

## AND NOW, A WORD FROM OUR CHAIRMAN



Has spring sprung where you are? If not, it's not far away, and that means another Summit!

Your Board of Directors held their winter meeting at the Marriott Bay Point Resort Village in Panama City Beach, Florida. WOW what a great facility! The Summit has booked the entire property for the April 18-21 dates. Hope you are one of the attendees because this location is outstanding! Congratulations to the Summit planning committee for this event, it will be fabulous! My sneak peek at the agenda, tells me there is something for everybody. We will have some outstanding programs presented, especially those that are competing for our NSBC National Boating Education Advancement Award, sponsored by Coors Brewing Company. The three programs

vying for this award are designed to be exportable, so you may duplicate them in your boating safety program. We have had just superlative programs in the past; I expect this year's crop will be equally outstanding. And this year's paddling track, do I dare say, will really cover the waterfront.

I reported to you that our Board would be considering the recent mandatory PFD wear issue. We did, and fortunately cooler heads than mine prevailed. We concluded that it's too early for the Council to take a position on this issue, but we are now urging every serious boater to examine the whole question. It will be in the news for years to come, so just as we faced personal watercraft debates a few years ago, we should be prepared to have an intelligent discussion on this PFD question. I ask you to visit the Canadian Safe Boating Council's web site, [www.csbc.ca](http://www.csbc.ca) and click on their offerings of their research study.

The North American Safe Boating Campaign is gearing up. Randy Smith says your kits are in the mail – you should have received one by now. He is urging everyone to list their events or kick-off program on the Campaign website. Go to [www.safeboatingcampaign.com](http://www.safeboatingcampaign.com). This site has the entire kit that you can download: radio PSA's, pressroom stuff and much more. I hope this material will help you plan and execute a great campaign in your community. Get your folks excited, get involved and involve other boating groups to help spread the message, **Boat Smart, Boat Safe, Wear It.**

As the weather warms and your boats eagerly slide into the water, take your family out, take a kid out, enjoy our waters and have a safe voyage.

See you at the Summit,

*Bill Griswold*

Just a gentle reminder  
to pay your NSBC dues because we want you  
to remain a member. Call if you have mis-  
placed your membership renewal form.  
703-361-4294

## WELCOME ABOARD, NEW NSBC MEMBERS

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