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## Special New Year's Edition!!

Make your plans NOW to attend the Chesapeake Bay Catboat Association Annual Meeting, March 11, 2017, at the Kentmorr Restaurant on Kent Island.

Attention on Deck! The CCBA annual planning meeting will be held on March 11, 2017 at the Kentmorr Restaurant & Crab House, 910 Kentmorr Rd., Stevensville, MD 21666 from 11:30 – 3:30. For those of you not familiar with Stevensville, it's on Kent Island and the restaurant is very easy to get to, check out [www.kentmorr.com](http://www.kentmorr.com) for directions and information about the restaurant. We have a private dining area with a great view overlooking a marina and the Bay...no, you can't bring your fishing rods or crab pots!

We have arranged for five items off their menu to choose from:

Fish & Chips served with cole slaw

Broiled Crab Cake Sandwich served with french fries

Grilled Chicken Caesar Salad served with a dinner roll

Hamburger served with french fries

Vegetarian Pizza with side house salad

Cheese and grape tray with beverages (iced tea, coffee and soda) upon arrival.

Chocolate Chip cookies and coffee for dessert.

Price is \$24.00 which includes tax and gratuity.

Cash Bar for alcoholic beverages.

Menu items must be preselected so RSVP Steve Flesner prior to March 1, 2017 with your selection. We will be collecting dues and lunch charge upon arrival. If you pay with a check, please make it out to Paul Cammaroto, NOT CCBA! There is a cash machine on the premises. We are looking forward to a good turnout and hope to see many of you there. As usual, there will be entertainment from the CCBA Steering Committee headed by the Commodore...events will be discussed and some interesting activities planned for 2017. Please leave your pets at home, but kids are welcome... restaurant policy...guess that means we have to get a dog sitter for Mello!!!!

Email The Commdore at:

[flesner00@comcast.net](mailto:flesner00@comcast.net)

or click this link to make your reservation.

[CCBA Reservation Form:](#)



## Chesapeake Catboat Association Completes Successful Year... On and Off the Water!

2016 saw the intrepid sailors of the Chesapeake Catboat Association (CCBA) braving hot, humid, and windless conditions for several of their on-water events... and being treated to enough wind to force several sailors to double-reef their gaff-rigged boats in order to traverse parts of the group's long cruise to the Pokomoke. But throughout it all, the catboaters fostered camaraderie, a spirit of competitiveness and adventure, and that never-ending search for the perfect Dark and Stormy.

"All in all, a typical year," says CCBA commodore Steve Flesner.

The year began with a small fleet of catboats participating in a one-day regatta in Prospect Bay near Kent Narrows on the Eastern Shore. From there, the activities moved to Solomons Island for the Patuxent Shootout. Some members joined in the small boat fun at the Corsica River Yacht Club Regatta in July. Then, in mid-August, a number of catboaters enjoyed a mini-cruise and barbeque in the Annapolis Area.

The best attended event was the Great Whitehall Bay Regatta, held over the long Labor Day weekend. A total of 20 catboaters, spouses, and various hangers-on enjoyed a great buffet held at the Providence Yacht Club. Alas, Tropical Storm Hermine also attended the regatta, which resulted in a blow-out and postponement of racing until next year. CCBA member Phil "Ironman" Livingston was the recipient of the Tut Tuttle Award, given



Long cruise raftup. Photos by Craig Ligibel

annually to the catboater who attended the most events. Livingston didn't miss a one this year.

The Clueless Award, given to the member who demonstrated the most un-sailor-like feat during the season, was awarded to Butch Miller. Details of Miller's nautical misadventure are sketchy, but it has something to do with a mast that was too tall going under a bridge that was too short resulting in a slight "bugeye" effect to his catboat rig.

Past commodore Marc Cruder planned a great Long Cruise to the Pokomoke in mid-September. Five catboats participated in some or all of this traditional event. Next year's Long Cruise will be centered around the St. Michaels/Oxford area.

"The weather this year was characterized by a deluge of rain from an offshore tropical storm to comfortably cool conditions and consistent winds that made for long

stretches of good sailing," says Cruder. Attendees visited Slaughter Creek, Honga River, Crisfield, and Pokomoke City during the 10-day event.

Rounding up the year was the Wye River Goose chase, which this year was held in the West, Rhode, and South Rivers. Those catboaters are a wily bunch known best for going where the wind takes them, where the food is hot, and the rum is cold.

Several catboaters also participated in iconic Annapolis races like the *Elf* Classic and the Boatyard Bar and Grill Regatta to benefit CRAB. "We anticipate to build on this year's successes as we look towards 2017," says Flesner.

"Members can expect more of the same low-key racing, good times, raftups, and short and long cruising opportunities. Most of our members are around the Annapolis area, but we have a number of trailer-sailors that we encourage to come out and play with us whenever we are having an event."

The association will hold its annual meeting on March 11 at the Kentmorr Restaurant in Stevensville. Anyone who has an interest in catboats is invited to attend. Dues are only \$15 per year which include newsletters. There are plenty of opportunities for people who do not have boats to get out on the water with CCBA members.

To find out more about catboating on the Bay, go to [chesapeakecatboats.org](http://chesapeakecatboats.org) or call Steve Flesner at (410) 586-8179. You must call Steve if you plan to attend the Annual Meeting.



Chesapeake Catboat Association members gather prior to the National Catboat Association meeting in Mystic, CT.

Send story ideas about your boat, your cruises, catboat kids, your favorite restaurants, best places to anchor etc. to the Editor.  
All stories welcome. We pay top dollar for stories!! (Not). But other catboaters will enjoy reading about your adventures!