

the Bullhorn!

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

Volume 62, Issue 3

March 2023

The Bridge

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NEXT EVENT

Squadron Dinner Meeting
April 11, 1800 (6:00 PM)
Anna's Restaurant, Mechanicsville

UPCOMING CLASSES

Marine Navigation Course

Boat Virginia Course

Shakedown Get-together

Tide's Inn, Irvington
May 12 - Boat Arrival
Luncheon May 13, 11:30

July 4th Cruise

July 3 to 9
Portsmouth - Hampton Yorktown

Past Commander's Message

Past- Commander:

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

Dear members of Richmond Sail & Power Squadron.

Thank you for allowing me to be your commander. I love this organization and am so happy I was able to work with all of you. I am sure you will support Frank Timpano for his upcoming time as Commander.

We are part of a wonderful group with education ongoing all the time, thanks Bill Simpson, Jim Zeigler, Dave Teets, Frank Timpano, Jim Juritsch and Bob Palmer. We have lots of social times planned together; Summer cruises ahead (if you are no longer boating, why not go visit our cruisers at one of their stops). 4th of July at Portsmouth is such fun and not too far a trip; and many other upcoming events. Please come to events and meetings and enjoy your fellow boaters. Say yes or offer to help with an event; you will be so glad you did.

My special thanks to Dave Teets, my aide, for all he has done this year to help our events and other ways. My husband, Bob Palmer has been such a wonderful support and helper for me. Thanks, Bob.

For our many hosts with events these years, Irene Chamberlin had the Wine and Cheese last year, one of our first gatherings after Covid. Then we had the Christmas dinner with Dave and Cheryl Childress. Thanks for sharing your lovely home and for such a fun social gathering. And recently we had another Wine and Cheese at the beautiful home of Sue and Wayne Dibble. Thanks to Wayne and Sue for the lovely time we had with you, even though Sue had her leg in a splint. So glad all of you could attend the many events.

Here is to America's Boating Club Richmond.

Mary Palmer

Commander Mary Palmer



America's Boating Club-Richmond Membership Meeting!!

11 April 2023

Anna's Restaurant, Mechanicsville!



Please join us for another wonderful dinner meeting—a short business discussion followed by a great social time! The meeting program will include a discussion of upcoming boating and social activities for the summer season.

The meeting will be held at 1800 (6 pm) at Anna's Restaurant located at 7009 Mechanicsville Turnpike, Mechanicsville, VA 23111-7100.

Order from the Menu. Average dinner cost is \$20-\$25. Anna's offers gluten-free entrees on their regular menu if desired.

You do not need to eat to attend the meeting.



Please RSVP to Susan Timpano at susan.timpano@earthlink.net if you plan to attend and eat.



Education

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Cruising and Cruise

Planning is underway with the first Zoom class that began on February 9th at 7:00 PM. Frank Timpano, the primary instructor, has presented three sessions covering cruising boats, equipment, anchoring, electronics, crew selection, provisions and communications. Jim Zeigler, our weather Guru, presented a session on U.S. Weather with focus on the Chesapeake Bay cruising grounds. Jim covered the fundamentals of weather such as the effects of temperature, air masses, winds and fronts. Marine forecasts, weather resources, thunderstorms and hurricanes were also reviewed. We have fourteen (14) students attending and the exam date is scheduled for March 23rd.

Vessel Safety Checks

Dave Teets presented a seminar on the USPS Vessel Safety Check Examiner Program on the evening of February 21st. This event

was for new prospects for the Examiner program and covered all the training essentials required to qualify for the positions. Candidates must become proficient in the US Coast Guard Vessel Safety Check Manual and be able to pass the VSC exam. After the exam, candidates will perform five (5) supervised vessel safety checks before being eligible for certification. If you have an interest in becoming a Vessel Safety Examiner, contact Dave Teets at dave@ashcraftinsurance.com or (804) 370-7061.

Virginia Safe Boating Course

Bill Simpson and Dave Teets presented the Virginia Department of Wildlife Resources (DWR) Safe Boating Course to Fifteen (15) Students on February 25th. This event was hosted by our friends at the Deltaville Yachting Center. The course was an eight (8) hour event and in the end all students passed their exam and were awarded the Virginia Safe Boating Certificate.

Education (Cont'd)

This course is required by Virginia law for anyone operating a Personal Watercraft (PWC) or any motorized vessel of 10 HP or greater.

