



AMERICA'S BOATING CLUB® — DELAWARE VALLEY™

Boating Fun • Courses & Seminars • Civic Service
For Boaters By Boaters® Club founded in 1916



THE BAROMETER

May 2022

Commander's Message

Last month I attended the Spring Conference in Ocean City, Maryland. This was the first time that I stayed the entire time. I was impressed with the quality of the presentations and the knowledge of the presenters. Each one was knowledgeable and well prepared. I enjoyed meeting members of other squadrons in ABC-MidAtlantic.

It was interesting and enjoyable to chat with the more seasoned members of the district and I learned quite a bit talking and listening to their stories. I say seasoned, because some were younger than I, but had more experience boating and with life experiences. If you have the opportunity to attend one of the district or national functions. I urge you to do it.

This month we have two events scheduled, the spring picnic at Core Creek Park and The Educational Cruise on the Delaware River aboard the Yacht Ben Franklin. At the picnic the squadron provides hot dogs and hamburgers and members supply a side dish. This is a time to get together with your fellow members and exchange stories and to get to know them. The Educational Cruise is an opportunity to become familiar with the navigational aids on the Delaware and to enjoy a buffet meal with your friends. These events are a time to enjoy each other's company.

Our squadron now stands at 67 members. While not one of the smallest, we desperately need additional members to fill open bridge officer spots. Please consider taking on one of these opportunities to strengthen the Club. Also talk up the Club to your friends and fellow boaters. We welcome new members.

Looking forward to seeing you at our fun events.

Cdr Matt Refsin, S



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Administrative Officer's Message

It's not too late to sign up for this weekend's picnic at Core Creek Park. Please see the flyer on the next page and call or email me with what you would like to bring. ABC-DV will be providing hot dogs and hamburgers so just bring your favorite side dish or dessert. This is a family friendly event – we would love to meet your kids, grandchildren and even great-grandchildren!

Plans are also underway for another picnic down at the Jersey Shore. We had a wonderful time last year at our District Commander's marina and hopefully this year will be able to take a cruise around the bay! Stay tuned for details in upcoming issues of The Barometer.

Lt/C Bill Muehlberger, AP

Educational Officer's Message

I'm excited to be providing the narration for our upcoming Educational Cruise on the Delaware River, being held on May 25th. This is a popular event so if you haven't already done so please contact Bob Tafel to make your reservations.

If you've never been on this trip, it's a combination of education and relaxation! We cruise down the river during the daylight and back after dusk so you have the opportunity to see the lighted ATONs and ranges. We also usually see some of the big freighters that navigate the river.

There's also a full buffet dinner to boot, so don't miss this event!

We are looking at some seminars for upcoming meetings so stay tuned for details.

Lt/C Erik Williams, S





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SPRING PICNIC

7 May 2022

11 AM- 3 PM

Come join us for a pre-boating season picnic at Core Creek Park, Pavilion 9, Langhorne, PA.

The Club will provide burgers, hot dogs, and beverages.

Bring an appetizer or dessert.

Let us know what you will be bringing.

Bill Muehlberger (215)694-8772

Email pennsy13@gmail.com

Directions to Picnic at Core Creek Park, 901 Bridgetown Pike, Langhorne, PA
From I-95- Take the Street Road Exit. Follow Street Road to Bustleton Pike, Route 532. Turn right on 532 and follow the directions below.

From Bustleton Pike (Rt 532) and Street Rd. Feasterville, PA Take Bustleton Pike N past The Buck Hotel. Bear Right to Bridgetown Pike. Continue past Playwiki Farm to the Roundabout. Bear left around the circle and continue on Bridgetown Pike past Langhorne Newtown Road. Continue to Main Entrance of Core Creek Park on the left.

To Pavilion 9- Map of the Park can be found on the Internet by typing "Core Creek Park, Langhorne, PA" Enter the park and continue on Park Road past the Main Office on the right. Follow Park Road to Duchess Lane. Turn right. Continue to parking lot. Pavilion 9 is to the left of the lot closest to the parking lot and the Rest Rooms.



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ABC-DV BRIDGE 2021-2022

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EPIRBs AND PLBs

WHAT ARE EPIRBs AND PLBs?

First of all EPIRBs and PLBs are acronyms. EPIRB stands for emergency position indicating radio beacon. PLB stands for personal locator beacon. A PLB is the smaller counterpart of an EPIRB. In any case they are both life-saving devices. By simply turning them on, they send out an SOS signal via satellite. They directly inform search and rescue personnel of your position from virtually anywhere on the planet. EPIRBs and PLBs are saving hundreds of lives every year and operate easily under duress or stress.

WHAT IS THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN AN EPIRB AND A PLB?

The biggest difference between these two devices is that EPIRBs register with the boat. PLBs are for use by an individual. EPIRBs mount on the boat itself. PLBs are usually worn on a PFD. They can also fit nicely in a dry bag or an emergency go-bag. EPIRBs are larger than PLBs. EPIRBs usually have more battery life. In fact they require them to have a minimum of 48 hours of battery life. On the other hand, they require the PLBs have only half that at 24 hours of battery life. EPIRBs always have a strobe light built in, while PLBs may or may not have a strobe light.

