

FMCA Advocate

FLORIDA MARINE CONTRACTORS ASSOCIATION
PO BOX 542111
MERRITT ISLAND, FL 32954-2111

Telephone: 321-453-3051
Fax: 321-452-9517
Web site: www.fmca.us

OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

Michael McCartney, President
239-945-7759, president@fmca.us

Mike Jones, Vice President
239-481-7143, vp@fmca.us

Eric Hermann, 2nd Vice President
239-332-1595, 2vp@fmca.us

Kristy Tingle, Secretary-Treasurer
941-493-8100, treasurer@fmca.us

Blair McVety, Past President
941-629-4900, pastpres@fmca.us

Bill Caldwell, Director: 813-645-3625

Rick Fender, Director: 407-481-2750

Val Grabowski, Director: 727-328-8232

Charlie Henry, Director: 954-764-1001

Tony Lipsey, Director: 813-299-8836

Frank Matthews, Director: 850-222-7500

Steven Webster, Executive Director & Editor
321-453-3051, execdir@fmca.us

Inside this Issue:

January Meeting sponsored by Ace, TimberTech and American East Coast Distributors

Important Longshore News

Hi-Tide Sponsors Mini-Expo, May 5-6

Meeting Schedule for 2006 AND 2007!

FMCA Salutes the 2005 Dock & Marine Expo Sponsors

Ace Boat Lifts, Grand Sponsor
Quality Boat Lifts, Silver Sponsor
QuikDrive, Silver Sponsor
Dealer Risk Services, Bronze Sponsor
Honc Marine Contracting, Bronze Sponsor

Friends of FMCA Sponsors
G&D Constructors • Guy & Yudin • Koppers Inc.
Lewis, Longman & Walker • Lifetime Docks
Marsh Fasteners • Snavelly Forest Products

PRSR STD
US POSTAGE
PAID
COCOA FL
32922
PERMIT 193



Meeting Calendar	3
Committees	3
Decks & Docks Joins Platinum Club	4
Welcome New Members! ...	6
President's Letter McCartney on Longshore	7
FMCA SHIRTS ARE HERE ...	8
Custom Fabricating Process by Robert Grobel	8
Kids of Katrina Thanks	9
Regulations Under the Gun ..	11
Can't Afford to Attend the Expo? by Tony Lipsey ...	12
Club Seeks New Head	14
Tales of Captain Ed by Mike Martinette	13
Murray on the Hot Seat	14
Club Seeks New Head	14
Speeler, Hockman Awarded Anchors	18
How to Join a Committee ..	18

Chris Way (pictured above) shows off Way Marine Design's No Profile Boat Lift

THE FMCA ADVOCATE IS AN OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE FLORIDA MARINE CONTRACTORS ASSOCIATION, INC.

STEVEN WEBSTER EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

AD RATES (newsletter ads also appear on web site; 10 issues per year)

	Month	Year
Full Page Color	\$350	\$2400
Half Page Color	250	1400
Half Page B/W	200	1200
Biz Card		400
Quarter Page Color	180	950
Quarter Page B/W	140	800

AD & COPY DEADLINE: 15TH OF THE MONTH.

Major Longshore Change Coming

WE GET OUR OWN CODE RATES DROP AGAIN ISSUES REMAIN TO RESOLVE

If proposed Workers Comp changes are approved by the Florida Office of Insurance Regulation (OIR), rates for marine construction policies issued or renewed after April 1, 2006 will drop to \$28.79 — a 10% decrease from 2005.

More significantly, the "finding" proposed by the National Council on Compensation Insurance (NCCI) contains a long-sought-after FMCA goal: a Workers Comp Class Code specifically for marine construction.

NCCI proposes terminating class code 6005F for jetties and breakwaters and 6003F — marine pile-driving. In their place, a single new code, 6006F, will be adopted exclusively for the Florida market. If adopted as written, all marine construction work — whether over navigable waters or not; whether over land or not, whether it's pile driving or carpentry,

Longshore continues on page 10

Ft. Lauderdale Meet Jan 20-21

250 PROSPECTIVE MEMBERS IN SE FLORIDA INVITED

All FMCA members and prospects are invited to attend the January Meeting, which begins Friday eve, 6PM, January 20, at Wally's Tavern, 3320 NE 33rd St Fort Lauderdale, FL 33308, (954) 390-0927, a favorite local watering hole.

The event is hosted by Charlie Henry, American East Coast Distributors; Kristy Tingle, Ace Boat Lifts; and Monique Randall, TimberTech. There will be food and drink for all.

The serious work takes place Saturday morning at 9AM sharp at the Riviera, a condo complex at 3550 Galt Ocean Drive. All members and prospects are invited, but space is limited. Host Charlie Henry says park in the Upper Lot, and at the Front Desk, ask for the Function Room.

Meetings continues on page 18

FMCA PLATINUM MEMBERS

BELLINGHAM MARINE Steve Ryder 904-358-3362
DECKS & DOCKS LUMBER CO. Dan Gileo 727-399-8453
ACE BOAT LIFTS Kristy Tingle 941-493-8100
ROBBINS MANUFACTURING Tony Lipsey 888-558-8199
RAVENS MARINE, INC. Matthew Hill 800-676-3023
GATOR DOCK & MARINE Joe McCloskey 800-621-2207
CMI INTERNATIONAL John Irvine 800-256-8857

Platinum Members have each pledged a five-year commitment in support of the Association.



Beautiful, low maintenance
TimberTech composite decking.

A beautiful deck doesn't have to be a chore. If you build with TimberTech, you won't have to worry about staining, sealing, painting, splintering or any of the other headaches associated with wood decks.

For more information, please visit www.timbertech.com.



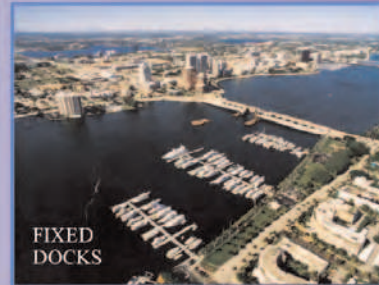
INSERT DEALER TAGS(S) HERE.

