



America's Boating Club Lehigh Valley

DELHIGHLIGHTS

District 5



AUGUST—SEPTEMBER 2024

VOLUME 65 ISSUE 3



Commander's Corner

Cdr Keith Knoblach, AP

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Most squadron meetings are held monthly at :

Star of Bethlehem Lutheran Church
514 3rd Avenue
Bethlehem, PA 18018

Delhigh website:

www.BoatingLehighValley.com

D/5 website: www.uspsd5.org

Hello everyone,

It has been a busy summer so far with graduations, our trailerboat rendezvous picnics and of course, our regular monthly meetings. Our Summer Rendezvous in Haven Harbor was a great time, even with the high temperatures and rough water. Our trip to Great Oaks was a real hull-check as the water was rough to say the least. My hat is off to everyone involved with the planning of major events like these, and for keeping everything moving smoothly. It was great having so many of our members make the trip, and it was the best of times enjoying ourselves. This was one of our best rendezvous trips, and I am already excited to go again in the future. I'm looking forward to our many upcoming events and to seeing you all there.

Remember to always boat safely and be mindful of your surroundings while you're out on the water. Look out for those with and around you, and remember to have a great time on the water.



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Visit our website here:

www.BoatingLehighValley.com



www.americasboatingclub.org

Summer Rendezvous



Delhigh Power Squadron



The gang at Harbor Shack after dinner. Michelle, Kathy, Keith, Oliver, Cyrus, Vince, Chris, Randy, Jeanette and Fernando.



Cyrus, Vince and Oliver enjoying the view.



The full moon was out early for all to enjoy.



Chris enjoying a break in the shade.



Bob, Jeanette and Randy.



The moon was stunning.



Kathy, Vince, Oliver and Cyrus heading out for a ride.



Sherika, Michelle, Keith, Fernando, Kathy, Bob, Vince, Randy, Oliver, Jeanette and Cyrus enjoying the weather.



Oliver driving to lunch.



Summer Rendezvous



The past commanders egg toss begins.



Past commanders are pulling out all the tricks.



The partners are catching with ease.



These catches are keeping us all entertained!



Down to the last two teams, Oliver and Cyrus versus Vince and Jeanette.



Cyrus and Oliver were victorious.



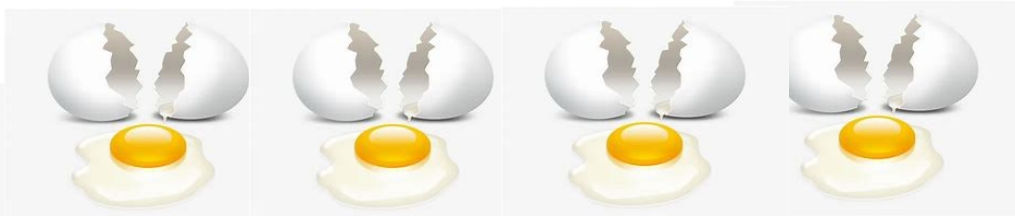
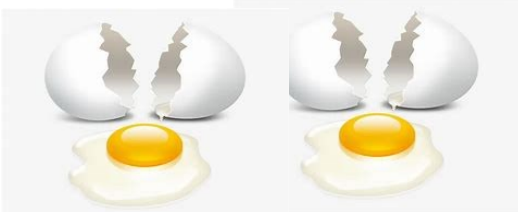
Second round of egg toss begins.



Down to Oliver and Chris versus Fernando and Randy.



Chris and Oliver won round two!



Summer Rendezvous



Delhigh Power Squadron



Keith, Jeanette and Cyrus out for a ride.



Sherika and Nikki enjoying the water.



Vince, Chris, Oliver and Cyrus heading back from lunch.



Last Call out on the water.



Keith's crew heading back from lunch.



Randy enjoying taking Keith's boat for a ride.



Michelle, Fernando, Keith, Chris, Bob, Jeanette, Randy, Cyrus, Vince, Oliver, Kathy and Sherika at lunch.