HOW DOES AN EPIRB WORK?

Firstly, when a locator beacon activates it transmits an SOS message to a rescue dedicated satellite. Secondly, the distress signal relays to a network of ground stations. Thirdly, this triggers alerts to the appropriate local or national authorities to initiate a search and rescue mission. Furthermore authorities will attempt to contact the beacon owner to make sure that it hasn't been an accidental triggering. Above all rescuers can initiate a response within minutes.

The Category I EPIRB design will automatically release from its mounted position and activate when they become submerged. The Category II EPIRB design allows for both hard mounting or hand carrying. Category II's also activate manually if need be. Modern EPIRBs and PLBs models generally have internal GPS. Unlike the past this allows them to transmit their exact location when activated within seconds.

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Most importantly this reduces the search-time massively. As a result, as many say, the modern day EPIRBs and PLBs takes the search out of search and rescue.

By law, you must register a locator beacon with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). There is a link at the bottom of this article. Once registered the beacon's unique 15-digit identification code is then associated with either your boat or you personally. Hence when triggered and begins transmitting its signal, the authorities immediately know who and where you are. They will also know all the ancillary information you added at registration.

WHERE CAN I GET THEM?

So the truth is that EPIRBs and PLBs are affordable. You can do an internet search and find hundreds of makes and models online. Most any Marine Shop will be able to help you as well.

Keep in mind that although these devices must be registered to a boat or a person, one can rent an EPIRB or PLB. Once again, at a very reasonable price. The beacons you rent are pre-registered and when rented, you'll provide your vessel type, itinerary, and other pertinent information. Subsequently, if a unit gets triggered, the information immediately passes this information on to the US Coast Guard. Considering how much these units enhance your safety at sea, most boaters would surely agree that getting a modern EPIRB or PLB is well worth the investment.

SHOULD I BUY AN EPIRB OR A PLB?

The decision as to whether you buy an EPIRB or a PLB may be dictated by legislation. Some vessels are required to carry an EPIRB to meet their legal obligations. If this is the case, then your decision will be whether you want to carry a PLB in addition to an EPIRB or not.

Experts recommend an EPIRB be fitted to any boat that goes to sea. If mounted correctly, it will float free if you have an incident and immediately broadcast for assistance. You may get trapped in the cabin during a capsize, so having an external automatic method of broadcasting distress is invaluable.

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In addition to an EPIRB, experts recommend each crew member has a PLB fixed to themselves. The personal nature of the PLB means that it can be used if the crew member gets separated from the vessel. A typical scenario is a man overboard. Unless the person falling is spotted immediately it is very hard to locate someone in the water.

Giving them the ability to call for assistance is critical for improving their chances of survival. EPIRBs and PLBs may seem like just another expense for a mariner, but in the view of many the benefits certainly outweigh the cost. If it was your child going to sea, you would want them to carry both an EPIRB and a PLB. The cost of equipment is always less than the cost of a life.

IN CONCLUSION

Here is a great page from NOAA's website further clarifying and linking information regarding 406 beacons: <<https://www.sarsat.noaa.gov/emergency-406-beacons/>>

Courtesy of Marco Island Sail and Power Squadron

America's Boating Channel Launches FIRE EXTINGUISHER REGULATIONS

The first video in **America's Boating Channel's™** sixth season of boating safety and boater education videos, "**FIRE EXTINGUISHER REGULATIONS**," premiered on Wednesday morning April 20 at 9 AM Eastern Daylight Time (EDT) on the internet and through social media.

The new title debuted on AmericasBoatingChannel.com and America's Boating Channel on YouTube the same day that a new U.S. regulation went into effect regarding fire extinguishers aboard pleasure craft.

"FIRE EXTINGUISHER REGULATIONS" covers the new rule that separates commercial and recreational vessel fire protection requirements. Viewers will learn how to ensure that all required portable fire extinguishers comply. Also featured are tips for preventing onboard fires in the first place.



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From the ABC-MidAtlantic Bridge

I'm pleased to share that this year's Summer Council will be held on July 29-31 at Rock Hall Landing Marina in beautiful Rock Hall, Maryland. The marina is under new ownership and they have made a number of upgrades in the motel rooms and marina. There are also a number of restaurants and sightseeing opportunities nearby so a great way to spend your summer vacation!

If you haven't attended a District event this is a great one to start with! The focus is on fun and is definitely family friendly. We have several activities being considered including a navigation contest, fishing contest, and lawn and pool games, as well as multiple social gatherings.

V/C Ralph Bernard is coordinating a cruise prior to the meeting that will start in Baltimore and end in Rock Hall. If you are interested in joining in on the fun, please let Ralph know as soon as possible. If members are interested, we may be able to get tickets to see the Orioles play the Yankees. Send an email to Ralph at rb3513@comcast.net.