GATOR DOCK & MARINE, INC.

Over 32 years in the same location is proof that we are leaders in the field of aluminum marine products for both commercial, government and residential applications.

Gator has installations across the country and around the world.

Our products are individually designed and manufactured to the highest quality standards.



FIXED DOCKS



FLOATING DOCKS



BRIDGE AND HANDRAIL



GANGWAYS



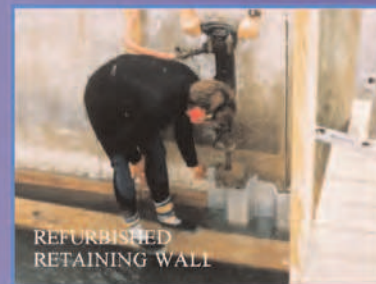
PEDESTRIAN BRIDGES



HANDICAP ACCESSIBLE



MARINE RETAINING WALL



REFURBISHED RETAINING WALL

PRODUCTS

- Fixed Docks
- Floating Docks
- Gangways
- Pedestrian Bridges
- Pedestrian Handrails
- Bridge Rails
- Marine Retaining Walls
- Wave Attenuators
- Specialty Products
- Flap Gates
- Sluice Gates

CONTACT US:

PH: (407)323-0190 • TOLL FREE: (800)621-2207 • FX: (407)322-6574 • PILING@GATORDOCK.COM • 2880 MELLONVILLE AVE. SANFORD, FL 32773

Ravens Marine, Inc. Providing Aluminum Marine Products To The World For Over 30 Years!



We manufacture all products according to your specifications with high-quality aluminum—proven to stand the test of time in the harshest elements showing superior strength and durability.



3295 Old Dixie Highway

Kissimmee, FL 34744

Ph: 800-676-3023

Fax: 407-935-9436

Email: ravens@ravensmarine.com

January Meeting continued

The meeting agenda is substantial. The Board will consider a host of legislative issues, including Workers Comp and permitting streamlining; legal issues such as liens; and discussion of topics and schedules for the Mini and Annual Expos.

Mini Expo

The Second Annual FMCA Mini Expo will take place May 5-6 at the Marriott on Hutchinson Island, formerly the Indian River Plantation. Hi-Tide Boat Lifts is the prime sponsor.

Between 20-30 exhibitors will take part. (Exhibitor and Sponsor Registration Packets will be available shortly.) We are working to organize a dock permitting workshop in association with DEP as the primary focus of the Mini.

Special thanks to Charlie Henry, of American East Coast Distributors and Forever Wood, Monique Randall of TimberTech and Kristy Tingle of Ace Boat Lifts, for organizing and sponsoring the January Meeting.



The January 2006 Ft. Lauderdale meeting begins Friday eve, 6PM, January 20, at Wally's Tavern on NE 33rd Street, just north of Oakland Park Blvd. The Saturday, Jan. 21 Board Meeting begins 9AM at 3550 Galt Ocean Blvd.

How to Become a Committee Member

FMCA Committees are NOT just for Board Members!

Each and every member is encouraged to participate on a Committee.

Call the committee contact person to volunteer, and to discuss how you propose to help. And, of course, just saying "We'll do whatever needs to be done" is an ample description. The contact phone number is listed below the committee name. Or, you may call or email any Board Member for more info (see the back cover).

We are especially interested in identifying permitting experts from our Professional

Members to co-chair the Permitting and Licensing Committee. This post will coordinate and organize comments received on the various rule changes that are underway, such as the Aquatic Preserve rules now under review.

We are also very interested in expanding the Professional Development committee, which has the potential to become our most important committee, responsible for education, training and certification.

Questions? Suggestions? Concerns? Call the Committee Chair, a Board Member, or FMCA's office.

FMCA Committees

Government Affairs

Doug Speeler, Speeler Services, 727-343-1797
Frank Matthews, Hopping Green & Sams, 850-222-7500
Bill Woods, Woods Consulting, 727-786-5747

Insurance & Benefits

Ian Greenway, LIG Marine, 727-578-2800
Melanie Jones, SteMic Enterprises, 239-481-7143

Legal Affairs

James Charles, Lewis, Longman & Walker, 904-737-2020

Meetings & Events

Eric Hermann, Industrial & Marine Hardware, 239-332-1595
Kristy Tingle, Ace Boat Lifts, 800-826-3573
Charlie Henry, American East Coast Distributors, 954-764-1001

Membership Services

Blair McVety, Charlotte County Seawalls, 941-629-4900
Tony Lipsey, Robbins Manufacturing, 813-299-8836
Mike McCartney, American Marine (November-March)
Mike Jones, SteMic Marine (April-September)

Permitting & Licensing

Bill Caldwell, Shoreline Marine, 813-645-3625
Val Grabowski, Heritage Docks, 727-328-8232

Political Action and Fundraising

Mike Morrison, Morrison Builders, 954-583-8500
Mike McCartney, American Marine Construction, 239-945-7759

Professional Development

Rick Fender, Cloud Nine Services, 407-481-2750

Each FMCA Committee has these general responsibilities, in addition to the duties enumerated above:

- Apprise the Board of Directors of activities on a monthly basis
- Prepare at least two articles for publication in the FMCA Advocate
- Provide suggestions for speakers/presenters/topics to the Meetings & Events Committee, and assist in securing same
- Assist other Committees as requested by a Committee, or as instructed by Association Officers
- Implement a system of manage-

FMCA Meetings

All meetings are open to Members and Prospects.

2006 Meeting Dates and Locations

Quarterly Meeting

January 20-21, 2006:
Ft. Lauderdale
Friday eve mixer at Wally's beginning at 6PM
Saturday meeting begins at 9AM at 3550 Galt Ocean Drive. *For more info, see related articles in this issue.*

The Spring Mini Expo

May 5-6, 2006
Marriott on Hutchinson Island, Stuart, FL

Quarterly Meeting

July 14-15, 2006
Bayfront Hilton
St. Pete, FL

**The Annual Dock & Marine Expo
October 13-15, 2006**



FMCA accepts charge cards online, and by phone at 321-453-3051.