Coming Soon!!

Marine Navigation Course This is the new USPS navigation course that replaces the former Piloting Course. This course focuses on using chartplotters for navigation and is an essential for boating in the Chesapeake Bay. It will be on Zoom beginning on Thursday April 13th and each Thursday night through June 1st from 6:45 PM to 9:00 PM. There is more information in this newsletter.

Trailer Your Boat Planned for May 20 at Cabela and presented by Dave Childress and Jim Juritsch. Time to be announced soon.

Virginia Safe Boating Course from 8:00 to 5:00 on May 27, hosted by Olverson's Marina in Callao. You can register for this course at <https://www.register-ed.com/events/view/194989>. Dave Teets and Jim Zeigler will be teaching this session. As a reminder, Virginia law

requires course completion to operate a motorize vessel of 10 hp or greater and for anyone 14 years of age or older to operate a Personal Watercraft (PWC). This certification is recognized in surrounding states all of which have similar regulations. Maryland limits PWC operators to 16 years or older.

Member Input for Educational Classes We are always open to suggestions for future educational classes whether it be a full course or a short seminar. Is there something in your boating experience that you would like to know more about? Give us what you want and we will try to provide the educational support you need. You never know, there may be a lot more boaters with the same issues. Contacts are Bill Simpson, SEO bcsimpson1@aol.com or Jim Juritsch, ASEO mauijim04@gmail.com.

Lt/C Bill Simpson

SEO

In the Evening Sky

Since January 1, Venus has been prominent in the western sky at sunset. First Saturn then Jupiter have slowly descended each evening towards brighter Venus. Saturn appeared to descend over the horizon in February. Jupiter and Venus appeared side-by-side on March 1. Each night, Jupiter will continue to appear closer to the horizon and eventually will not longer be visible at sunset. Meantime, Mars is directly overhead just after sunset.

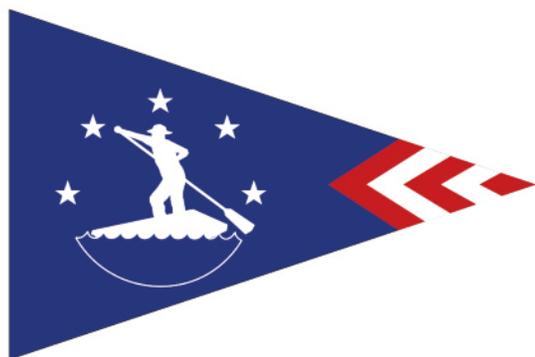
March 7 – Full Worm Moon

March 14 - Last Quarter (waning)

March 21 - New Moon

March 28 - First Quarter (waxing)

April 6 - Full Pink Moon



LOCAL NOTICE TO MARINERS

Here is a quick extract from the most recent USCG Local Notice to Mariners. To access the complete LNM go to <https://www.navcen.uscg.gov/local-notices-to-mariners-by-cg-district>:

The Gwynn's Island Bridge (SR 233) is still scheduled to resume normal operation on April 16. That bridge is going through a major rehabilitation of the mechanical and electrical systems to prevent imminent failure of the opening mechanism. This requires the bridge to will remain in the closed-to-navigation position from 2 a.m. on August 19, 2022, through 11 p.m. on April 15, 2023. During the closure period with a vertical clearance of 12 feet above mean high water.

PIANKATANK RIVER – OYSTER REEF REHABILITATION PROJECT. Through August 5, 2023, Seaward Marine will be conducting rock placing operations for the oyster reef rehabilitation project at the mouth of the Piankatank River. All mariners are requested to stay clear of the crane barge, material barge and mooring. All operators should be aware that the mooring is held in place by a single cable attached to an anchor. Mariners are requested to exercise extreme caution when approaching the rock placing operation and proceed at no wake speed. Seaward marine will be monitoring VHF channel 16.