Jeanette and Randy enjoying a drink.



Keith, Chris and Bob smiling for the camera.



Summer Rendezvous



Sherika, Kathy, Cyrus, Oliver, Vince, Chris and Carey enjoying drinks before dinner.



Fernando, Jeanette, Randy, Bob, Keith and Michelle enjoying appetizers.



Nikki, Sherika and Cyrus taking a selfie.



Oliver and Vince posing for the camera.



Fernando gets all the love...



Keith excited about his rain gauge.



Bob with his Hawaiian dressed wine and stopper.



Michelle and Nikki excited for their turtle and frog lawn décor.



One final sunset after a fun weekend.



Trailerboat Rendezvous Blue Marsh Lake



Delhigh Power Squadron



Nikki enjoying the relaxing lake.



Keith and Oliver leading the way.



Cookie & Kathy up front, while Cyrus pilots Last Call in the calm Blue Marsh waters.



Kathy and Cyrus having a great time together on the water.



Nikki and Cookie enjoying the scenery out on the lake.



A cute little stowaway found in the anchor locker!



Cookie soaking up the best days of summer right here!



Keith and Oliver taking in the scenery.



What a fun day with this happy crew!





Wednesday, August 7

Meet at
Hotel Bethlehem
6pm

A great time with food, fun, music,
drinks, and friends!



Visit the site for more information:
[Musikfest — Bethlehem, PA](https://www.americasboatingclub.org/musikfest-bethlehem-pa)

Join Delhigh for our August Monthly Meeting at



When: **Wednesday, August 21,
2024**

Where: PennTeleData Party Porch
(3rd Base Side)

Buffet: 6:05pm - 8:05pm

Game: 7:05pm

Cost: \$38.00 each

NOTE: The private, upgraded buffet will be served rain or shine and includes the usual burgers, dogs and sides and more, plus water and soft drinks. If the game is cancelled the buffet WILL STILL BE SERVED. We will meet regardless of the weather! **We have our own buffet and a roof over our heads so we will stay dry rain or shine!**

Please contact Kathy at 956.240.5553 or k.now@mac.com if you would like to make a reservation to attend.

Friends and Family are Welcome!





Bonfire

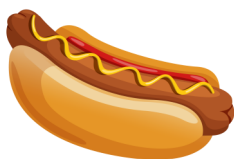


Saturday, August 24
Dlugos Fire Pit

Hotdogs will be roasting on the fire.
Please bring an appetizer, side dish or
dessert to share.



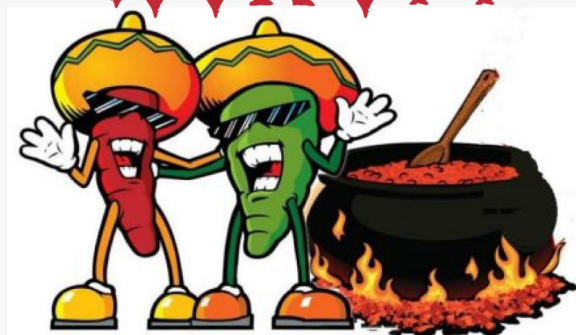
Clay shooting starts at 2pm



Hotdogs served at 5pm
Please RSVP to Mary Lee at
MaryLee116@gmail.com or 570.421.3656

September Meeting and

CHILI COOK-OFF



Wednesday, September 4
6:30pm
Nowroozani Residence

Please bring a Chili of your choosing or a
bread/dessert to share.



COOKOUT



Saturday, September 21
Lebeduik Residence
3pm

Pork Chops and Chicken will be served with rice and a salad.



Please bring an appetizer or dessert to share.