2007 Meeting Dates

January 12-13, 2007
Mini Expo: May 4-5, 2007
July 13-14 2007

2007 Dock & Marine Expo

October 12-14 2007
Hyatt on Sarasota Bay

Sponsorship opportunities are available for all meetings. Call FMCA at 321-453-3051 or visit us online at www.fmca.us

- ment and governance for the Committee, to be approved by the Officers of the Association. This may include a request for a budget.
- In lieu of or in addition to a budget, specific funding requests may be made to Association Officers for approval as needed.

Two New Anchor Award Recipients!

George Lackey of Hockman Lackey Insurance, St. Pete, and Doug Speeler, Jr., of Speeler & Associates, Largo, are the Association's newest Anchor Recipients. Since the Anchor Award recruitment program was launched in January, 2004, FMCA has awarded 20 Anchors. Members earn their Anchors by recruiting two new members. Each year, the top recruiting Anchor is named Anchor of the Year. Anchors who recruit 22 members become Members For Life and never pay dues again. Congratulations to Eric Hermann, 2005 Anchor of the Year Award Winner!

EARN YOUR ANCHOR! RECRUIT A MEMBER TODAY.

Fax this form to FMCA at 321/452-9517 or call 321/453-3051 to apply.

NAME _____ COMPANY _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE/PROVINCE _____ ZIP _____

PHONE _____ FAX _____

EMAIL _____

- Contractor Member (\$500)
- Associate Member (\$500)
- Professional Member (\$250)

REFERRED BY _____



TideSlide
Mooring Products & Systems
1(800)780-6094

- *Patented
- *Hurricane & Storm Proven
- *Automatically Adjusts your lines for wind, wakes & tides.
- *Solid 316SS construction
- *100% Made in USA
- *Any Docking application-side tie or slip, any size!

www.TideSlide.com **Increase Your Chances of Survival**

I would like to thank you. I have tried all kinds of whips, fenders and all kind of lines. Your TIDESLIDES are the answer. I now have two TideSlides and your eight foot bumpers. My Silverton 42C sits at rest now.
Thanks, R. Denner

Member

Decks & Docks Joins Platinum Club

Please welcome Decks & Docks Lumber Company as FMCA's newest Platinum Member.

"We appreciate this opportunity and look forward to supporting FMCA," writes Dan Gileo, Decks & Docks Lumber President.

Decks & Docks' carries Boardwalk, Evergrain, TimberTech and Trex; ShoreGuard and C-LOC vinyl seawalls; and a full line of lumber.

Decks & Docks serves Florida's West Coast and beyond from offices in St. Pete and Sarasota.

Locations:

4801 95th Street North
St. Pete FL 33708
727-399-8453

2036 20th Street
Sarasota FL 34234
941-952-9663

Visit Decks and Docks online at:
www.decks-docks.com

Only two Platinum Membership positions remain open.

Platinum Members prepay five years' dues in advance.

Platinum Members are saluted on the cover of every issue of the ADVOCATE. They also enjoy other benefits.

Dock on the Wild Side

Stocked and distributed by: **Snavely Forest Products** and available through your local dealer.

Ironwood

Tigerwood

Teak

Mahogany

Cypress

Exotics™ is a seductive blend of the low maintenance and relaxing character of composite decking, inspired by exotic hardwoods. Each Exotics™ board features its own unique flair to give your dock great personality!

The Curve
for the Common Deck

For More Information Contact: Steve Kern 727.647.9252

Can't Afford to Attend? continued

The dates for 2006 are:
FMCA Mini Expo – May 5 and 6, at the Marriott on Hutchinson Island (see info below)



The Hutchinson Island Marriott Beach Resort and Marina is a 200-acre island resort featuring 276 deluxe accommodations. This unique resort offers an 18 hole executive golf course, tennis, beaches, deep sea fishing, and 77-slip marina. The resort has over 25,000-sq. ft. of flexible meeting facilities. The Hidden Jewel of the Treasure Coast.

FMCA Annual Dock and Marine Expo – October 13-15 — most likely at a new venue, a PGA Tour golf resort near Clearwater.

And you can also book October 12-14, 2007, when we'll return to the Hyatt on Sarasota Bay for the 2007 Dock & Marine Expo.

The value of these events is evident from the growth we have been blessed with the past few years. They will undoubtedly be the premier events within our industry for years to come. Plan now to attend and watch for details both on our website www.fmca.us and in the FMCA Advocate.

Can't afford to attend the Annual Dock and Marine Expo? My friend, you can't afford not to.



Hi-Tide Boat Lift Sales is the Prime Sponsor of the 2006 FMCA Mini-Expo.



Ace it Up!

Replace your damaged bottom with an Ace Bottom Cradle Kit.

from \$1,050 - \$2,150

galvanized or aluminum complete kit includes Ace aluminum bunks

Hurricane Damage? Replace with Ace.

America's oldest and most respected manufacturer of galvanized and aluminum lifts and davits.

www.acemarinesupply.com

Call for A Lift
800-826-3573



Say good-bye to sanding, sealing, staining, painting and the good old hot foot.

LP WeatherBest Premium Grain decking is designed to make things easier on you and everyone who walks on it. Unlike other composites there's no rubber or other retreaded materials. Unlike wood you won't have any of the hassles of wood. Choose from a variety of great natural colors and finishes. For more information and to find the contractor or dealer nearest you call 1-888-820-0325 or visit www.weatherbest.com.





For Our Tropical Environment

Our tropical environment is tough on exposed building materials. There is heat and UV rays from the sun, water damage from rainstorms, high humidity and rapid temperature variances. These conditions make wood look old in a very short time.

To help prevent premature aging, Robbins **DURA/DECKING** is pressure-treated with water repellent as well as a wood preservative. Wolman EXTRA Water Repellent is forced deep into the wood along with the Wolman wood preservative during the pressure treating process. The water repellent slows down the rate at which moisture is absorbed and released, thus reducing stress in the wood. Compared to surface coatings, which are applied after construction is complete, **DURA/DECKING** offers:

- Deep protection against moisture damage.
- Less warping, cracking and dimensional change.
- Four-sided protection, not just a topical do-it-yourself labor-intensive application.
- A saving of time, money and effort since there is no need for an initial coating of canned water repellent.



