

# *the Bullhorn!*

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

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May 2023

## The Bridge

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## May Events

Tides Inn

Friday May 12 - Cocktail Party  
Saturday, May 13 Luncheon, 11:30 AM

Trailer Seminar, Osbourne Landing  
Sunday, May 21  
10:00 and 2:00

## Next Squadron Meeting

June 13, 1800 (6:00 PM)  
Anna's Restaurant  
11027 Hull Street Road, Midlothian  
(near Genito Road)

## Upcoming Classes

Trailing Seminar - May 21 - Osbourne Ldng  
Boat Virginia Course - May 27 - Olverson's

## Commander's Message

**Commander:**

Cdr Frank Timpano, SN-CN  
Ftimpano@infinonline.net  
804-240-8591

America's Boating Club (ABC) can help you and the general public be better and safer boaters. But membership in ABC is much more than that!

Of course one of our three mission priorities is to encourage safe boating through education. But there are two other equally important priorities. These include Civic Service as a non-profit organization and providing fraternal and social activities to support and enhance the membership experience.

The Richmond chapter of ABC is actively pursuing all three mission priorities with numerous activities for its members. Perhaps you are wondering where you might get involved or where you might actually benefit from these pursuits? "What's in it for me?" you might ask. Or, perhaps, "Where can I contribute?"

Well, the answers are closer than you may imagine. In fact, this publication is full of invitations and opportunities for you. The Club's leadership is continually planning and organizing events that may benefit you personally or allow you to participate in a worthwhile activity that benefits the boating public. *It's up to you to get on board where you are interested or talented and take advantage of the program.*

I invite you to give a little time back to the Club in the form of participation in an educational, social or public-facing activity that suits your interests. We need Vessel Safety Examiners (Civic Service), Educational Instructors (the pursuit of safer boating), and social and boating event organizers and helpers (membership enrichment through fraternal and social events). Bottom line: We need you!

# 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](mailto:susan.timpano@earthlink.net) by 1 May 2023.

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



## Education

### Educational Officer

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### Asst Educational Officer

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### Classes Underway:

Marine Navigation Course This is the new USPS navigation course that replaces the former Piloting Course. **Jim Zeigler** opened the course on the evening of Thursday April 13<sup>th</sup> and the projected ending date is June 1<sup>st</sup>. This is a Zoom presentation and the class has eight students attending.

### Classes on the Horizon:

Trailer Your Boat This is a seminar on how to safely and securely trailer your boat and how to maintain and use your boat trailer. It is planned for Sunday, May 21<sup>st</sup> at 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM and 2:00 PM to 4:00 PM at the Osborne Landing parking lot. This seminar is free and open to the public. Please see the flyer in this newsletter. **Jim Juritsch** and **Dave Childress** will be the presenters.

### 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](mailto:bcsimpson1@aol.com) or Jim Juritsch, ASEO [mauijim04@gmail.com](mailto:mauijim04@gmail.com).

(More →)

## Education (cont'd)

You have several options for taking courses as a member of the America's Boating Club. Courses like the basic America's Boating Course, Boat Handling Course and Marine Navigation can be found on line at the America's Boating Course web site, <https://americasboatingclub.org/index.php/learn/select-type-of-boating/all/all-courses> (left click to open) Likewise, there are many other educational offerings on this site such as seminars on Automatic Identification System (AIS), Advanced Powerboat Handling, Anchoring with Assurance and Boating with Confidence to name a few.

Later in the summer our Club is looking at courses on Radar, AIS and possibly Engine Maintenance. Does that sound interesting to you? Let us know. Let's have a great and safe boating this season.

Lt/C Bill Simpson, SEO

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## LOCAL NOTICE TO MARINERS

**GWYNN'S ISLAND BRIDGE** - Openings restricted to 2 a.m., 5 a.m., 8 a.m., 11 a.m., 7 p.m. and 10 p.m. through October 12, 2023. The vertical clearance of the drawbridge in the closed-to-navigation position is 12 feet above mean high water.

**PIANKATANK RIVER** – Until August 5, 2023, oyster reef rehabilitation project at the mouth of the Piankatank River.

**MAJOR CONSTRUCTION** - Hampton Roads Bridge Tunnel, Chesapeake Bay Bridge Tunnel and the Route 301 bridge at Dahlgren.

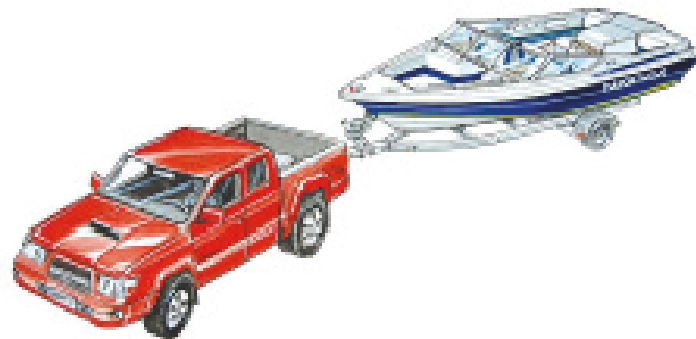
**NOAA HYDRIGRAPHIC SURVEY** - Survey work continues in the James, York, Rappahannock and Potomac Rivers through 1 July 2023.



