

March 2007

Dear CMCFA friend,

I wanted to close our 2007 convention with a wrap up letter to our friends. What can I say except **thank you, thank you, thank you** to a wonderful, hardworking, and dedicated board, great and generous suppliers, and participating fabricators, for wonderful cooperation and teamwork to pull off a successful 21st annual convention. It was great to see old friends and to get to know new members. If you were hindered in coming this year, believe me when I say you were missed.

First let me thank Shoreline Awning and Trim and Canvas Connection for opening their doors for shop tours. They went to a lot of work and then supplied refreshments too.

Thanks to our speakers and demonstrators: Keystone Sewing Machine, Sergey's Sewing Machine, American/Efird, Coats America, Gore Thread, Pennsylvania Thread, Tom Graham, Ty Hancock, Rita Snyder.

Thanks to the five men that participated in our tricks of the trade program. Congratulations to Don Higuchi of Patches Canvas in New York for winning the voting for his bow measuring device. He will receive the Sunbrella Supreme donated by Glen Raven.

Thanks again to Glen Raven for donating the tote bag Sunbrella along with webbing from Performance Textiles for Marty's Bag Works to make the yearly Bags.

The Millers from Pleasant Valley Tarp in Oakland, Maryland won the early bird drawing for the 2008 partial convention credit. Irina Yunchenko of Coverall Upholstery in New Jersey was the closest guesser for the valentine hearts in a bottle. Walt Skola of S & S Custom Covers in New Jersey won the Gortex gloves at market day.

Richard Morelle of Mehler Tex. Definitely is in the running for my favorite convention moment for his victory dance after winning half the \$1262.00 pot in the 50-50 contest.

Everyone was a good sport in participating in the "Picnic Night" activities. Hats off to the "Walton Family" for winning a tough and fierce competition. If you close your eyes, can't you just hear Bob Rizer from Marchem say one more time, "the decision of the judges is final". Great job Bob, and thanks to Michele Machande and David Bryant too.

Another great year of photo competition. The entries seem to graduate a step higher each year. Hats off to Len Stielper for scanning and projecting the entries again. Thanks for all who participated. Take more photos for next year. And the winners were:

Hard window enclosures.....Lighthouse Canvas, Fred Bergner
Powerboats 27+ enclosures Starbird Canvas, Jeff Harris
And tied.....Hurricane Canvas, Rob Murray

Powerboats -26 enclosuresCanvas Experts, Mike Varga
Powerboats full canvasHurricane Canvas, Rob Murray
Sailboat exterior canvas.....Weatherstopper Marine Canvas, Brett Szalkowski
Canvas non-marineLighthouse Canvas , Fred Bergner
Power/sail exterior upholstery.....Coverall Upholstery, Yuriy Yurchenko
Power/sail interiors Cooler Canvas, Diane Burley
Non- marine Marty's Bag Works, Marty Jordan
Scrap material projectHurricane Canvas, Linda Ritter

Elections for a three year term fabricator and supplier director saw Rob Murray of Hurricane Canvas and Len Stielper of Glen Raven securing another term.

Thanks to Dennis Clune for being the association librarian. For borrowing reference materials please contact our new volunteer, Diane LaClair of Carriage House Canvas. Her Number is 410-348-5778. Her corrected e mail is leclair_di@hotmail.com

Our organization currently has 127 paid 2007 members, 89 being fabricator shops and 38 Being suppliers. Even if you could not make this years convention, please consider renewing your membership. Send your \$35 check to Jeff Harris at Starbird Canvas. Please check the **cmcfa.org** website regularly. If any of your information needs updating just check the contact/comment page of the website. The members only section passwords are duespaid and acrylic. The minutes should be posted there soon as well as upcoming convention information and the library listings.

We voted to have the 2008 Convention at the Dover Downs Hotel , Dover, Delaware.
And return to Annapolis, Maryland for 2009.

Please check the website as we expect to have pictures of 2007 posted soon.

Please e-mail me your favorite convention moment or memory, or a testimonial of how the association has helped you. We want to start a page on the website. Pictures too.

We had 61 Fabricator shops attend this year. We had a fantastic market day with 26 of the 29 supplier companies attending exhibiting. Best I can figure, between 145 - 150 persons.

Thanks to the suppliers for our cocktail reception, helping with seminars, posting pictures, mailings, and keeping us on the edge of our industry with the new product seminar.

They really outdid themselves with all the incredible door prizes giveaways.

One special note, I want to give a special honorable mention to Bob Rizer of Marchem. He worked with me all year securing speakers and planning the picnic night. He came from Missouri for our September planning meeting. I worked him so hard the 4 days of the convention - right into his sick bed when he got home. But he has such a wonderful personality that we abused him further by dressing him in angel wings, a Dr Sues top hat And a beautiful colorful feather boa , and he took it all in stride. So HATS OFF TO BOB.

I think I've said enough, but once more thank you all for being the best group around.
Remember your input is vital. Have a great boating season, take pictures of your work.