Attractive and Strong DURA/DECKING

Is produced from 2 x 6 No. 1 dense grade or better southern pine lumber. This provides appearance superior to ordinary treated wood.



An Exclusive Product of:

Robbins
Wood Preserving & Manufacturing Company
Tampa * Orlando * Ocala * Ft. Myers - Florida
Thomaston Georgia
888-558-8199
www.ROBBINSOUTDOORS.com



Associate Advertisement to Support FMCA Newsletter

For All Your Marine Contractor Needs...

ONE-STOP SHOPPING

And now the lineup is even stronger with Copper Azole, the world's proven alternative.

Everything you need delivered directly to your jobsite! Dump trucks, crane trucks, and flat beds available statewide.

AUTHORIZED DISTRIBUTORS OF



Also Distributors of: Ipe & Certainteed Boardwalk

Vinyl Sheet Piling

- 50 Year Warranty
- Will not Rust, Rot, or Crack
- Impervious to Sunlight, Saltwater & Marine Borers
- Attractive & Environmentally Safe

On-Site Product Availability

- Pressure Treated Lumber
- Timbers, Piling & Marine Hardware
- Copper Napthenate
- Wood Rx & Filter Cloth

Wood Treaters, LLC
Jacksonville, Florida

904-358-2507 • 1-800-330-7283 • Don Pardue
Visit us on the web: www.woodtreaters.com

H&W Distributors
Pompano Beach, Florida

877-554-9663 • Paul Seiber
Visit us on the web: www.h-wdistributors.com

Welcome New Members!

PROFESSIONALS ASSOCIATES

Hallmark Development of Florida
Mr Steve Engelhardt
4500 140th Ave N #101
Clearwater, FL 33762
727-539-7002
stevehdc@tampabay.rr.com

Marina Products Manufacturing
Manufactures and sells FEND OFF dock fenders, and WHITE WATER floating docks. They offer a variety of dock and marina products including cleats and ladders.
Mr Ronald Stroud
4044 N 30th Ave
Hollywood, FL 33020
800-822-7048
954-963-0972
marinaproducts@aol.com

Swan Secure Products
Swan Secure Products offers a full range of nail making, roll threading and specialized equipment supported by manufacturing and sales personnel with over 30 years of experience.
Mr Rick Oblak
7859 Bayberry Road
Jacksonville, FL 32256

877-766-7878
904-739-8055
rick@swansecure.com
http://www.swansecure.com
Sponsored by Ken Wells of Boca Dock & Seawall

Truline
Truline is a revolutionary vinyl sheet piling system comprised of multi-use components with a unique u-channel design, superior dual-interlocking joints, and a smooth wall appearance.
Ms Lara McKeown
2706 Horseshoe Drive South, Suite 106
Naples FL 34104
239-272-1649
239-263-9833
lmckeown@truline.us
http://www.truline.us



New FMCA Members are receiving new membership plaques, featuring the redesigned logo.

is going to rise.

President's Letter, continued

worker's compensation code for marine contractors — 6006F. The 6003F and 6005F codes will no longer be used. Florida will be the only state in the nation with its own marine construction code. It's quite an accomplishment.

However, while I support the creation of a class code for our profession, I disagree with NCCI's plan to include all marine pile-driving work in the new class code.

Initially, the rate for the new code will be based solely on the 6005F jetties & breakwater rate, which in 2006 has declined to \$28.79.

But — and this could be an expensive “but” — when the loss rates for big commercial and civil works pile-driving (think FDOT bridges, for example) are figured into the rate in 2007 and beyond, our rate

And that's not fair. In 2005, the rate for the 6003F pile-driving code, which is primarily used for these big projects, was \$87.57. Even NCCI admits that if pile-driving was included in the initial rate for marine construction, the result would not be \$28.79. It would be double that. DOUBLE!

This makes as much sense as combining the class codes for roofers and carpet installers. One clearly represents potential for more losses than the other. The result is the group with less potential exposure will subsidize the group with greater potential exposure.

We all need to write to the Florida Commissioner of Insurance Regulation and your local state representative and senator. FMCA's President, Vice President

and Executive Director have all written, as has Ian Greenway, President of LIG Marine.

Please review his example on page 10 of this issue to help guide you in preparing your own comments to help tame the monster.

Respectfully submitted,

Mike McCartney

Address your letter to:
Honorable Kevin McCarty
Commissioner
Office of Insurance Regulation
200 East Gaines Street
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0300

Re: Item 04-FL-2005—Revisions to Basic Manual Classifications for Pile Driving and Marine Construction

MARINE LUMBER SUPPLY, INC.



Products:

- ◆ Pressure Treated Timbers
- ◆ Piling
- ◆ Lumber
- ◆ Hardwood Decking/IPE
- ◆ Flooring
- ◆ Composite & Plastic Decking
- ◆ Dock Accessories & Hardware

3750 Exchange Avenue
Naples, Florida 34104
(800) 643-2813
www.marinelumbersupply.com

Distributor of:



SUNSTREAM BOAT LIFTS *Your gateway to boating™*




- Condo and Marina approved
- High-speed hydraulic lifts – fresh or salt water
- Sleek, low profile design preserves view
- Local sales & service
- Easy remote control operation & solar charging



EASY TO NO PERMITTING!

www.sunstreamcorp.com

866-SUN-LIFT

Murray on the Hot Seat

Senator Patty Murray (D-WA), who has repeatedly used her seat on the Appropriations Committee to block Federal Longshore insurance reform, has refused to return her "contributions" from convicted lobbyist Jack Abramoff.

Of the top 20 recipients of Abramoff bucks, Murray places ninth, raking in \$49,480 from Abramoff and his Indian casino clients. She is the second-ranked Democrat on the list, trailing only Rhode Island's Patrick Kennedy of the House Appropriations Committee.