## Boat Trailering Seminar

Safely and Securely Trailer Your Boat

How to Maintain and Use Your Boat Trailer



**When:** Sunday, May 21st 2023

10 AM to 12 PM and 2 PM to 4 PM  
(2 Sessions)

**Where:** Osborne Landing  
Boat Ramp (Parking Lot)  
9530 Osborne Turnpike,  
Richmond, Virginia 23231

**Cost:** Free and Open to the  
Public

**Contact:** Jim Juritsch  
mauijim04@gmail.com

### Topics:

- **Titling, Registration, Insurance**
- **Choosing Your Tow Vehicle**
- **Hitches**
- **Choosing and Equipping Your Trailer**
- **Launching and Retrieving**
- **Maintenance**

**Administrative Officer**

Lt/C Susan Timpano

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804-512-1298

**Administrative Officer**

Ahoy members! Here are a few updates on our upcoming activities.

We are quickly approaching our “Shakedown Cruise” to The Tides Inn in Irvington on May 12-14. At this point we have about 20 people signed up for the luncheon on Saturday at 1130. We will be lunching in The Chesapeake Restaurant which overlooks the water. If you’ve never eaten there, it is an interesting experience.

After The Tides cruise, our next activity is a rendezvous/party at the Urbanna Town Dock on June 9-11. If you haven’t made your slip reservations yet, please do so as soon as possible. Activities will include a “poker run” and a pot luck lunch that will include an entrée provided by the Squadron and sides, salads and desserts to share provided by you! Lunch is scheduled for 1300 on Saturday, June 10. We will be under a tent on the marina property.

Next will be a member meeting and dinner at Anna’s Restaurant Midlothian at 11027 Hull Street Rd, Midlothian, VA, on June 13 (near Genito Road). We will eat at 6 PM and have a short meeting and program.

Please note that right now we are selling shirts that have our ABC logo on them. (See the short article elsewhere in this issue.)

We are looking forward to our get-together at The Tides. See you there.



## Membership Meeting!!

**13 June, 2023 at Anna's Restaurant,  
Midlothian!**



## America's Boating Club-Richmond

Please join us for another wonderful dinner meeting. The meeting program will include a short business meeting to update members on squadron operations, educational opportunities, and finances, as well as a review of upcoming social activities.

The meeting will be held at 1800 (6 pm) at Anna's Restaurant Midlothian, located at 11027 Hull Street Rd, Midlothian, VA 23112.

Order from the menu. Average dinner cost is \$15-\$23. Anna's offers naked wings and salads that are gluten-free if desired.

You do not need to eat to attend the meeting.



Please RSVP to Susan Timpano by June 1 at [susan.timpano@earthlink.net](mailto:susan.timpano@earthlink.net) if you plan to attend and eat.

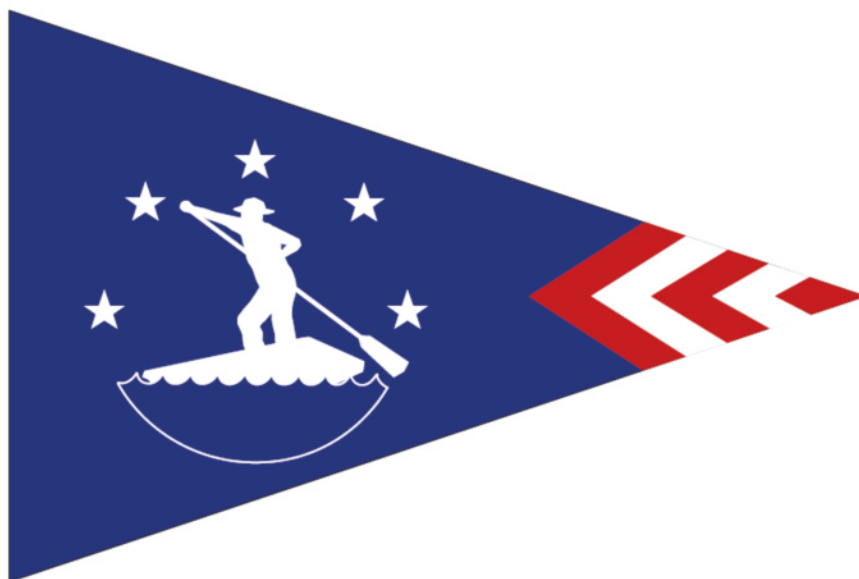


## In the Morning and Evening Sky

Evening – Venus continues to be the evening star in the SW at sunset. Mars is higher and slightly to the south. On May 16, red Mars, and the bright Gemini stars, Castor and Pollux will line up above Venus in the early evening sky. During the early evening of May 23 the moon will appear between Venus and Mars and almost in line with the Gemini pair in the western sky.