RSVP to Kathy at k.now@mac.com
or 956.240.5553



Sporting Clays



and Oktoberfest



Saturday,
October 12



Become a Better Boater, Take an In-Person Boating Course with



Delhigh Power Squadron

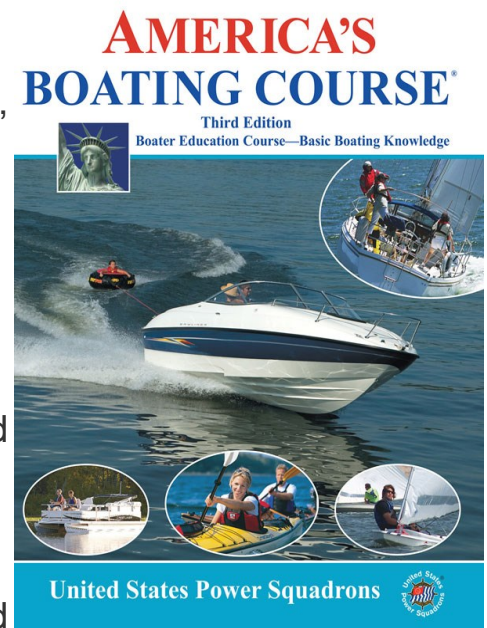


Taking a boating class reduces your risk of accidents and injuries, saves you money on boat insurance and qualifies you to test for your state boating license.

America's Boating Course is the most comprehensive, single source, in-person boating course available to give you the skills you need to enjoy your time on the water and boat with confidence. Our boater safety class meets the certification requirements for a Pennsylvania boat license.

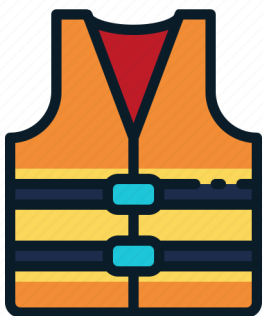
What You'll Learn:

- Information about Pennsylvania State Boating Laws, regulations, boat registration, and licensing
- Required boating safety equipment
- Do's and Don'ts of boating safely
- Practical Knowledge of navigation and rules of the road
- How to handle medical emergencies onboard and mechanical problems on the water
- The basics of towing and trailering
- Special, important information for hunters, anglers, and sports enthusiasts.



For the best, most comprehensive boating education available, take America's Boating Course with our certified expert instructors.

Cost of the Class is \$50 per person with book



For more information or to register for the course contact Kathleen at k.now@mac.com



Honey's Adventures 2024 Summer Rendezvous Rock Hall

Hello, my name is Honey. I've been friends with Michelle and Fernando since 2012; eleven delightful years filled with memorable moments. Our first big adventure together was a trip to Maryland for the District 5 Change of Watch, where I had a rather thrilling experience of being placed on a fan that turned on, sending me on an unexpected ride. As the years passed, we enjoyed many simpler moments together, but the excitement of another adventure had always stayed with me.

Recently, we embarked on a new journey, once again heading to Maryland. This time, I was comfortably nestled in Michelle and Fernando's car for the ride, far away from any fans. Our destination was Rock Hall Marina, where the calm waters of docks A and B greeted us. It felt refreshing to be by the water again, with the boats gently swaying and the salty air filling my senses.

During our stay, we visited several charming restaurants. One memorable evening, I found myself playing the drums at a lively spot, adding a rhythmic beat to the night's festivities. At another restaurant, a mermaid captured my curiosity; we struck up a friendship that added a touch of magic to the trip. I even got to sit on a life ring, although I was quite relieved it wasn't tossed into the water for me to catch!

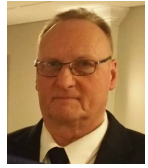
Our adventures didn't end there. I spent a delightful evening by the fire, swaying in a hammock under the stars, and later, I challenged myself to climb up a rope board at the playground. Each moment was filled with joy and new experiences, creating lasting memories. Eventually, it was time to return to Pennsylvania. We packed up and rode back in Michelle and Fernando's car, reflecting on the wonderful times we had shared. The journey was smooth and filled with laughter as we reminisced about our boating friends and the fun we had. All in all, it was another safe and enjoyable trip, adding another chapter to our book of adventures.





VSC Corner

By: Cdr Keith Knoblach, AP



Thank you to all our Vessel Safety Examiners. The trip to Raystown Lake was a great time with the Barbara's, doing VSC's and taking a boat ride before the 50th year fireworks celebration. We have completed 25 vessel safety checks.