So far, Murray has refused to return \$40,980 from four Indian tribes. "This is tribal money. It is not Jack Abramoff money," Murray spokesman Alex Glass said to the Houston Chronicle. "I would assume the tribes wouldn't want this money back."

Murray also ranks high on the list of Big Labor contributions — apparently the deciding factor in her opposition to Longshore reform.

Club Seeks New Head

You can imagine the reaction when this job opening popped up. The general sense is that the new Director's fund-raising abilities will be a priority. The want ad below can be found on their website.

About SMC

Job Announcement

Executive Director
Save the Manatee Club
Maitland, Florida

Save the Manatee Club (SMC) is seeking an experienced Executive Director who will report to its Board of Directors. SMC is the nationally recognized nonprofit leader in manatee conservation.

The ideal candidate will have at least 10 years of experience — preferably at a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization — as a proven leader, fund raiser, and fiscal manager, who will have overall responsibility for daily operations and development of the organization. Duties include administration and management, policy development, fund raising, strategic planning, public relations, membership growth, financial health, and cultivating new and existing funding and program opportunities. Must have excellent oral and written communication skills with the ability to work independently and to prioritize under stress. The successful candidate will hold preferably a master's or higher degree in business or nonprofit management, natural resource protection, or a combination of equivalent work and education-related experience, and have a broad knowledge of conservation and public policy issues. SMC is based in Maitland, Florida. Job requires travel, long hours, and work on occasional weekends.

SMC's annual operating budget is \$1.3 million. Salary commensurate with experience.

Closing date is February 1, 2006. Employment begins on or around May 1, 2006.

SMC considers applicants for all positions without regard to race, color, religion, creed, gender, national origin, age, disability, or sexual orientation. Minorities and women are encouraged to apply.

Send cover letter and resume to jvallee@savethemanatee.org with subject heading "Executive Director Search." No calls or regular mail please.

	New Member Intro Rate	Renewal Rate
Contractor	\$500	\$750
Associate	\$500	\$750
Professional	\$250	\$250

FMCA Platinum Member Benefits

- Five years of dues pre-paid.
- \$750 of Expo space pre-paid.
- First choice for Expo display space.
- Monthly Newsletter Salute!

Total value: \$5,500. Cost to you: \$5,000.
Platinum Membership is limited to ten firms.

FMCA's Position on Manatee Protection

- If sound science supports it, so do we.
- If sound science *doesn't* support it, neither do we.
- All rules must be reviewed and approved by local committees.
- Research is better than restrictions.
- Technology is better than tickets.

The Better Connection.

We manufacture top quality dock products and accessories. From Power Centers to Ladders, Line Supports to Dock Fenders, we've got you connected with a full range of products, custom manufacturing, and a strong support system for all our distributors.

Cleats • Dock Boxes • Dock Lights • Dock Steps • Marina Trash Containers
Dock Fenders • Ladders • Line Supports • Piling Caps • Piling Wrap
Power Centers • and much more!

Ask us about our 15 year pedestal warranty.

EVERY ACCESSORY FOR TODAY'S DOCK...EXCEPT THE BOAT.

3101 SW 25th Street, Bay 106 / Pembroke Park, FL 33009
ph: 954.964.5315 / 1.800.909.DOCK / fx: 954.964.2715
www.dockproducts.com or info@dockproducts.com

President's Letter **The MONSTER**

Dear Members:

In my first President's message I listed increased membership involvement as my #1 priority for this coming year. I'm already being given the chance to show why that is so high on the list. We have our first "monster" of the year looming on the horizon and it will take a collective effort from every Member to control it.

This monster is voracious, never satisfied. It climbs deep into our

pockets consuming huge amounts of money to pay for something we hope we never need. Odds are very good that those of us in the residential marine construction industry will rarely and perhaps never use it.

Naturally, I'm talking about Worker's Compensation coverage.

As responsible employers we all want our employees protected. We have formed strong bonds with many of our people. They have earned our admiration and

respect through hard work and dedication. Those of us in this industry understand it takes a "different breed" to do this

kind of work. We are a unique group and fiercely proud of our trade. We understand how important it is to take care of our own.

Our objective is clear, but resolution is cumbersome. In the recent past our industry did not have its own class code. This caused us to use other class codes and somehow make them "fit". Praying all along that the "fit" would satisfy the monster if, God forbid one of our own got hurt.

Through the hard work of many people, most notably Ian Greenway and Steven Webster, NCCI (the National Council for Compensation Insurance, which recommends classifications and rates for many states, including Florida), has proposed that the State of Florida create a specific

**President's Letter continues
page 15**



ANCHOR AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING SERVICE TO THE MEMBERS OF THE ASSOCIATION

Anchor Award winners have each recruited two or more new members since January, 2004.

**Eric Hermann, Industrial & Marine Hardware,
2005 Golden Anchor Award Winner**
**Paul Sieber, H&W Distributors, 2004 Golden
Anchor Award Winner**

Hap Cameron, S.E. Cline Construction
Don Pardue, Wood Treaters
Mike Jones, SteMic Marine
Jeffrey Kalat, Spectrum Dock Systems
Pat Keefe, Dream Docks

George Lackey, Hockman Lackey Insurance
Paul Lynch, Paul Lynch & Associates
Steven Kern, Snavelly Forest Products
Rick Kozell, Southern Pine Lumber
Steve Liebel, Duncan Seawall

Mike McCartney, American Marine Construction
Blair McVety, Charlotte County Seawalls
Mike Morrison, Morrison Builders
Pete Myers, Ft. Pierce Reload
Dick Remke, Decks & Docks
Doug Speeler, Speeler Services
Doug Speeler, Jr., Speeler & Associates
Karen Tischler, LIG Marine



6" - 12" Rip Rap
12" - 24" Rip Rap
Larger Sizes Available

We also offer:
2" - 4" Ballast Stone
#89 Stone
#57 Stone
FDOT Base Rock

Call Us For Prices!

