

the Bullhorn!

The official newsletter of the America's Boating Club - Richmond, a unit of the United States Power Squadrons

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The Bridge

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In This Issue

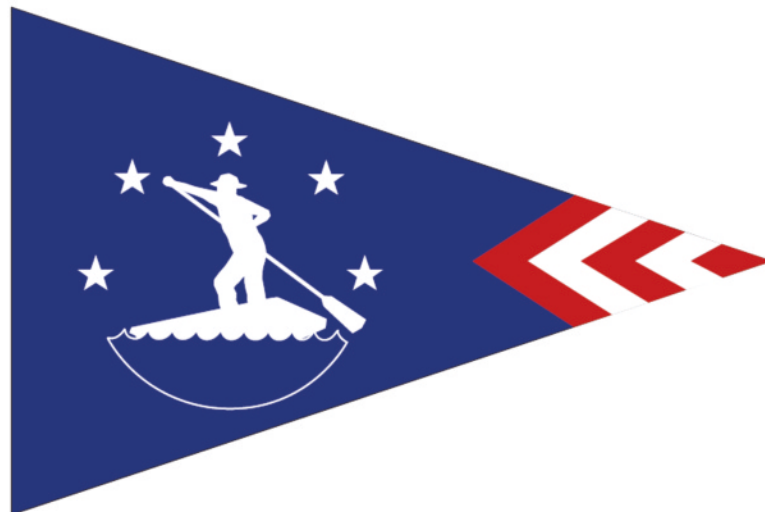
Wine & Cheese Party

Cruising & Cruise Planning Course

Marine Navigation Course

Boat Virginia Course

And many more features



Commander's Message

Commander:

Cdr Mary Palmer, P
r2pmhp@mindspring.com
804-447-4648

Happy New Year dear friends of Richmond Squadron.

Thanks to Dave and Cheryl Childress for the wonderful Christmas luncheon. It was full of friendship, great conversation, and laughter. All of you who came, it was great to see you.

I look forward to seeing some more of you soon. Would you think about what kind of event you think we should have, send me an email with your ideas at r2pmhp@mindspring.com. See the article about our Wine and Cheese coming soon in February and the upcoming classes.

We are in the process of getting some new officers. Please say yes if you are asked.

If you have boating friends, tell them about our classes and invite them to become a member of our squadron. Perhaps you have a friend who has retired from boating but would enjoy the fellowship of our members. Please bring them to our Wine and Cheese Party.

May each of you have a wonderful beginning of 2023!

See you real soon.

Commander Mary Palmer

r2pmhp@mindspring.com or 804-447-4648

Education

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Ahoy Members,

Our winter and spring educational schedule is beginning to come together. Our kickoff presentation is Cruising and Cruise Planning in February. Please see the flyer in this newsletter.

Current Schedule of Courses and Seminar

Cruising and Cruise Planning
Thursdays, Feb. 9 to Mar. 30,
2023, 7-9 PM Zoom -
bcsimpson1@aol.com

Vessel Safety Checks
Tuesday, February 21, 2023
dave@ashcraftinsurance.com

Virginia Safe Boating Course
February 25, 2023, NYC
bcsimpson1@aol.com

Trailering Your Boat - Spring
2023, Jim Juritsch,
mauijim04@gmail.com

Marine Navigation Course
April 12 to May 31, 2023
jim@jpzeigler.com

America's Boating Channel

If you have been viewing boating videos on the **America's Boating Channel**, you know very well that it has a wealth of boating subjects covering all facets of the boating world. In addition, it continues to expand on social media to make access easier than ever. Check it out on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter. Tell your boating friends.

Recently, the **Channel** announced it will add a **Smart TV** App for video-on-demand and you can view if you own a smart TV. Also, they will be adding twelve National Association of State Boating Lawmakers Administrators (NASBLA) videos on the Smart TV App. So, if you have some time on a cold winter day, check out the **America's Boating Channel**.

Lt/C Bill Simpson

SEO



Presents

Cruising and Cruise Planning

*The planning and preparation for safe and enjoyable
extended cruises on inland and coastal waters*

General Planning

Crew & Provisioning

Boat & Equipment

Voyage Management

Anchors & Anchoring

Communications

Security

Navigation

Chartering

Weather

Cruising Outside US Waters

Emergencies

When: February 9, 2023 to March 30, 2023, Thursday Evenings, 7 PM to 9 PM

Where: Zoom Platform

Cost: \$107.00 (Text, Exam and Shipping)

To Register: Bill Simpson bcsimpson1@aol.com or 804 909-2655 (C)

Deadline: January 28, 2023



Bob & Mary Palmer



Irene Chamberlin, Tiffany Gilchrist, Kitty Raver & Melissa Marrion



Cheryl Childress & Marlene Zeigler

Christmas Party



Sue Dibble & Lee Raver



Cheryl & Bill Simpson



Cheryl Childress & Dave Teets

CIVIC SERVICE

For many years, one of the emblems of the United States Power Squadron was a triangle. The three sides represented Education, Civic Service and Fraternal Boating. Over the years, the triangle wording has been updated to read Self Education, Civic Service, Fraternal Boating Club. However, the basic principals have not changed.