Out-of-date fire extinguishers were the reason for not passing some of the vessel safety checks we did. Some of the owners thought since it was charged, it was okay. Remember fire extinguishers are good for twelve years from manufacturing date on boats, and must be Coast Guard approved. Check your extinguishers for compliance.

Check your navigation lights. Even if you only boat in the daytime, they still have to work. Finding out they don't when you need them can be very frustrating.

Summer has brought us some hot and turbulent weather to test our knowledge of what to do in order to stay safe. Remember to have plenty of water so you stay hydrated and know sunscreen is always recommended. Even on some overcast days, you can burn without realizing it.

If you see someone in distress, render aid to the best of your safety. It's the law and the right thing to do and one day you may be the one in need of help.

Let's all boat safely and have fun doing it. Have a great summer of fun.



August

Michael Bernardi

P/C Jeanette Meisner, AP

1st/Lt Ed Muschlitz, SN

P/D/C L. Chris Brown, SN

Amy Fontana

P/Lt/C Don Ludwig, AP



Click to go to [America's Boating Channel™](https://www.boatinghighvalley.com) to see videos about safe boating and boating education!



Administrative Officer's Report

Summer is in full swing and we are out enjoying our boats! It is great to have so many of you out on our boat this year. As summer moves forward, there are still many outdoor events scheduled on our calendar.

We will once again be at Musikfest Wednesday, August 7th, meeting in front of Hotel Bethlehem. I will be in California getting Oliver ready for college, so contact Keith if you plan to go.

Our August Iron Pigs meeting is Wednesday, August 21st and it is Country Western Night so feel free to wear your boots and hat to watch the game! The promotional giveaway is a belt buckle so make sure to arrive early!

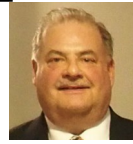
August 24th is our Bonfire, with hotdogs roasting over the fire. We will also be shooting clays beforehand for anyone who is interested. Please RSVP to Mary Lee if you plan to attend and if you plan to shoot so she has a headcount.

September starts with our meeting and Chili Cook-off. Come and enjoy some chili and vote for your favorite. First prize will be awarded at the meeting.

For the cookout at Nikki's she will be cooking pork chops and chicken on the grill. Come out and enjoy a relaxing evening with us in the shade on the porch.

October will begin with Sporting Clays and our annual Oktoberfest, details will be in the next issue, but save the date as this is a fun filled all day event!

Please contact a bridge member with questions about any event, or if you have an idea for an upcoming event.



Executive Officer's Report

P/C Robert Rendish, P

I have been boating in some form or another for a long time, since I was a very young boy. Whether it was a 12 foot aluminum rowboat, or a 10 foot AMF Sunfish sailboat, or when I was introduced to powerboats on Lake Harmony, Pennsylvania by my cousins, I always met good people on the water.

I have written before about joining Delhigh Power Squadron, and meeting such great, friendly, generous people with a passion for boating, teaching safe boating, and sharing their experiences with all of us. One recent example of this friendliness and this passion for boating, was several weeks ago.

This was the first time out on the water with my boat, it's shakedown run. The boat started fine, and it ran and performed well all day.

Later in the afternoon, my brother was at the helm slowly going into a cove area to check out. We looked around this cove to beach the boat for a while, but there was no suitable area to do so. So, he started to back the boat out of this cove and turn around.

When he put the boat in drive, there was no forward propulsion; a shift lever cable broke, and we found ourselves stuck in reverse, with no forward drive. We didn't have neutral either.

We were shocked to have such a failure as this, as the boat was running and performing well all morning. Mark and I checked the engine compartment and cables, but found nothing we could determine to be broken.

We decided to start heading back to the launch ramp, which was about 2 miles away, in reverse, at a very slow speed. This was going to take a few hours, so we decided to wave a distress signal to get some help. We were successful in getting the attention of a boat, and they proceeded to approach us to offer assistance. And they did. We met this great family with a 22 foot Monterey I/O, and they offered to tow us back to the launch ramp. All went well with the tow, and they maneuvered us alongside the courtesy dock, where we tied off.

