

March 2010

Dear CMCFA friend,

Thank you so much for participating in this years convention at the Princess Royale Hotel in Ocean City, MD. I don't remember any year that had more favorable comments than we did this convention. I hope to have the pictures on the website soon so it can jog pleasant memories. In talking with many of you, there were just as many of you that would have loved to have joined us there if it had been possible.

Let me thank Michael Varga, one of our board members, and staff for having us to Canvas Experts for an open house tour. A very enjoyable morning was spent drooling over the latest equipment and tools to make an ordinary canvas shop into a dream place to work and produce those expert canvas projects. Followed by lunch next door, I hear the

Lasagna was worth the trip alone. And then an afternoon demo on full covers with an award winning cover on its boat on the premises. Thanks again Michael for all your Hard work and preparation.

Thanks to our speakers and demonstrators. David Kuhl, Michele Machande and Jeff Harris put together a three hour sailing and dodger demo on Saturday morning. They actually had a lot more prepared that time did not permit them to present so maybe We can talk them into part 2 next year.

We have exciting news to report to help all our members. Through the help of Community Insurance Associates of Lutherville, MD, they presented their plan to make CMCFA member companies a buying block for your business insurances. We are being offered special discount savings only offered to CMCFA members. Don Slaughter and Associates have joined our organization and are even still putting together more benefits Our group. Look for life insurance opportunities soon.

Thanks again to Glen Raven for donating the tote bag Sunbrella and Marty's Bag Works for making the yearly bags.

Rusty and Brandi Mitchell of A Stitch Aweigh Canvas won the early bird drawing for the 2011 partial convention credit. Ron Larson of Captain's canvas guessed closest to the number of peanuts count of 1441. Brett Szalkowski of Weatherstopper Marine Canvas won \$432.00 in the 50-50 drawing Saturday night. Scott Shaneybrook of SS Canvas won

The Lee Boyton frame lithograph, "sailboats in Annapolis harbor".

Everyone was a good sport in participating in the "Halloween Night" activities. Hats off to those that dressed for the occasion, what a combination of amazing creativity. Amazing night of fun and good sportsmanship. There were too many good things to single out a few. Thanks to our DJ, Steve Hancock. Outstanding job.

I am sorry I was back at the hotel and missed the miniature golf outing. What's that old song they were playing, "A whole lot of cheating going on". Only kidding. Another time of good fun and fellowship. Rob Murray of Hurricane Canvas turned in the best score.

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 to my team of suppliers who spend 3 hours on Sat. morning putting it all together. Thanks for all who participated. Take more photos for next year. And the winners were:

Hard window enclosures.....	Weatherstopper Canvas, Brett Szalkowski
Powerboats 27+ enclosures .....	SS Canvas, Scott Shaneybrook
Powerboats -26 enclosures .....	Coverall Upholstery, Yuriy Yerchenko
Powerboats full canvas .....	Coverall Upholstery. Kosta Yerchenko
Sailboat exterior canvas.....	Starbird Canvas, Jeff Harris
Canvas non-marine .....	Admiral Marine Canvas, Ed Kime
Canvas, most unusual.....	Coverall Upholstery, Yuriy Yerchenko
Power/sail exterior upholstery.....	Shoreline Awning, Steve Hancock
Power/sail interiors .....	Admiral Marine Canvas, Ed Kime
Non- marine .....	Shoreline Awning, Steve Hancock
Scrap material project .....	Bayview Canvas, Al Marozzi
Best tool or modification.....	Mike's Custom Marine, Mike Johnson

The board has undergone the following changes:

John "J. R." Robinson from TriVantage is the new 3 year supplier director, Ashby Jenkins of Atlantic Custom Canvas the new fabricator director. Thanks to Len Stielper and Eric Schulkowski for serving as directors on the board. Even though elections were held, the officers remained the same for another two year term.

Diana LeClair has done an absolutely fantastic job as our association librarian the last few years. She has stepped down to allow her to pursue other plans.

For borrowing reference materials please contact our new librarian, Brandi Mitchell of A Stitch Aweigh. Her number is 301-290-5757. Her number and e mail are on the website as well as the forms for borrowing info and the listings that the library offers are listed under "members only". Thanks to a generous contribution from David Kuhl of Performance Textiles, the library can now convert all of its VCR tapes to DVD's. So if there is a tape that you found helpful, you can now find it in DVD format.

Even if you could not make this years convention, please consider renewing your membership.

**Please check the cmcfa.org website regularly.** If any of your information needs updating just check the contact/comment page of the website. The minutes are posted there as well as upcoming convention information and the library listings.

The group liked **Ocean City, MD** and the prices that the hotel was offering that we are returning to **PRINCESS ROYALE HOTEL on FEBRUARY 18 -20, 2011** for our **25<sup>th</sup> annual convention.**

Please check the website as we expect to have pictures 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 49 Fabricator shops attend this year, and 25 supplier members participate, a fantastic market day with 29 supplier tables sold for exhibiting for a total of 116 people. The numbers were a little down due to the economy, weather and some last minute obstacles, but thanks to all who made it. 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.

Once more thank you all for being the best group around. Remember your input is vital. Have a great season, **take pictures of your work.**

Sandy Taylor  
CMCFA president