Registration information is in the Mark 5 that was recently posted on the ABC-MidAtlantic website. <www.abc-midatlantic.org>

Plans are also underway for the Fall Conference which we anticipate will be held at the Maritime Conference Center in Linthicum, MD. More details will be released as we firm them up.

I hope you will take advantage of these fun and educational events and I look forward to seeing many of you there!

Stephanie Ward
ABC-MidAtlantic Commander



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THIS MONTH'S FEATURED MEMBER BENEFIT

Free USPS Prescription Savings Card

Download your FREE card now and start saving today! Members can save up to 75% on prescription drugs with your FREE USPS Prescription Savings Card. No fees and it never expires. Accepted at over 59,000 pharmacies. One card covers your entire family including pets. Click [here](#) to learn more.

Before heading into one of our participating pharmacies, use our convenient pricing tool to get estimated prices for the medications you need today. Simply enter your zip code and the drug name to see the discounted price the usps Rx Card can provide at pharmacies near you.

This discount prescription coupon card will provide you with Rx medication savings of up to 80% at thousands of pharmacies across the country including CVS, Walmart, Kroger, Walgreens and their affiliates. You can create as many cards as you need. We encourage you to create multiple cards and send to friends and family members via one of the many available options. The Card is pre-activated and can be used immediately!

American Hearing Benefits - a Convenient Hearing Benefits Program

American Hearing Benefits is a convenient hearing benefits program which provides access to free hearing consultations and significant discounts on hearing aids through our nationwide network of hearing professionals. As a member of USPS, you and your family are entitled to the following hearing savings through American Hearing Benefits:

One year of free office visits

- Free Deluxe Warranty Plan, including loss and damage
- 60-day trial period
- Financing plans available

To learn more call 888-580-7801 or visit online by [>CLICKING HERE!](#)



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JOIN US FOR AN EDUCATIONAL CRUISE ON THE DELAWARE RIVER



Aboard the Benjamin Franklin Yacht
Enjoy a Narrated Cruise and
Buffet Dinner

Wednesday, May 25, 2022

Boarding: 1800

Departure: 1830

Rain or Shine

Traditional and electronic methods of navigation will be presented.

During this trip you will enjoy a delightful, full course dinner on the lower dining deck of the Ben Franklin. The informative and exciting narration will focus on aids to navigation, piloting, and chart work using a hand-held compass, GPS, and plotting our position on Delaware River Chart 12312. On the return trip you will see lighted aids, ranges and navigation lights on the big ships.

Bring your neighbors and friends

Make reservation by sending a check in the amount of \$35.00 for each adult payable to ABC-DV to Lt/C Robert Tafel, PO Box 585, Hatboro, PA 19040 (215-441-4154).

List the name of each guest and e-mail address. (Sea Scouts & children under 12 at \$15.00).

Directions: The Ben Franklin departs from 101 S. Columbus Blvd. which is just south of the Ben Franklin Bridge. South on I-95: take the right hand lane at exit 22 for Callowhill St. At the bottom of the off ramp, turn left on Callowhill St. and then right on N. Columbus Blvd. Turn left onto Penns Landing and the yacht will be on the left. There is ample parking at the location.

Uniform of the day = ABC Casual

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BACON WRAPPED CHICKEN THIGHS



Ingredients

- 8 skinless, boneless Chicken thighs
- 8 thick cut strips of bacon
- 1 tsp salt
- 1/2 tsp ground black pepper
- 2 small red onions (or 1 large) cut into wedges
- 3 cloves of garlic smashed
- 1 Tbsp molasses
- 1 tsp whole grain mustard
- 2 Tbsp all purpose flour
- 1&1/2 cups heavy whipping cream
- 1 Tbsp chopped fresh thyme
- Fresh thyme sprigs for garnish

Directions.

Preheat oven to 350F. After drying the chicken thighs season with salt and pepper. Wrap each thigh with a strip of bacon (as well as you can, use tooth pick if necessary). Heat a 12" cast iron pan and fry the thighs until bacon begins to crisp, turning thighs as needed. Add onion and garlic; cook until almost tender, about 4 minutes. In a small bowl whisk together the molasses and mustard; spread over chicken. Bake this entire mixture until thermometer reads 165 degrees, about 20 minutes. Remove chicken, onions and garlic from skillet and save about 1/4 cup of reserved drippings; heat skillet over medium heat; whisk in flour, cook until bubbly, about 1 minute. re-duce to low, gradually whisk in cream until smooth; stir in thyme; return chicken, onion and garlic to skillet; Garnish with thyme if desired and serve.



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AMERICA'S BOATING CLUB®
-- DELAWARE VALLEY

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FIRST CLASS MAIL

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

UPCOMING EVENTS

- | | |
|-------------|--|
| May 7 | ABC-DV Spring Picnic, Core Creek Park |
| May 10 | ABC-DV Meeting (Virtual) |
| May 25 | Delaware River Educational Cruise |
| June 14 | ABC-DV Meeting (Virtual) |
| July 29, 30 | D/5 Summer Council, The Mariner at Rock Hall Landing Marina, Rock Hall, MD |