I went to get the rig, got to the ramp, and backed the trailer down the ramp to retrieve the boat. Before I realized it, Phil the owner of the boat who towed us back, was in the water with his son, floating the boat over to the trailer. I thought this family left after we tied up at the courtesy dock. But they didn't. They stayed to help.

We got the boat on the trailer, secured it, and pulled off the ramp. I was so thankful and grateful to Phil, his son and family.

I offered him money for his efforts and his time helping us out. I offered him cash several times, but he refused each time. I told him again how thankful we were for towing us back. I then offered to pay for him and a family member to take our ABC Safe Boating Course. I gave him our squadron business card with my name and phone number, and the written promise by me to pay for their Safe Boating class. Like I have said before many times, I have met some great people when I joined the squadron, I have also met other great people outside the squadron, and continue to meet fellow boaters who are friendly, helpful, and such decent, generous people.

Thank you!

To the Breezes.





Educational Officer's
Report
P/C Kathleen Nowroozani, SN

Summer—when our instructors are out on the water with their friends and family, but our Educational Committee is still hard at work setting up classes for the coming fall and winter. We are hoping to have Fall dates for an ABC-3 course at Highway Marine for you soon and a Winter course at Peter's Marine set up as the dates get closer.

There are many other courses that are available for us to teach, all we need are students! Take a look at the list [here](#) and let me know if there is a course that interests you for the Fall/Winter! In the meantime, there are many ways to learn any time of year online with America's Boating Club. For example, here is a link to learn about staying in touch on the water with marine radios that you can take in your own time, [All About Marine Radio | America's Boating Club® \(enrolmart.com\)](#). This is just an example, as the number of courses available online increases, there are more than one can likely keep up with. Take a look [here](#) to see the current online offerings. These are courses that you can take online in your free time and at your own pace.

"Sail away from the safe harbor. Catch the trade winds in your sails. Explore. Dream. Discover."



AMERICA'S BOATING CLUB
LEHIGH VALLEY
BRIDGE
2024-2025

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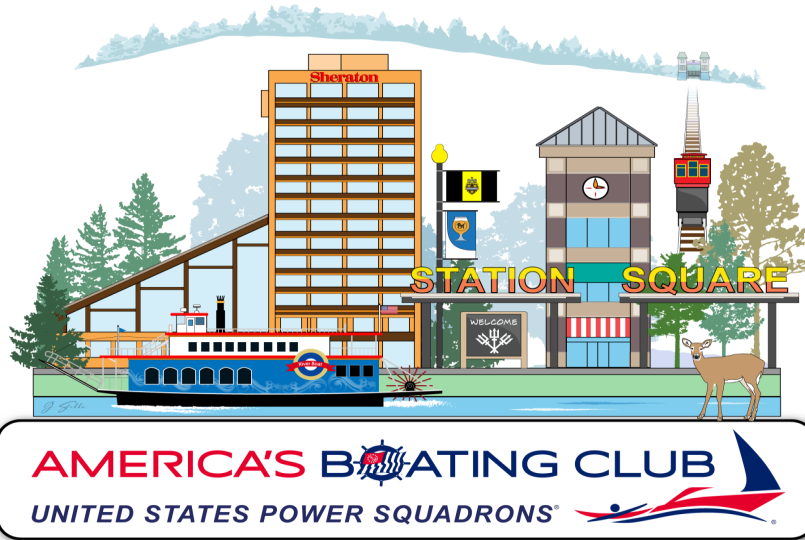
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USPS NATIONAL NEWS



Have you read the Spring issue of The Ensign? There are many interesting articles and information in this National Newsletter. You can find it here:

[The Ensign magazine](#)

Fall Governing Board
September 24 - 29, 2024
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

DISTRICT 5 NEWS

2024 Fall Governing Board Meeting

Pittsburgh Here We Come!

