



March News Letter

Harmonized Sales Tax (HST)

In spite of much opposition, *HST* is happening...and this is a key detail.

When annual slip fees are both invoiced and paid for on or before April 30, 2010 they will not be subject to the additional 8% tax. If the fees are not paid in full by that date the portion of the fee that applies after July 1, 2010 will be subject to the *HST*.

Boaters: Pay attention to this one. It could save you considerable money!!

Pleasure Craft Operator Card

After a 10-year phase in period, all Canadian boaters are now required to have their **Pleasure Craft Operator Card**, commonly referred to as a boating license. Effective now, anyone operating a powered watercraft recreationally in Canada must be able to show their card or risk the penalty of expensive fines.

This law applies to all ages. Some think a young person must be 16 years of age to get certified...or if you're 65 or older you are grandfathered. Neither is true. There is no minimum age to get certified and no age exemption. Others believe you don't need the card if your motor is less than 10 horsepower but in fact it's needed to operate any size of powered watercraft...even an electric motor on a canoe for example.

The 36 question, multiple-choice exam requires a 75% mark to receive a passing grade. And boaters can print a temporary card as soon as they pass online and their permanent card is mailed to their home in a few weeks. The card is good-for-life and never needs to be renewed.

"Taking the test online is convenient and the study material is free", says **Boater Exam** spokesperson Robert Dupel. **Boater Exam** also has a large national database of Canadian boaters and would be a good place to contact for anyone looking to replace their lost card. Chances are they have their record on file said Dupel.

Boater Exam is *Transport Canada* accredited. For more information or to take the exam please go to **www.delreymarina.com** and use the **Boater Exam** link on the lower left.

Don't forget to take advantage of the **\$10.00 OFF** coupon when taking the test on-line.

Brian Dumont - Master Shipwright

The marina is pleased to announce that an agreement has been reached with master shipwright *Brian Dumont* to provide custom gel and fibreglass marine repair services in the newly erected marina shop. *Brian's* thirty five years of boat building and repair experience will bring a level of in-house service not previously available at the marina. *Brian* and his wife who are long-time residents of Penetanguishene will be building their new home in the Orillia area this fall. We look forward to introducing you to *Brian* at the earliest opportunity.

Interac Email Money Transfers

Thanks to the electronic world we live in, many of us choose to pay most of our bills through the computer. It's fast, easy and secure. Unfortunately Canadian banks do not accommodate the transfer of money to small and medium sized companies with this program.

This is where an **Interac email money transfer** is great...just perfect actually, for paying bills at *Marina del Rey*. No need to worry about the hassle of sending a cheque or money order...never mind the envelope and stamp, and...you always have an exact record of the payment.

At the marina we receive an email message notifying us that you have sent an email payment. We verify the transfer online with our bank and the transaction takes place instantly. Several of our boaters are now paying this way and it works very well. These transfers take place at the same level of security as every other web banking transaction.

Canal Entrance Dredging

The fall newsletter advised that dredging of the small shoal at the canal mouth was about to begin. This work was completed two weeks later and boaters who have navigated the canal since the upgrade have commented that it is a significant improvement.