Marine Navigation

Using Chartplotters for Inland and Coastal Navigation



When: Thursday evenings 7 - 9
PM April 13 to June 1st 2023

Where: Zoom Platform

Cost: \$100.00 Includes eBook
Download, Practice Chart,
Dividers and Plotter

Register at:

bcsimpson1@aol.com

Deadline: April 10, 2023

**Student Must Have Laptop or
Tablet**

NOTE: Software Requirements:

- Windows XP, SP3, Vista, 7, 8, 8.1, 10 and 11.
- Macintosh Mac OSX 10.10 - 12.3
- Ubuntu Linux

**Application will not run on Apple
IOS**

**More Questions? Contact Bill
Simpson**
bcsimpson1@aol.com
804 909-2655



Topics:

- **Chart Symbols and Interpretation**
- **Aids to Navigation**
- **Plotting Courses, Direction and Distance**
- **Mariner's Compass, True and Magnetic**
- **GPS Displays, Waypoints and Routes**
- **Preplanning Routes for GPS**
- **Monitoring Progress, Traditional and GPS**
- **Using OPENCPN Navigation Application**

Marine Navigation

IT IS FINALLY HERE!!

Our legacy Piloting Course has been replaced with Marine Navigation, oriented to navigation with chartplotters.

The course will be offered for 8 weeks, starting Thursday, April 13 and each Thursday evening thru June 1 from 7:00 to 9:00. The course will be taught on Zoom.

Marine Navigation is the first of the America's Boating Club navigational classes focusing on techniques for piloting a boat in coastal and inland conditions. The course emphasizes planning and checking along with the use of chartplotters for determining position, and introduces digital charting along with traditional charting, compass and dead reckoning skills.

Plotting, use of the compass, aids to navigation, electronic tools and a host of related topics are included in this all-new approach to coastal, inland and river piloting. Students will require a computer and network access to view Zoom classes and download course materials.

The course introduces students to both electronic charting software and manual chart plotting.

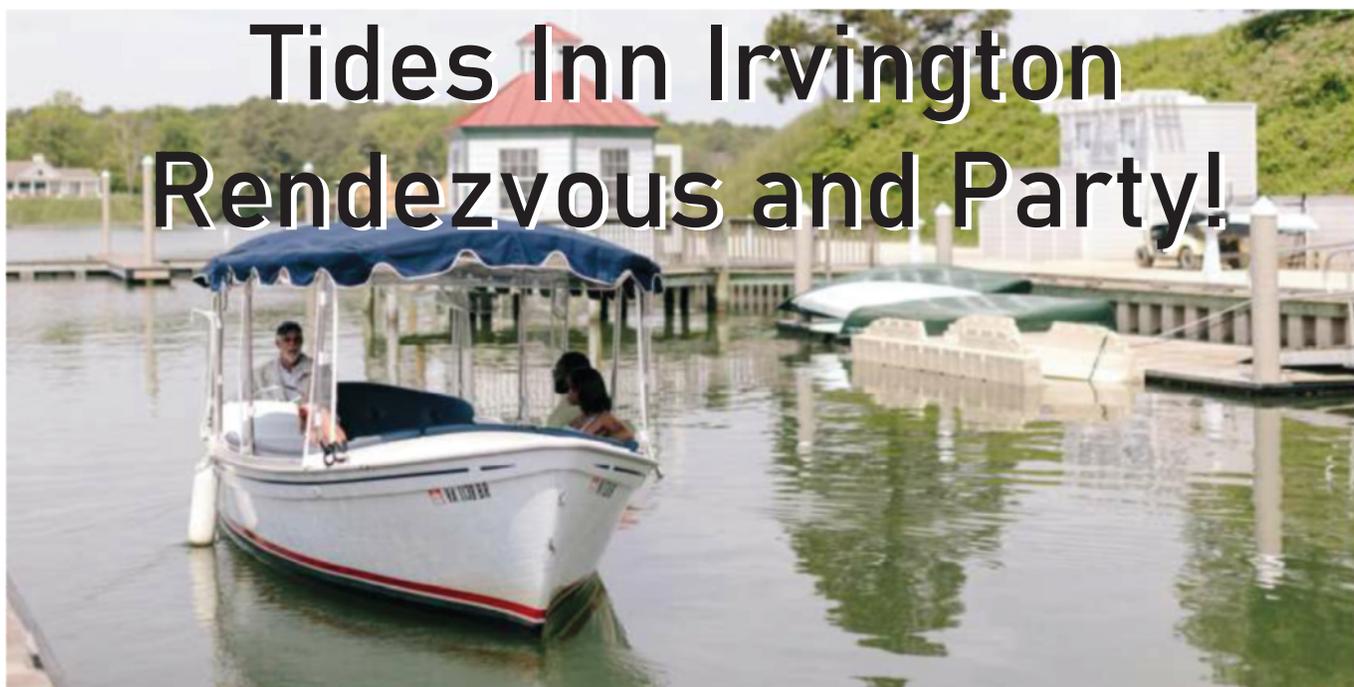
Cost will be \$100 which includes access to the electronic textbook, plotter, divider and supplemental materials to download the free plotting software.

