

CBSOA BOARD MEMBERS 2006/7

PRESIDENT

Cary Smith
president@cbsoa.org
 Pillar Point Harbor Patrol
 650-726-4382

VICE PRESIDENT

Scott Mitchell
southerndirector@cbsoa.org
 Long Beach Fire Department
 Marine Safety Division
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NORTHERN DIRECTOR

Mark Lillibridge
northerndirector@cbsoa.org
 Shasta Co. Sheriff's Office
 Marine Unit
 530-245-6075

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Jim Byers
centraldirector@cbsoa.org
 El Dorado Co. Sheriff's Office
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 310-318-0632

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Wes Dodd, Life Member
treasurer@cbsoa.org

SECRETARY

Laura Dodd, Life Member
secretary@cbsoa.org

DIRECTOR AT LARGE

Danny Lopez
directoratlarge@cbsoa.org
 San Francisco PD Marine Unit
 415-409-1020

The Beacon

EDITOR
 Cary Smith
editor@cbsoa.org

Check the CBSOA website
www.cbsoa.org



FROM THE HELM PRESIDENT CARY SMITH

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perspective of participation.

We are looking forward to the Northern/Central one-day training symposium on Lake Shasta on October 11th. The topics and speakers are on the cutting edge and should provide those in attendance with valuable information that can be used by all on the water. A big thanks in advance goes to Mark Lillibridge and the Shasta County Sheriff's Office boating safety unit. We will all be looking forward to seeing the infamous bimini top in use on the water. Sun protection is important to all of us.

The Department of Boating and Waterways hosted a forum on mandatory boater education recently in Sacramento. There were over 70 people in attendance, all with diverse and vast knowledge of boating safety. Consensus was that mandatory boating education is something we should have in California. The true challenge is in the

details, and the stewarding of the legislation through the legislature. California is recognized as the most proactive and innovative State for boater education, yet we lag behind other States in mandatory education for those on our waters. Education will create a safer environment for all on the water. For additional info and to add comments, check out <http://www.dbw.ca.gov/BoaterEdReq.asp>

We are working on the 34th Annual Training Symposium and topics will be forthcoming. Check out page 7 for more details. If you are interested in helping with the event please contact James Byers by email at centraldirector@cbsoa.org.

The Southern one-day training symposium date will also be announced shortly.

Thanks go to all of you who have sent stories and images in for *The Beacon*. We are improving and getting a great

selection of experiences on the water.

We also thank our sponsors for their contributions. The CBSOA supports those who support our efforts. When you need a product or service, contact one of our supporters, you need to look no further than *The Beacon* or check in the Annual Membership Directory for their information.

As we enjoy the best time of the year, we begin preparing for the change in season. So much to do, so little time. CBSOA board members dedicate time and efforts for the membership. We are always looking for interested members to step up and assist in CBSOA endeavors. If interested please contact any board member. The future is very bright on the water, let us be the best prepared for any event. It is your dedication that makes the public safer. We look forward to seeing you all on the water soon.

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