239-567-1800 office 239-567-1804 fax

**SOUTHWEST
AGGREGATES**
16070 TAMiami TRAIL SOUTH • PUNTA GORDA, FL 33955

MARSH FASTENERS

800-453-4642

Your reliable one stop source for stainless steel and marine grade fasteners since 1992.



SIMPSON

Strong-Tie

THERE IS NO EQUAL



MASTER DISTRIBUTOR FOR SWAN SCREWS

WWW.MARSHFASTENERS.COM

Marsh Fasteners
Allow us to quote
USA Toll Free
800-453-4642

127 Fern Street
Jupiter, Florida 33458
Voice 561-743-4642
Fax 561-743-4912

Seawall and Pier Piling Form Manufacturer Offers Custom Fabricating Services to FMCA Members

dee Concrete Accessories has manufactured steel forms and accessories for horizontal concrete placement since 1956. Since the early 1970's, dee has manufactured custom seawall forms providing seawall and marine contractors with the capability to produce uniform concrete panels reducing the costs to complete a concrete seawall.

Due to market interest, dee has expanded its Seawall and Marine Forms and accessories line to include:

- Adjustable pier piling sidewall forms
- Adjustable seawall forms
- Boat ramp approach forms
- Boat ramp forms
- Dead man forms
- Pier and dock deck forms
- Pier piling forming system
- Seawall cap forming jacks
- Seawall cap forms for concrete and vinyl seawalls
- Seawall cap sidewall forms
- Seawall form stabilizing brackets

dee offers custom metal fabricating services for marine contractors including:

- Assembly
- Engineering
- Laser cutting
- Machining - boring, drilling, lathing, milling, routing, tapping, threading
- Metal bending
- Press brake forming
- Prototyping
- Shearing
- Welding including MIG and TIG

Visit www.deeconcrete.com and check out the Seawall and Marine Forms section.

FMCA SHIRTS AND HATS WITH THE NEW LOGO ARE HERE!

To order, please call **BRUCE YOSKIN** at **EDCO Awards. 954-587-0137 Extension 19.**

Shirts are \$25.95 in sizes up through XL
XXL : add \$2.95
XXXL: add \$4.95
Hats are \$9.95.
Tax and shipping not included.

Building docks?

Need a good source for rope, chain, cable and slings? Other construction supplies?

Everything for the dock but the boat!

Featuring Screw Guns

Quality driven from conception to counter-sink.

INDUSTRIAL & MARINE HARDWARE

239-332-1595

Fort Myers

Eric Hermann, Sales Rep.
Cell: 239-410-4137

Marine Insurance Specialists

Marine Contractors Insurance Programs

- General Liability Insurance
- Equipment Floaters
- Workers Compensation including USL&H and Jones Act
- Hull and Protection & Indemnity
- Other coverages also available

Paul Lynch & Associates, Inc.

701 North Federal Highway #401, Stuart FL 34994

Telephone: 772-232-9371/ Fax: 772-232-9375

Email: paul@insuremarine.com / Website: www.insuremarine.com

The Tales of Captain Ed



Ed Day

by Mike Martinette, III

Capt Ed's last tour of duty was as **Commanding Officer of the Naval Air Technical Training Center (NATTC) from 1972 to 1975.** This center was located at Lakehurst Naval Air Station, in New Jersey. The base is most famous as the crash site of the German built airship Hindenburg.

At 803.8 feet in length and 135.1 feet in diameter, the German passenger airship Hindenburg (LZ-129) was the largest aircraft ever to fly. The commercial flights of Hindenburg, along with Graf Zeppelin, pioneered the first transatlantic air service. She carried hundreds of passengers and traveled thousands of miles before being destroyed in a tragic fire on May 6, 1937. Thirty-six lost their lives: thirteen passengers, twenty-two crewmen, and one civilian member of the ground crew. Germany's perfect record of safety had been shattered in a spectacular tragedy before the assembled media and public. The commercial airship would never recover.

Hangar One, which housed the airship, is still there and is an incredible structure. At 966 feet long, 311 feet wide, and 212,000 square feet inside it is quite an engineering marvel for its time. Each of the hangars doors were on railroad tracks. One door weighed 1350 tons, as much as a WWI destroyer!

Capt. Ed actually flew military airships early in his career. I remember him telling me they were so quiet, often they would "anchor" and watch parts of drive-in movies after completing assignments!

Before starting his last assignment in 1972, Capt. Ed demonstrated a very effective leadership attribute. He traveled to the naval base a few days early, posing as a sailor with new orders. He met several NATTC personnel, drank beer with them, and learned of the most challenging problems and issues within this facility. The housing facility for the sailors was sub-standard and rat infested. There were drug problems, a lack of trust of the officers, and an overall morale problem within many of the young men.

Needless to say, after assuming command the housing facilities were improved dramatically. Capt Ed shipped out the rats, assigned the perpetual problem troops to Arctic Survival Training Schools, and morale eventually went up. His motto had always been, "Grab them by the testicles and the heart and mind will soon follow!"

Mike Martinette is Captain Day's stepson.

Do you have a Captain Day Tale? Please contact Rick Fender (who proposed this series to Mike) at rfender@fmca.us.



Can't Afford To Attend the FMCA Dock & Marine Expo?

by Tony Lipsey, FMCA Director, Robbins Manufacturing

You may or may not believe it, but I actually heard that statement recently.

I say you may or may not believe it, because to those of you who have attended these events, the statement

will seem ludicrous. But those who might be reading this and have not yet attended may be using that very excuse, or something similar: *I have clients to take care of. I have deadlines to meet. Whenever I leave it all seems to fall apart. I have a business to*

run. I can't afford to attend the Annual Dock and Marine Expo!

Does any of this sound familiar? These all sound like pretty good excuses until you've benefited first hand from the entire Dock and Marine Expo experience. The event has become the forum within our industry in which you are able to discuss the problems and issues relevant to you with others who may be facing the very same situations. It is the arena of ideas where you enter into fellowship with those who understand and are sympathetic to the problems and issues that you face daily.

