
Worton Creek Windbag

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March 1, 2018
Website: www.wortoncreek.com

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 1 for Easter Sunday

Weekend Hours in April Dependent on Weather

Call ahead to confirm we are open

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 Kevin a call in the store.

Maryland Clean Marina Update

On February 15 three Worton Creek Marina employees attended a Clean Marina Workshop hosted by the Maryland Dept. of Natural Resources. Included in the workshop was a discussion of the General Discharge Permit for Marinas. This recently reissued 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 on Storm Preparation and Resiliency. We have storm plans in place here at Worton Creek Marina and will notify you in advance when we know storms are coming our way. We have recently implemented an email contact list to aid in contacting boat owners.

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.

FROM THE ENGINE ROOM

Hello from Worton Creek where we are into March already! February was a very uneven month weather wise with super cold followed by a wonderful warm sunny spell towards the end of the month. Then as we moved into the first days of March we had crazy winds that would not stop. The water levels were extremely low, but I am happy to report that we did not sustain any damage to any boats or to the marina facility.

During the month we were extremely busy on a number of winter boat projects, including a

complete galley remodel, a new generator install, major refits on three Bertram 31's and extensive exterior repair and hull paint job on a 52 Sea Ray.

Now that the bottom repairs to the Spencer are nearly done and the hull is structurally sound we have moved into a new phase of the project. The big news for the month is that we installed the new engines and generators into the boat. This major milestone occurred almost exactly a year after we removed the old engines and gensets. The process was very similar to last year, just in reverse. We first had to move all the dry stored boats in front of the big shed to gain access. Because the MTU engines are so massive (10,000 lbs each) we got the same 40 ton mobile crane from across the bridge to lift them into the boat. The engine room had been completely repainted and rewired and the salon floor was removed again for access. All went smoothly and we were able to install both new MTU engines and the two new Onan gensets in about 4 hours. It was quite a team effort that involved a number of people and quite a few onlookers also. The next major milestone will be the application of fiberglass to the outside of the hull. This will involve using vacuum bagging technology and we have hired consultants to assist us in that process. Once that is complete the next step will be repairs to the strut and rudder area and installation of the new seakeepers. Then we can move on to final reassembly of the boat.

In other February news we bought another distressed boat. This one is an 83' Burger yacht that sustained hull damage to her starboard side when her fenders failed during one of the Florida hurricanes last fall. It turns out that a concrete bulkhead is a lot stronger than an aluminum boat hull! She also sustained some interior damage to the same side but otherwise the boat is in great shape. We have already made the necessary repairs to get her ready for the trip north and John and crew are in the process of bringing her up from the east coast of Florida now. Once the boat gets back to Worton Creek we will hold off working on her until the Spencer is done.

We continue to add staff to ensure that the "distressed boat" projects do not affect our normal boat yard work.

With all this activity going on John had no time to work on the Burger last month. I'm

hoping that he will be able to devote some time on it this spring so we can get out on the bay this summer!

Moving over to our family news I will be visiting Beth and her family at the end of the month – it's time to see those grandkids again!

I think that's about it for this month. The 2018 Boating Season is nearly here and it's time to start getting ready to go boating!

Happy Boating!

Libby (Guest Columnist)

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, 46 Yrs! and Ray Circo, 1 Yr.

Decrease Clutter – Receive your Windbag via email. Send your request to joann@wortoncreek.com.