

Scuttlebutt is the newsletter of the New York Marine Trades Association and is distributed via email to members, industry leaders and marine- related governmental agencies.

NYMTA Objectives: To promote the general welfare of the marine industry and to advance the safe and proper use of boats, marine accessories, and facilities through any and all means consistent with the public interest and welfare without deriving benefit for itself or any member. To provide a forum, exchange experiences and viewpoints through discussion, study and publication of all aspects and functions of the marine trade industry. To seek new legislation and modify existing legislation, which serves the best interest of the boating public and the marine industry. To engage in any and all activities designed to broaden the public awareness of the importance, and the function, of the marine trades industry and its operation. To undertake such other functions consistent with these bylaws and with the existing body of law, this will advance the efficiency, success and well-being of the marine trades industry. To cooperate with other industries and organizations for the mutual benefit of all concerned.

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What is the NYMTA working on?

2015 ESMTA Legislative Update

Legislative & Environmental Update

The 2015 NYS Legislative session has ended and the marine industry scored another victory with the sales tax cap on boats!! Several bills were introduced that had a possible impact on our industry but none made any significant progress. In order for this success to continue we need everyone's input and support in the NYMTA!

Sales Tax Cap

After losing boat sales of large vessels to Florida and other states we were able to work with the legislature and Governor's office to compete with these states. Taxes are now capped at the value of \$230,000 of the vessel. This law went into effect on June 1, 2015 and while it did receive some undeserved negative press, it is a win for all of our industry. It helps dealers, boat yards, marinas, suppliers, etc. keep business in NY. Its intention is not give owners a tax break, but to provide economic benefit to NYS businesses. If you have any questions, please contact Chris Squeri.

Invasive Species

We continue to have discussions with the DEC on this issue. In May, we met with DEC Commissioner Martens and his administration. The talks were positive and the DEC has yet to implement the public comment period with the September 2 date approaching. Feedback has indicated it will not be ready and enforcement will not be implemented.

We also met with several members of the legislature and have discussed possible exemptions for the marine district on LI and NYC. As we receive more information we will pass it along. Please contact Chris with any questions.

Boating Safety

As always whenever there is a boating accident safety issues are brought up and the media paints boating in a negative light. Boating is very safe and we don't need to add fuel to the fire. When asked by the media about boating safety please contact Chris Squeri for info and statistics to answer questions truthfully and correctly. Chris reviews the State boating statistics every year and can break down the statistics and cases.

Reminder

Please keep your pesticide records, licenses and SPDES reporting up to date. As always, if you have any questions or concerns, please contact Chris Squeri @ csqueri@aol.com.

Boat Shows

Port Jefferson Boat Show and Maritime Festival a Success!

The NYMTA and its dealers once again participated at this year's Port Jefferson Boat Show and Maritime Festival. This year's show grew to its largest yet featuring 10 dealers and over 75 boats on display. The weather helped bring out large crowds with an estimated 7,500 people in attendance. All of the dealers who participated were pleased with the results with most dealers reporting strong leads and/or sales.

The Port Jefferson Boat Show allows attendees one last chance to shop for boats and accessories in time for the boating season. After visiting the boat show attendees can walk through town and enjoy everything the Port Jefferson Maritime Festival and boating has to offer. For information on how to exhibit at next year's show contact Vincent Mazzone at 631.691.7050 or email vincemazzone@aol.com.

Tobay Boat Show

Contracts for this year's Tobay Beach In-Water Boat Show, October 2nd through October 4, 2015 are now available online at www.nyboatshows.com.

Last year's show was a huge success with over 6,500 boaters attending throughout the three days. Aggressive show pricing, thousands of qualified buyers, and a top 10 boating market all make the Tobay Beach In-Water Boat Show a sales opportunity you simply can't afford to miss! For more information please visit www.nyboatshows.com, call Vincent Mazzone at 631.691.7050 or email vincemazzone@aol.com.

Membership

2015 Membership Applications are still being accepted. After February 15, 2015 member dues increased to \$495. Please refer us to any marine business that could benefit from all of the services the NYMTA provides, including business networking, boat shows/sales opportunities, DEC compliance, bottom paint certification, SPDES permits and much more. We are as strong as our numbers. You can receive membership applications on our website at www.nymta.com or by calling the NYMTA office at 631.691.7050. Remember, **your dues** are used to help **your business**.

What are my NYMTA dues used for?

In addition to helping fund the day-to-day operations of the NYMTA, approximately one-third of your dues are used by the NYMTA on a legislative level and, in particular, for the NYMTA's membership in the Empire State Marine Trades Association (ESMTA).

The ESMTA provides the NYMTA and its membership a legislative presence in Albany. The ESMTA works throughout the year to educate public officials about the important role of recreational boating in New York's economy and its tourism industry. The ESMTA's government relations efforts include active lobbying by [The Capitol Group](#) to monitor potential legislation affecting the industry and advocate, under the direction of the Board, for favourable legislation and regulations. In addition to ongoing advocacy activities throughout the year, the Association holds an Annual Advocacy Day in early spring. The event provides an opportunity for ESMTA members to discuss the organization's legislative priorities for the year and meet with state lawmakers at the annual legislative dinner