

March 2011

Dear CMCFA friend,

Thank you so much for participating in our convention at the Princess Royale Hotel in Ocean City, MD. As many of you know, this was our twenty – fifth consecutive February convention and in my estimation, one of the better programs that we have offered. I hope to have the pictures on the website soon so it can jog pleasant memories. Unfortunately, in the end, some of you could not make the convention, let me assure you, you were missed.

Let me thank our Board for all their hard work and helpful ideas in getting everything finished on time and running smoothly. The guys are always willing to pitch in and do what it takes.

Thanks to our speakers and demonstrators. Our Friday morning canvas group of Brett Szalkowski, Rob Murray, Steve Massey and Jeff Harris. Our glass panel, Consisting of Michael Varga, Walt Johnson, Dino Urena, Eric Miller, and Scott Doherty.

Our upholstery demonstrators of Steve Hancock, Ty Hancock, Michele Machande, and Christine Roney. And Len Stielper for the triangulation talk.

Community Insurance Associates of Lutherville, MD, could not attend due to illness, but You can contact Don directly to find out about the special discount savings only offered to CMCFA members. I hope you picked up a brochure from Tom Reed explaining our Special membership pricing for websites.

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

Jack Semotchko of Eastern Shore Canvas won the early bird drawing for the 2012 partial convention credit. Ernie Dennison of Ernie's Boat Canvas guessed closest to the number of animal crackers count of 1146. Although 5 people guessed within 6 of the total pretzels in the jar, Kent Moe of Keyston Brothers was the winner by guessing exactly 281. A table of seven, who combined their tickets, won \$400.00 in the 50-50 drawing Saturday night. Every fabricator shop who attended the Saturday night dinner, won a door prize that was provided by our great suppliers.

Everyone was a good sport in participating in the "caveman – Flintstone" activities. Hats off to those that dressed for the occasion. What a combination of amazing creativity. A night of fun and good sportsmanship that I will remember for a long time. There were many good things to remember, but to single out a few, catching the far corner table trying to edge out the competition by sneaking dinosaur eggs to their table and Mike Weunski taking the rap in getting sent to the time out chair. Or the embarrassment of Monique Michelson when I posted the crayon colored Dino pictures and she realized she had printed her name on the front of hers. Monica Shannon taking on the "big guys" in

musical chairs. If you didn't see Len Stielper's tattoos or Mike Johnson's bone glasses, you missed the fashion statements of the convention. And Brown Burton's Grammy worthy rendition of the Flintstone song. Rob Murray, they were smoked turkey legs, not ham. Thanks to our outstanding DJ, Steve Hancock.

I am sorry I was back at the hotel and missed the Friday afternoon trip to the Ocean City Boat Show. I heard Mike Varga of Canvas Experts had a lot of activity around his booth.

Although I am not a dancer, some of you were showing all the right moves on the dance floor Saturday night as the band Slojim Fizz was playing. Females waited to dance with Dino Urena. Another good time to remember.

Another great year for the photo competition. We had 48 entries. Hats off to Len Stielper for scanning and projecting the entries again. Thanks to my team who spend 3 hours on Sat. morning putting it all together. Thanks for all who participated and to everyone who took the time to vote. Take more photos for next year.

And the winners were:

Hard window enclosures.....Mike's Custom Marine, Mike Johnson
Powerboats 27+ enclosures Canvas Experts, Michael Varga
Powerboats -26 enclosuresHurricane Canvas, Rob Murray
Powerboats full canvasCanvas Experts, Michael Varga
Sailboat exterior canvas..... Mike's Custom Marine, Mike Johnson
Canvas non-marineShoreline Awning & Trim, Steve Hancock
Canvas, most unusual.....Mike's Custom Marine, Mike Johnson
Power/sail exterior upholstery.....Starbird Canvas, Jeff Harris
Power/sail interiorsCarriage House Canvas, Diana LeClair
Non- marineShoreline Awning, Steve Hancock
Scrap material projectno entries
Best Tool or modification.....Carriage House Canvas, Diana LeClair
Only one category had the same shop win it this year as won it in 2010. Remarkable.

The board has undergone the following changes:

Mike Wuenski of Miami Corp is the new 3 year supplier director, Rita Snyder of 1st Class Yacht Services is the new fabricator director. Thanks to David Kuhl and Michael Varga for serving as directors on the board the last three years.

For borrowing reference materials please contact our librarian, Brandi Mitchell of A Stitch Aweigh. Her number is 443-253-2678. 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". Please remember to returned borrowed items promptly after use.

Even if you could not attend the 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 board will be voting on the site for the 2012 annual convention. Already some Incredible opportunities have presented themselves and we will do our best to make 2012 the best convention to date. So please reserve the third weekend in Feb. 2012.

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 51 Fabricator shops attend this year, 21 supplier members participating, a fantastic market day with 27 supplier tables sold for exhibiting. A total of 119 people attended. **We want to especially welcome our new members.**

The numbers were a little down due to the economy, illnesses and some last minute obstacles, but thanks to all who made it. Thanks to our suppliers for our cocktail reception, helping with seminars, bag stuffers, door prizes, posting pictures, and keeping us on the edge of our industry with the new product seminar.

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