Contact Bill Simpson at bcsimpson1@aol.com to sign up.

MEETING LOCATIONS

We need your help!

We need your help identifying a place or places to hold membership meetings. Are you aware of a restaurant that has detached meeting space or a convenient community center? We are willing to pay a reasonable rent. If you have you attended a group meeting of less than 50 people at a venue in the Richmond area, please share that information with Susan.Timpano@earthlink.net



Tides Inn Irvington Rendezvous and Party!

**Let's Start
Boating!!
Come Join Us!**

**13 May 2023
By Boat or By Car!**

Our first boating event of the season will kick off Friday 12 May, 2023 at The Tides Inn in Irvington, VA. Come join us by boat for a quick "Shakedown Cruise."

You can come into the marina by boat on Friday or Saturday morning, as you please. Or, you can just drive over! Your choice!

The Main Event will be a group luncheon at 1130 on 13 May (Saturday) at the Tide's Chesapeake Restaurant. Order off the menu and pay individually.

Please RSVP to Susan Timpano at susan.timpano@earthlink.net by 1 May 2023.

Skippers make your own slip reservations with the Tides Inn Marina at (804) 4384418.



2023/2024 Schedule			
America's Boating Club			
Richmond			
Date	Day of Week	Time	Event
29-Mar	Wed-Sun		D5 Spring Conference
4-Apr	Tuesday	1900	Excom
11-Apr	Tuesday	1800	Squadron Dinner Meeting
13-Apr	Thurs. Evenings	1845	Marine Navigation Course
12-May	Fri-Sun		Shakedown Cruise
16-May	Tuesday	1900	ExCom
20-May	Saturday	900	Trailing/VSC event
27-May	Saturday	0800-1700	Boat/Virginia Class
9-Jun	Fri-Sun		Rendezvous/Party
13-Jun	Tuesday	1800	Squadron Dinner Meeting
2-Jul	Sun-Sat		Fourth Of July Cruise
11-Jul	Tuesday	1800	Squadron Dinner Meeting
29-Jul	Saturday	1200	Lunch Party at Olversons
8-Aug	Tuesday	1200	Excom/lunch
11-Aug	Fri-Sun		Weekend cruise to Onancock
12-Sep	Tuesday	1800	Squadron Dinner Meeting
7-Oct	Saturday	1200	Eastern Branch Bash
10-Oct	Tuesday	1900	Excom
7-Nov	Tuesday	1800	Squadron Dinner Meeting
1-Dec	Friday	1900	Excom
2-Dec	Saturday	1100	Christmas Luncheon
12-Jan	Friday	1900	Excom
13-Jan	Saturday	1200	Wine And Cheese
9-Mar-24	Saturday	1100	Change of Watch



July 4th Fireworks in Portsmouth!

Here's a chance for a fun cruise to ports close to home in early July! What better way to beat the warm temps than getting out on the water and joining your fellow ABC members on a short cruise to a couple neat destinations?

See the itinerary below for details. Make your own marina reservations, noting that you are with the America's Boating Club-Richmond (aka Richmond Sail and Power Squadron) group.

<u>Day</u>	<u>Dates</u>	<u>Marina</u>	<u>Marina Contact</u>
Mon, Tues	7/3-4	Portsmouth, Tidewater Yacht	Dockwa.com
Wed, Thurs	7/5-6	Hampton, Safe Harbor Bluewater	Dockwa.com
Fri, Sat	7/7-8	Riverwalk Landing	757-890-3370
Sunday	7/9	Return to Home Port	



Please contact the cruise leader (Frank Timpano) via email (ftimpano@infionline.net) or 804-240-8591 if you are interested or have questions. For those that have not been on an ABC/Squadron cruise before, it is a relaxed, friendly time. Boats that run at similar speeds often "buddy up" for safety and make the runs between ports together. Again, that is optional and you are free to do as you please. Each skipper makes his/her own marina reservations well in advance to be assured of a slip. The marinas have already been notified to expect individual boat reservations and will try to place us together on the docks.



**Portsmouth
Hampton
Yorktown
3-8 July 2023**



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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