloy and our State Representatives and Senators telling them what we feel to prevent these proposed taxes in becoming law. Once in place, they are here to stay!

Commodore Dave Bricklev

Event Calender

April 1 – Marina open – clubhouse is now open!

April 2 - (weather permitting) Boat Cover removal party – let's have our first spring party, please coordinate with Marina Manager regarding shrink wrap recycling.

April 15 - (approx..) water is turned on to the docks. Marina officially opens for 2011

May 7 – Annual Housatonic River Clean-Up (see attached flyer for information)

TBD – State of CT Boater Certification – 2 day course @ marina clubhouse – let us know if you want to attend the course and obtain your boaters certification

TBD – Commissioning Day Party

Is there something you would like to be featured in an issue of The Cove or on our website
www.caswellcovemarina.org ?



If so, please contact us with your idea or finished product!

e-mail us @

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