Mornings - In early May, look for Jupiter shining low in the east before sunrise. Then, after mid-month, Mercury, which is dimmer than Jupiter, will appear near the horizon in the morning twilight. The moon will visit Jupiter on May 15, 16 and 17, 2023, with a lunar occultation visible on the morning of May 17. The 2 planets may be challenging to spot in the morning twilight, but binoculars might help.

<u>Full Moon</u>	<u>3rd Quarter</u>	<u>New Moon</u>	<u>1<sup>st</sup> Quarter</u>	<u>Full Moon</u>
May 5 (Flower)	May 12	May 19	May 27	June 3 (Strawberry)



## HURRICANE SEASON STARTS JUNE 1

Preliminary prediction is a “slightly-below-average” hurricane season for 2023 for the Atlantic basin including the Caribbean Sea and Gulf of Mexico. This is based on likely development of El Niño by late summer or early fall. Under El Niño conditions, upper-level winds increase in the Caribbean and inhibit hurricane formation. But forecasters note higher water temperatures in the tropical Atlantic add more than normal uncertainty.

Here is a table of recent forecasts from Colorado State University and North Carolina State University (NCSU). However, the more reliable prediction will come from NOAA usually issued closer to June 1, likely May 23.

	CSU April 13 Forecast	NCSU Forecast	Average 1991 to 2020	2022 Forecast	2022 Actual
Named Storms >39 mph (34 kn)	13	11-15	14	14	14-21
Hurricanes	6	6-8	7	8	6-10
Major Hurricanes Cat 3,4,5	2	2-3	3	2	3-6

Prediction	NOAA Accuracy	CSU Accuracy
Named Storm	94%	75%
Major Hurricanes	72%	63%
Over last 10 years – from Forbes Advisor 4/17/2023		

## How to Prepare for the Hurricane Season

Hurricane preparedness can safeguard your family and property. Here are FEMA's hurricane season preparation recommendations (<http://www.FEMA.gov>).

**Prepare to evacuate.** Have a "go bag" with medication and clothes, stock emergency supplies, such as a first aid kit and flashlights, secure a place to stay and research your local evacuation routes.

**Safeguard your home.** Reinforce and secure your walls, doors, roof and windows. Secure lightweight outdoor objects, such as patio furniture and planters. If you can't carry an item inside, secure these items with an anchor.

**Sign up for local alerts and warnings.** Sign up for texts, calls and emails to warn you about a hurricane. You may want to get a NOAA Weather Radio.

**Protect important documents.** Use a waterproof container to store all financial documents, insurance cards, medical records, passports, birth certificates and other legal documents.

**Have emergency contacts.** It's recommended to have an out-of-state emergency contact, as well as up-to-date contact information for work, school, doctors, non-emergency police, family members and doctors.

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## How to Prepare for the Hurricane Season (cont'd)

FEMA recommends you follow instructions by local authorities, in case of a hurricane. If your local authority advises evacuation, make sure to take your “go bag” and leave immediately. Additionally, do the following to stay safe:

- Stay away from the area until the authorities clear it as safe.
- Call 911 to help yourself or another person in danger.
- Use caution in high winds: stay clear of windows and get to the lowest level of an interior room.
- Steer clear of flooded roads or through water. To learn more about what to do before the next hurricane read how to prepare for the next hurricane.

## Insurance for Hurricanes

Below are ways to navigate insurance for hurricane season.

### Hurricane Insurance for Your Home

Hurricane damage is caused by both wind and water; to be properly covered with hurricane insurance, you may need two or three insurance policies.

### Flood insurance

Standard home insurance policies exclude floods from the list of covered perils. You need flood insurance to cover most water damage from flooding. Many people are insured through the National Flood Insurance Program, but you may find some private insurers in your area.

(MORE →)

## How to Prepare for the Hurricane Season (cont'd)

### Homeowners insurance

While a standard homeowners insurance policy doesn't cover flooding, it likely covers certain types of water damage caused by hurricane winds. For example, your homeowners insurance likely covers damages to your home if a hurricane's wind damages your roof, allowing rain water into the home.