Before making up your mind that you are just too busy or just too overwhelmed to attend these (now twice annual) events, please consider just what you are missing:

- A chance to meet your friendly competition and bounce ideas off one another. Many problems have been solved by solutions shared among fellow contractors.
- An opportunity to voice your concerns to Senators, Congressmen, local and State legislators who are invited and have attended our expos.
- An occasion to get yourself and (just as importantly) your employees educated on countless issues facing the marine industry today involving topics such as insurance, permitting, DEP dock construction rules and many, many others addressed through seminars and discussions.
- A great time to network with suppliers, visit exhibits, see what's new, take advantage of special offers and compare products.
- A nice relaxing time at a quality resort to spend with family or friends to refresh, recharge, and inspire yourself and your key employees for the weeks and months to come.

With some advance planning, the Annual Dock and Marine Expo and the FMCA Mini Expo events are not only easy to attend, but will become significant dates on your calendar year after year.

IT'S THE CORE THAT COUNTS!

FORMEX® DOCK FLOATS

A dock float core made from solid block EPS foam is superior to a dock float core made by expanding EPS beads inside a hollow shell. Be sure you know what's inside the dock float you buy.

Formex® Floats are made of quality materials inside and out!



Pretested Solid Block EPS Foam Core

+



Encapsulated in HMWPE via and patented thermoforming process

=



Resulting in a quality dock float with no loose beads or voids

FORMEX® FLOAT ADVANTAGES

Cores are inspected and tested prior to encapsulation to insure they are free of loose beads, voids and pass the Hunt 7 Day Absorption Test.

Cores are encapsulated in high molecular weight polyethylene that has excellent impact, puncture and stress crack resistance even at temperatures well below 0°F. Same material used to manufacture twin sheet thermoformed auto gas tanks, marine and outdoor products.

Black high molecular weight polyethylene is resistant to UV attack, solvents, fuels, oils or marine life.

Patented quick connect system that has survived hurricanes and tornados, and saves time and labor costs on new or re-float projects.

32 sizes available in 2 styles.

Meets U.S. Army Corps of Engineer Regulations and is approved by Ameren UE on Lake of The Ozarks and the LCRA in Texas.



601 Hurricane Shoals Road, NW
Lawrenceville, Georgia 30045

Phone: 800.310.3867 :: 770.962.9816

Fax: 866.849.1471 :: 770.962.3125

email: sales@formex.com • www.formex.com

12 year limited warranty

SO: What's your kid done lately to help save the world? One member's daughter shows how....

Dear FMCA members,

I want to thank you for helping me raise money for the victims of Hurricane Katrina. You may be thinking your donation is late, well think again, it's not. There are still many people in need of food, clothing, shelter and much more. It's easy to forget after a hurricane is over how long it really takes for thousands of people to rebuild their lives. Just remember how bad we had it with Charlie, Frances, and Jeanne. Hurricane Katrina was worse than all three of these combined.

The letter you sent me said I was an inspiration to you all and that my friends and I were the real winners. Your support was my inspiration and even though together we raised just over \$18,000, in a disaster like this there are no winners.

You did great on your fun run, even if all you did was run around in a circle for a while. I liked doing the booth, it was fun. Being on the news and in the newspaper was kind of cool too.

Well thanks again for pitching in. Hope we all have a happy, healthy, hurricane free new year.

Yours Truly,

Summer Mullins



Summer Mullins, above, shows off a Christmas check from FMCA, a contribution to Kids of Katrina, a fund-raising campaign run by Summer and two middle school friends, Jessica Norris and Caitlin McNabb.

The three young ladies have raised more than \$12,000 for the Red Cross.

"It was a little tough at first," Summer told a Palm Beach Post reporter, "but we worked right through it."

They set up a booth on a September night at Abacoa Town Center and, with some donated products from local businesses, began pitching charity to passersby.

"People would ask us how much they had to donate," said Summer. "We told them basically anything, and they dropped money in!"

Summer is the daughter of Crystal Mullins, a VP at FMCA Contractor Member Vogell Marine Construction.

Let's all hope her wish for 2006 comes true!

Woods Consulting
Environmental Permitting / Marine Engineering / Hydrogeology / Land Planning