One of the ways America's Boating Club — Richmond has fulfilled this directive for civic service is to participate in a charity drive for various organizations. For several years, we collected Toys for Tots with the Marines' program. For the past several years, at the Christmas luncheon, we have collected donations for various children's hospitals. We did not do that this past year and we should reconsider this as part of our civic service responsibility.

The Wine and Cheese party will be the next event when many of us will be together, I am suggesting we use this opportunity to make such a contribution. There are many worthwhile organizations we could support. Unless there is some objection, I am suggesting we contribute to the Shriner's Children Hospital because several of our members and past commanders have been Shriners. If there is another organization you would rather support, please let Commander Palmer know. If you object to the whole idea, also, please let Commander Palmer know.

P/Lt/C Irene Kent Chamberlin



VESSEL SAFETY CHECKS

Interested in meeting more boaters, seeing many types of boats and providing an important public service? Then read on:

A Vessel Safety Check is a courtesy examination of a fellow recreational boaters' vessel to verify the presence and condition of certain Safety Equipment required by State and the Federal regulations. The Vessel Examiner is a trained specialist and is a member of the United States Power Squadrons or the US Coast Guard Auxiliary. They will also make certain recommendations and discuss certain safety issues that will make you a safer boater.

This is not a law enforcement activity. No citations will be issued. We supply the boater with a copy of our evaluation so that they may follow some of the suggestions given. Vessels that pass will be able to display our distinctive VSC decal. This does not exempt them from law enforcement boarding, but they can be prepared to make this a positive encounter.

It's easy to become a Vessel Safety Examiner, but it does require completing the certification process. Attending this class will bring you closer to becoming an Examiner! You will have the opportunity to meet new boaters, see interesting boats and provide a public safety service as well. You can even get a power squadron merit mark as well!!

Dave Teets is hosting a meeting of current and potential Vessel Safety Examiners on **Tuesday, February 21, from 6:00 to 8:00 PM** (1800 to 2000 to you salty dogs), at Ashcraft Insurance, 7215 Enterprise Parkway #100, Richmond, VA, 23294. Snacks and refreshments will be provided.

If you are interested in attending, please let Dave know by texting 804-370-7061 or email at DAVE@ASHCRAFTINSURANCE.COM so he can have the refreshments and materials ready. We look forward to seeing you at the seminar on February 21st!

WINE & CHEESE PARTY



Saturday, February 18, 4:00 to 8:00 PM

Wayne & Sue Dibble
10299 Longest Road
Glen Allen, PA 23059

RSVP - 804-357-6438
suedibble@verizon.net

Bring a heavy hors d'oeuvres and a bottle of your favorite wine to share while we take a break from winter doldrums.

We can debate the outcome of the Super Bowl the previous weekend or take wagers on the Daytona 500 occurring the next day.

Or just enjoy fellowship and conversation. And it will be a good time to plan for summer activities.

SQUADRON VERSUS CLUB

You may be wondering about the difference between *America's Boating Club* and the *United States Power Squadrons*. There is no difference.

We are in the midst of a rebranding effort including an organizational name change from our legacy name "*United States Power Squadrons*" to a more descriptive "*America's Boating Club*." It avoids being confused with the post office (USPS) and better describes our breadth (the entire country), our interests (boating) and our structure (confederation of clubs). There is a lot of tradition with the old name, so for the foreseeable future we will continue to see both brands.

WEB RESOURCES

As a member of the America's Boating Club – Richmond, you have access to 2 members-only websites – one dedicated to our local squadron and the national website.

The national website (USPS.ORG) provides information on member benefits, educational course information, latest copies of our national magazine, the *ENSIGN*, locations of other squadrons, videos on America's Boating Channel, on-line training and details about USPS national organization.

Our local website (USPS.ORG/RICHMOND) has copies of our newsletter and when you log in, you have access to our local membership roster.

Access to both the local and national website require your membership number and PIN. These are provided on your annual dues notice. If you can not locate them, contact our squadron secretary at jim@jpzeigler.com.

Calendar of Events

February

- 9 Cruising & Cruise Planning Course (thru March 30)
(Contact bcsimpson1@aol.com)
- 18 Wine & Cheese Party at Sue & Wayne Dibble's home
(see flyer)
- 21 Vessel Safety Examiners Training
(See article)
- 25 Boat Virginia, Deltaville
(Contact bcsimpson1@aol.com)
- 19-26 USPS National Meeting, Orlando, FL

March

- 30 District Conference at Ocean City, MD, thru April 2
(details at USPSD5.ORG)

April

- 12 Marine Navigation (Piloting based on Chartplotters)
(thru May 31 - jim@jpzeigler.com)
- TBD Trailering Seminar



America's Boating Club is a nation-wide boating organization. We learn together, boat together, and help each other and other boaters on the water and land. Our Members learn boating skills, engage with boating friends, and connect with the boating community.



For more information, visit our website at:

richmondboatclub.com

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