



## UPCOMING EVENTS

### MARCH

#### March 7

20th annual  
Winter Blues Ball  
SPCA Eastern Shore  
Moose Lodge, Belle Haven  
(757) 787-7385

#### March 29

Taste of the Eastern Shore  
Melfa Rotary  
Moose Lodge, Belle Haven  
(757) 787-2557

### APRIL

#### April 3

2nd annual Blessing  
of the Fleet  
Cape Charles  
(757) 331-3259

#### April 25

Historic House and  
Garden Tour  
The Garden Club of  
the Eastern Shore  
Around the Shore  
(757) 678-7889

### MAY

#### May 9

Corks & Forks  
Hospice and Palliative Care  
of the Eastern Shore  
Chatham Vineyards

#### May 30 & 31

"Alice in Wonderland"  
Palace Theatre, Cape Charles  
(757) 331-2787

For additional information and events visit  
[www.esvachamber.org](http://www.esvachamber.org)

## 41st Annual Seafood Festival - May 6

Planning is well under way for the Eastern Shore's annual rite of spring. The Seafood Festival is scheduled from noon to 4 p.m. at Tom's Cove Campground on Chincoteague Island.

As we go to press with this newsletter, we are considering several entertainment options. However, the food will still include the same high-quality fare you have been used to over the years. Clams and oysters, fritters, single fried, and on the half-shell, clam chowder, Tyson's grilled chicken, cornbread, fries, both from the spud and the sweet potato. This is just a sampling of the delicious offerings you will find on the first Wednesday in May.



Even though costs of seemingly everything keep climbing, you can still get all this for \$40. Get your tickets by visiting the chamber or our Web site, [www.esvachamber.org](http://www.esvachamber.org).

Come on out. You know you want to.

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## *Home on the Shore Expo Takes a Hiatus*

After careful consideration, the Home on the Shore Expo Committee has decided to cancel this year's show.

The show, which had been scheduled for Saturday, March 7, at Nandua High School, is yet another victim of the sluggish economy. The committee knew from the beginning of planning back in November that this would be a challenging year.

When the Feb. 2 deadline came and went with less than what we considered a must-have number of participants, we pulled the plug on the event.

"We'd rather wait a year and do another great show," said Chamber President Jeff Davis. "It wouldn't be prudent to have the event this year given the diminished interest by our business community."

# How to Prevent Futile Meetings

*Courtesy of Chamber Executive Network*

Here are five practices that can ensure your meetings are more productive and less painful, from Dr. Todd Thomas, [www.impactsuccess.com](http://www.impactsuccess.com):

1. **If there is no agenda the day before the meeting, cancel the meeting.** If it is important enough to take everybody's time for a meeting, it is important enough to be prepared.
2. **Ensure each person has a reason to be at the meeting.** Make sure to review the purpose not only of the meeting but in this specific group coming together.
3. **Never trade meeting effectiveness for rigid agenda control.** When you see an item needs additional discussion time, ask participants how they would like to handle it.
4. **Start and end on time.** Respect your own time management and that of others.
5. **Always make the last agenda item "Review of meeting."** Allow time to discuss what went well and what could be improved. Were these the right topics? Were the right people in attendance? What should be changed for future meetings?

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## Are you a seafood lover?

The Virginia Marine Products Board announces the new Virginia Seafood Lover license plate. This proposed plate depicts a few of the many seafood species harvested from the Chesapeake Bay and its tributaries and represents Virginia's seafood industry, one of the oldest industries in the United States and one of the commonwealth's largest.

The Virginia Seafood Lover license plate is being introduced to support the marketing that is necessary to keep Virginia in the top four largest producers of marine products in the nation, and to help in promoting the aquaculture industry of clams, oysters, and fish. In order for the plate to be

released in 2010, 350 prepaid applications must be received by the Virginia Division of Motor Vehicles. After 1,000 tags are sold, \$15 of each annual plate renewal will benefit the marketing efforts for Virginia seafood.

Applications are available at several Eastern Shore locations, including Don's Restaurant in Chincoteague, Susan's Seafood in Mappsville, Mallards at the Wharf in Onancock, Edwards Seafood in Onley, Blue Crab Bay in Melfa, Island House Restaurant in Wachapreague, Great Machipongo Clam Shack in Nassawadox, and J.H. West Seafood in Townsend. Applications and more information are also available online at [www.bluecrabbay.com/plate.asp](http://www.bluecrabbay.com/plate.asp).



### *Anglers, keep your eyes on the prize ... and the mail*

The third annual Black Drum World Championship Fishing Tournament registrations are set to be mailed and e-mailed Monday, March 23. Registration prices start at \$200 per boat for as many as six anglers. At press time, a few sponsorships remained, so please call the Chamber if your business is interested, (757) 787-2460.

# WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

## D&D Computing

Mr. Marvin Giddens  
25555 Main St., Onley  
P.O. Box 467  
Painter, VA 23420  
Phone: (757) 787-9597  
dndcomputing@yahoo.com  
Category: Computers

## Wachapreague Volunteer Fire Co., Inc.

Mrs. Penney Fluhart  
1 High St.  
P.O. Box 390  
Wachapreague, VA 23480  
Phone: (757) 787-7818  
Fax: (757) 787-1190  
wachapreaguevfc@verizon.net  
Categories: Associations,  
Clubs & Organizations; Special  
Events/Festivals



## Herl's Bath & Tile Solutions

Ms. Sally Herling  
31440 Winterplace Pkwy.  
Salisbury, MD 21804  
Phone: (410) 219-9033  
Fax: (410) 219-5790  
sally@herlsinc.com  
www.updatemybath.com  
Category: Bathroom Remodeling

## Lewin & Carr, Inc., Realtors

Ms. Irene Carr Lewin  
29 Market St.  
Onancock, VA 23417  
Phone: (757) 787-0901  
Fax: (757) 787-8882  
lewininc@verizon.net  
www.lewincarr.com  
Category: Real Estate

## Eastern Shore Community Services Board

Ms. Sharon Parker  
19056 Greenbush Rd.  
Parksley, VA 23421  
P.O. Box 434  
Nassawadox, VA 23413  
Phone: (757) 665-1260  
sparker@escsb.org  
Category: Medical Services  
and Supplies

## Down Country Club Road

This year the Eastern Shore Yacht & Country Club in Melfa is offering a summer membership program in response to many requests. This membership provides all regular social member privileges from Memorial Day to Labor Day. For less than a typical week at the beach your family can enjoy the club all summer!

Expanded junior sailing courses and newly rebuilt tennis courts are available for all members, along with the clubhouse, pool, dock and other recreational facilities. For details on this and other membership opportunities, see [www.esycc.com](http://www.esycc.com) or call (757) 787-1525.

Better yet, check things out in person when the club hosts a visitor open house on Saturday, April 25, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Bring the family or a friend, take a tour with your own personal guide, and see what the club has to offer. Do you play golf? This one day also features a full round of golf for visitors, including cart, for just \$14 per person.



# CHAMBER VOLUNTEER PARTY IS JUST DUCKY

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- Steven Belote
- Will Chaffins
- Dona Danziger
- Dr. Niall Finnegan
- Rusty Gowen
- Lou Hickman
- Willie L. Holland, Jr.
- B.W. James
- Annie Jones
- Dr. Terris Kennedy
- Josh Lattimore
- Nathaniel J. Lovett
- Willie C. Randall
- Joe Saunders
- David H. Turner
- Adair Tyler
- George Ann Way
- John T. Williams, Jr.

## STAFF

- Jeff Davis  
President
- Amy Savona  
Vice President
- Trish Doiron  
Administrative Assistant
- Virginia Evans  
Accounting Clerk

Mallards at the Wharf was the scene of the chamber's first volunteer thank you party on Jan. 20. Chamber President Jeff Davis and Vice President Amy Savona had discussed for some time how to make all volunteers feel truly appreciated regardless of which event they take part in. Then the idea of a casual cocktail party came up and gained immediate momentum.

Invitations went out in mid-December, and the menu was planned with something for even the most discriminating taste buds. More than 50 volunteers, directors, and staff showed up and, by all accounts, everyone had a wonderful evening.



Committee members Rusty Gowen, left, J.T. Holland, Adair Tyler, and Bill Sterling share stories.



Annie Jones, left, chairs the Chamber's Essentials Committee, and Pete Henderson has served for several years on the Harvest Festival Committee.



Staffers Trish Doiron and Amy Savona catch up with Harvest Festival Committee member Russell Moore, standing, and Harvest Festival veterans Jerome Powell and Anthony Smaw.

**The Eastern Shore  
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email:  
info@esvachamber.org**

## Harvest Festival tickets available online now

The 17th annual Harvest Festival is set for Wednesday, Oct. 7, 2009, at Sunset Beach Resort in Cape Charles. Log on to [www.esvachamber.org](http://www.esvachamber.org) to order your tickets now. Don't let the economy get you down. Harvest Festival tickets are available again this year for just \$40. All-you-can-eat seafood including crab cakes, soft crab sandwiches, fried flounder, clam chowder, and much more – now, that's something you don't want to miss.