BILL WOODS
Principal

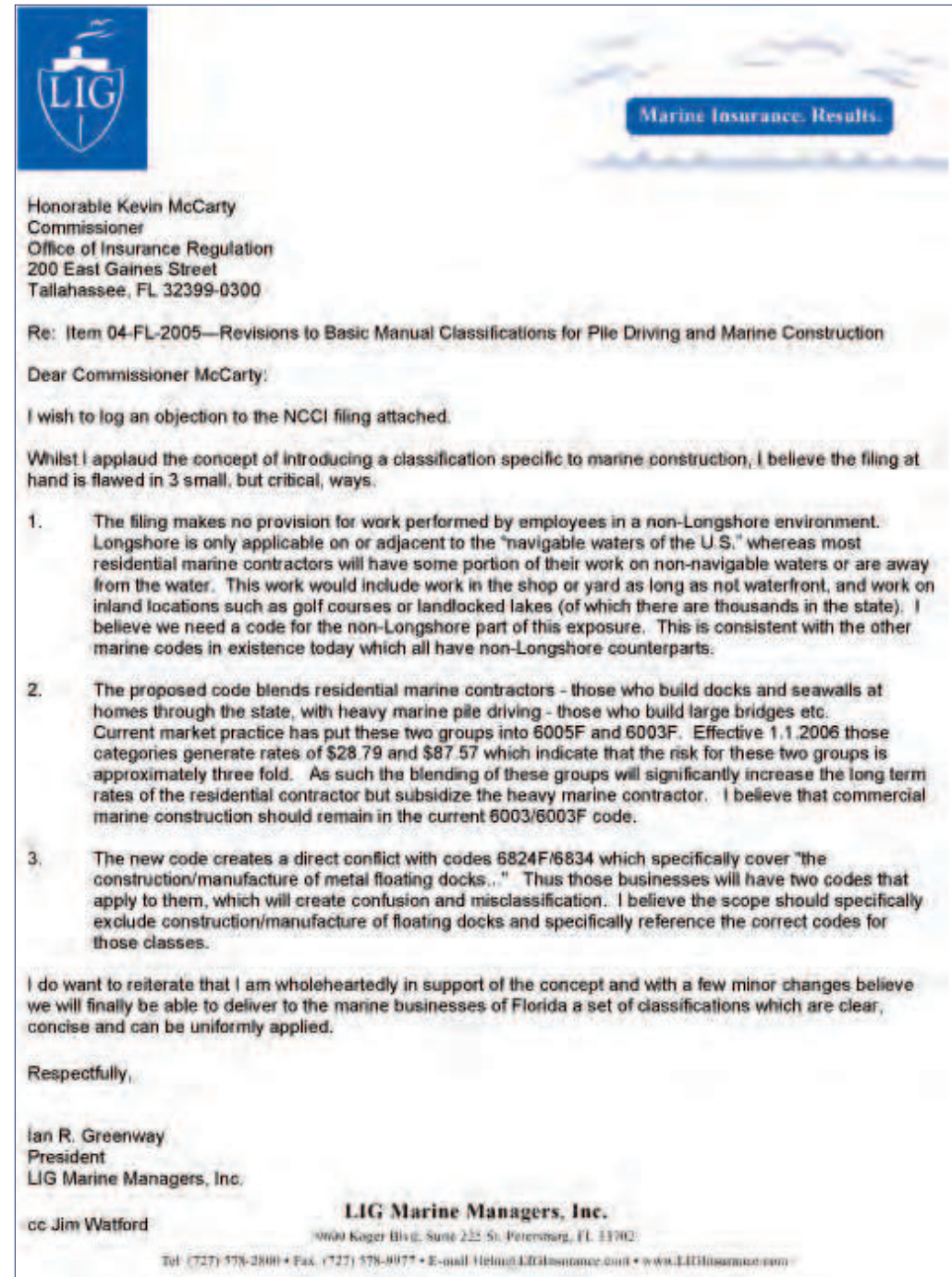
1714 County Road 1
Suite 22
Dunedin, FL 34698

Office: (727) 786-5747
Fax: (727) 786-7479
Email: billwoods@woodsconsulting.org

Afford continues on page 17

Longshore, continued: Will the issues we've raised result in a revised proposal?

will be classed under the new code. This has been a long-standing goal of FMCA and represents a major shift in NCCI thinking. Less than a year ago, NCCI had submitted a "finding" that would have moved all marine construction into pile-driving, an utterly devastating proposal.



- 5 REASONS WHY QUALITY MARINE BUSINESSES SHOULD BELONG TO FMCA**
- 1) FMCA's lawsuit ended the permit moratoria.
 - 2) FMCA offers access to affordable and available insurance.
 - 3) FMCA is investing time and money to streamline permitting, such as DEP's new "self-cert" system, first tested by FMCA members.
 - 4) FMCA members are the first to see new products, and learn about new rules, plans and laws. FMCA Members can work smarter, even as they work harder!
 - 5) FMCA is respected and our voice is heard. Meaning your back is covered.

We are especially appreciative of the support given us by Florida's Office of Insurance Regulation, which joined us in opposition, and instructed NCCI to investigate the feasibility of creating a marine construction code.

ISSUES

While we support the continued reductions in rates and the unified code, FMCA has nonetheless expressed concerns about three aspects of the new class.

These three issues are clearly explained in Ian Greenway's letter to Florida insurance chief Kevin McCarty, reproduced here.

Our most significant concern is that the "loss experience" for heavy marine construction, beginning in 2007, will be figured into the 2006F rate.

Over time, this will force our \$28.79 rate up — and it will also be a subsidy for companies that don't need it. Unlike recreational/residential builders, who must compete for business with uninsured and often unlicensed competitors, the players in the heavy marine business earn the lion's share of their business from government and other large civil engineering contracts — contracts where proper insurance and licensing is NOT an option.

OUTCOME

NCCI has, without doubt, made major strides toward a more fair system. Coverage is now widely available and compares favorably in price to similar occupations. Can more be done now? Of course. At this moment the question is: will enough contractors raise these three issues, or will OIR OK NCCI's proposal?

Intergovernmental Regulations Under the Gun

Does it get any worse than this? – by Steven Webster

Example 1

A Palm Beach County man has spent nearly \$14,000 trying to permit a \$10,000 dock he has yet to build.

The South Florida Water Management District, which regulates dock construction in front of multi-family residential developments, made these demands of the fellow who sought ten slips in a slow-speed manatee zone:

- Education materials must be prominently displayed in the complex
- Boats over 20 feet cannot use the slips
- Large signs, in the water, must alert that boats over 20 feet are forbidden.
- Rocks (for habitat) must be placed under the docks.
- A site-specific Manatee Protection Plan must be written and approved.
- Eight slips, not ten, may be built.

When the District's plan went to the Army Corps, the Corps said: Two slips.

Is there any other way to read this story, except to say that the South Florida District wasted \$14,000 of this citizen's dollars?

Here's another way: how much has it cost the District and the Corps to screw up this project? If it's under \$100,000, we should give them an Efficiency Award!

Example 2

The same District is apparently withholding permits from builders who seek to use wood pilings in fresh water.

Apparently — a word used a lot to describe what may be happening — the District is concerned that ACQ and CA pilings, which are certified by the US Environmental Protection Agency for use as fresh-water pilings, are bad.

At this writing, we don't know if the District has any evidence of its own, or even what its plan to address the issue may be. But the fact is: another moratorium is upon us. These are precisely the types of intergovernmental volleyballs we object to.

What's Next

FMCA backs three bills in this year's Legislature

to address permitting mayhem. The first bill would return over-water permitting to DEP. The second bill would require "upstairs notice" for every new RAI (Request for Additional Information), a tactic used by regulators throughout Florida to delay the 30-day regulatory time-clock. The third bill would require agencies to cite both legislative and rule authority for any denial.

None of these bills change Federal actions. But, we hope, they will draw clean and unmuddied lines here in Florida regarding who can do what — to whom.

FMCA 10

FMCA 11