We know you have been waiting and looking forward to heading north with us for our national meeting! We are going back to Pittsburgh for our 2024 Fall Governing Board Meeting September 22 - September 29, 2024. The hotel is Sheraton at Station Square (same as in 2016) and remodeled. Right on the water and in a beautiful picturesque spot!

[Reservations are now open on the national meetings reservation page.](#)



The keys to better boating decision-making



Delhigh Power Squadron

Good boater judgment, or boating decision-making, is critical to the safe operation of recreational boats as well as accident avoidance.

Despite the advancements to boating safety, it's the human factor that often leads to error. The most frequent causes of accidents include operators who lack boating safety knowledge, operate in heavy weather, use alcohol, overload the boat, are inattentive, don't provide a proper lookout, and disregard the navigation rules.

Boating decision-making provides a systematic approach to risk assessment and stress management. To understand boating decision-making is to understand how personal attitudes can influence decision making and how those attitudes can be modified to enhance safety in all aspects of boating.

The VEEP checklist

One way to mitigate risk is to perceive hazards. By incorporating the VEEP checklist into pre-cruise planning, the boater divides the risks into four categories: vessel, environment, external pressures and person in command.

With the VEEP checklist, boaters can easily remember the categories they should examine for risk before each cruise. Once the operator or person in command identifies the risk factors, that person must decide whether the risks can be managed safely and successfully. If not, the operator can decide to cancel the cruise.

If the person in command decides to continue the cruise, he or she should develop strategies to mitigate the risks. One way a boater can control risks is to set personal minimums for items in each risk category. These limits are unique to the boater's current experience and proficiency.

One of the most important concepts that safe captains understand is the difference between what is "legal" in terms of the regulations and what is "smart" or "safe" in terms of boater experience and proficiency.

Vessel

What limitations will the vessel impose upon the trip? Ask the following questions:

- Is this the right boat for the cruise?
- Am I familiar with this type of boat?
- Is this boat equipped for the cruise? Are the instruments, lights, and communication and navigation equipment adequate?
- Can this boat use the available marinas, and do they provide pump-out stations and fuel supplies needed for the cruise?
- Can this boat carry the necessary supplies?
- Does this boat have sufficient fuel capacity with reserves for planned cruise legs?

Does the fuel quantity delivered match the fuel quantity ordered?

Environment

With weather being a major environmental consideration, boaters should set personal environmental minimums, especially when it comes to weather. While evaluating the weather for a particular cruise, the operator should consider the conditions for the entire transit, including current predictions (coastal and ocean), near-term and long-range weather predictions from weather services, safe havens and foul weather anchorages, and alternate destinations.

Additionally, the operator should answer several questions:

- What navigation aids can you expect to see during the cruise? What are their shapes, lights and sound characteristics? List all known characteristics for reference. Plot all known hazards on a properly scaled chart.

Does the clothing locker contain appropriate foul weather gear for the voyage?

External pressures

External pressure, or influences external to the cruise, create a sense of urgency to complete a voyage, often at the expense of safety. This category often causes the person in command to ignore all other risk factors, which makes managing external pressure key to risk management.

You can manage external pressures by using personal standard operating procedures, such as allowing time for an extra fuel stop and having alternate plans for a late arrival. The key is to be ready for and accept delays. Remember that travel delays happen whether you're traveling by boat, plane, car or bus. As the person in command, your goal is to manage risk, not create hazards.

Person in command

One of the risk factors on a cruise, the person in command must ask, "Am I ready for this trip?" in terms of experience and physical and emotional condition. A successful person in command can successfully concentrate, manage workloads and perform several simultaneous tasks.

Historically, the term operator error has been used to describe a boating accident in which an action or decision made by the person in command caused or was a contributing factor in an accident. This definition also includes the person in command's failure to make a correct decision or take proper action. A single decision or event does not lead to an accident, but a series of events and decisions can form a chain of events leading to a poor outcome.

Using the VEEP checklist to develop strategies to mitigate your risk on the water can keep you and your passengers safe.