### Wind insurance

In 19 states, homeowners insurance policies have a hurricane deductible ranging from 1% to 10% of the home's insured value. To understand this better, if your home is insured for \$400,000, and your hurricane deductible is 5%, the insurer will deduct \$20,000 from a claims check. That's the portion that is your responsibility. You may want, or be required, to purchase a separate windstorm and hail policy, an endorsement to your current homeowners insurance policy or get wind coverage through your state's Beach or Fair Access to Insurance (FAIR) plan.

### Hurricane Insurance for Vehicles

You can add comprehensive coverage to a car insurance policy to help pay for damage caused by heavy winds, falling tree branches and rain. Comprehensive insurance covers damage to your car not caused by a car crash, including animal strikes, falling debris, fire, flooding, hail, theft and vandalism. The average cost of comprehensive car insurance is \$354 per year, based on Forbes Advisor's analysis of car insurance rates.

From Forbes Advisor April 17,2023



## National Safe Boating Week May 20-26, 2023.

Below are tips for boaters which should be considered all throughout the year. They are:

**Take a boating safety course.** Gain valuable knowledge and on-water experience in a boating safety course with many options for novice to experienced boaters. America's Boating Club offers many educational options. Click on the Learn link here - <https://americasboatingclub.org/>

**Check equipment.** Schedule a free vessel safety check with local U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary or U.S. Power Squadrons to make sure all essential equipment is present, working and in good condition. To schedule a VSC, follow the link: <https://americasboatingclub.org/scheduling-a-free-vessel-safety-check>

**Make a float plan.** Always let someone on shore know the trip itinerary, including operator and passenger information, boat type and registration, and communication equipment on board before you leave the dock. Here is a blank float plan template form the Coast Guard - <https://floatplancentral.cgaux.org/download/USCGFloatPlan.pdf>

**Wear a life jacket.** Make sure everyone wears a life jacket (i.e., personal flotation device - PFD) – every time. A stowed life jacket is no use in an emergency. See descriptions of various PFDs - <https://www.boatus.org/life-jackets/types/>

**Use an engine cut-off switch – it's the law.** An engine cut-off switch is a proven safety device to stop a powerboat engine should the operator unexpectedly fall overboard. See ECOS FAQ - <https://uscgboating.org/recreational-boaters/engine-cut-off-switch-faq.phpW>

## National Safe Boating Week (cont'd)

**Watch the weather.** Always check the forecast before departing on the water and frequently during the excursion. And check the forecast and radar on your phone app regularly during your trip as conditions can change quickly.

**Know what's going on around you at all times.** Nearly a quarter of all reported boating accidents in 2020 were caused by operator inattention or improper lookout.

**Know where you're going and travel at safe speeds.** Be familiar with the area, local boating speed zones, and always travel at a safe speed.

**Never boat under the influence.** A BUI is involved in one-third of all recreational boating fatalities. Always designate a sober skipper.

**Keep in touch.** Have more than one communication device that works when wet. VHF radios, emergency locator beacons, satellite phones, and cell phones can all be important devices in an emergency.



# NATIONAL SAFE BOATING WEEK

## BOAT RESPONSIBLY



## 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](mailto: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**

## 2023/2024 America's Boating Club-Richmond Schedule

Date		Event	Location
Start	Time		
11-Apr	1800	Squadron Dinner Meeting	Anna's - Mechanicsville (Hanover)
13-Apr	1845	Marine Navigation Course	Zoom
12-May		Shakedown Cruise	Tides Inn
16-May	1900	ExCom	Zoom
21-May	900	Trailing/VSC event	Osbourne Landing
27-May	0800-1700	Boat/Virginia	Olverson's Marina
9-Jun		Rendezvous	Urbanna Harbor (Town Dock or Urby's)
13-Jun	1800	Squadron Dinner Meeting	Anna's - Hull Street at Genito (Chesterfield)
2-Jul		Fourth Of July Cruise	Portsmouth, Hampton and/or Yorktown
29-Jul	1200	Lunch Party at Olversons	Olverson's Marina
8-Aug	1900	Excom	Timpano's Ashland
11-Aug		Weekend cruise to onancock	Onancock harbor
12-Sep	1800	Squadron Dinner Meeting	West End Richmond - TBA
7-Oct	1200	Eastern Branch Bash	Timpano's in Weems
10-Oct	1900	Excom	Timpano's Ashland
7-Nov	1800	Squadron Dinner Meeting	Anna's - Mechanicsville (Hanover)
8-Dec	1900	Excom	Zoom
9-Dec	1100	Christmas Luncheon	Westwood Club
12-Jan	1900	Excom	Zoom





***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:

[www/usps.org/Richmond](http://www.usps.org/Richmond)

or our Facebook page at

**America's Boating Club - Richmond**

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