Originally printed in the Jun 2024 Compass



Boating Links

Watch as the Coast Guard rescues these boats that are sinking very quickly. Don't forget to wear your life jackets and have your EPIRB handy just in case!

[Things Are Going Down Fast!! | Boating News of the Week | Broncos Guru \(youtube.com\)](#)



You've read the statistics, but do you understand what they really mean enough to not become a statistic? Here is a breakdown of what the statistics mean to you when you get behind the wheel.
[Boat Driving Statistics That Can Save Your Life \(boatblurb.com\)](#)



What is Aqua Alert and how does it help in a search and rescue when boaters go missing? Find out who this has already helped save and why it was created here.. [After a Devastating Loss, One Family's Resilience Leads to a Life-saving Rescue | Boating Safety \(boatingsafetymag.com\)](#)



Looking for a more comfortable PFD? Thinking of switching to an inflatable PFD? What are the pro's and con's? Read about the ins and outs of inflatable PFDs here, [Inflatable PFDs: Know the Ins and Outs - Practical Sailor \(practical-sailor.com\)](#)

What makes Bill Gates' superyacht so special and how much did it cost to build? Find out here, [Bill Gates' Hydrogen-Powered Superyacht Is For Sale Immediately After Launching \(boatblurb.com\)](#)



These Boat Fails just get worse and worse! I couldn't stop watching! [THE WORST BOAT FAILS EVER FILMED AT HAULOVER INLET!! BOAT SINKING! | WAVY BOATS \(youtube.com\)](#)



A BIT OF FUN



Delhigh Power Squadron



Did You Know?

It's never too early to teach young kids about the ways of the water. For many of us, having a boat to enjoy on the water is something to share with family, be it younger siblings, nieces, nephews, kids, or even grandkids. When they are familiar with procedures or rules and knowledgeable about how to behave when riding in the boat, they (and us) can feel confident as passengers with peace of mind while enjoying a day on the water. Some tips to share with young boaters for successful outings are:



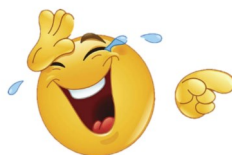
1. Go over equipment
2. Discuss hazards or potential dangers
3. Practice swimming
4. Encourage good behavior on-board
5. Rehearse emergency procedures
6. Allocate responsibilities
7. Consider attending safety classes together
8. Teach basic outdoor safety

For more info, visit: [How to Teach Boating Safety Tips for Kids - Men With Kids](#)

BOATHOLE



A BOATER THAT DOESN'T WAVE BACK



GET IN THE BOAT



There's no time to explain!

I like you so much that if the boat was sinking and there was only one life jacket...

I would miss you a lot



your eCards
someecards.com



Musikfest Mania Wednesday, August 7 Hotel Bethlehem 6pm	Sporting Clays/Oktoberfest Saturday, October 12 Lehigh Valley Sporting Clays Meisner Residence	January Meeting and Potluck Wednesday, January 8 Nowroozani Residence 6:30pm
August Iron Pigs Meeting Wednesday, August 21 Coca Cola Park 7:05pm	Boos and Brews Saturday, October 26 Lamboy Residence	Phantoms Game TBA
Bonfire Saturday, August 24 Dlugos Fire Pit 2pm	November Meeting Wednesday, November 6 Morgan's Local Flavor 6pm	Bowling TBA
September Meeting/Chili Cook-off Wednesday, September 4 Nowroozani Residence 6:30pm	Wine and Cheese Pairing Saturday, November 16 Montuori Residence	Founders Day Wednesday, February 5 TBA 6pm
Cookout Saturday, September 21 Lebeduik Residence 3pm	Holiday Party Sunday, December 15 TBA 4pm	Game Night Wednesday, February 15 Meisner Residence
		COW Saturday, March 1 TBA

All Calendar events are subject to change as the bridge sees fit. Please contact Kathy at k.now@mac.com or (956) 240-5553 for more information on any scheduled event.

