

THE LUBBER'S LINE

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May-June-July 2024

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See page 7 for a link to a coupon for 20% off on certain safety items at West Marine.

See page 8 for the latest information on ABC Wilmington's 2024 June Cruise.



Photos provided by ABCW Members

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Volunteer Needed.



COMMANDER'S MESSAGE

Cdr John H. Bailey, AP

Welcome to the beginning of the 2024 boating season! I would like to thank everyone for giving me the opportunity to represent America's Boating Club Wilmington as your commander this year. From this position I hope to renew interest in our club with current long-standing members as well as to welcome new members. It is important to educate prospective members on all the benefits that we offer. In addition, we need to echo our district 5 commanders' mission to get back to our roots by teaching boating safety and participating in social activities. I have been a member of our squadron for 12 years now and am still learning about all the educational programs we provide. In addition to in-class and online courses, we also provide hands-on boater training. For example, we have a program called Jump Start which provides a framework for a one-on-one training session with a student on their boat.

Not only is America's Boating Club an educational resource; we are being asked by the Virginia Institute of Marine Science (VIMS) to help provide sonar data of the bay and tributaries. VIMS is working with NOAA to aid in updating their charts and tracking changes due to climate change. They are looking for help with water depths of 6' to 0 and 20' to 0. All you need to participate is a chart plotter with a depth sounder. All that is required from you is to simply send them your tracks from your trips out on the bay. These tracks include all the information they are looking for. I will be getting more information on how to sign up in the next couple of weeks for those who would like to participate. As you can see from these few examples, there are a lot of services and activities that our organization provides.

This boating season please don't hesitate to show our colors, fly your burgees and wear your shirts to help instill interest in our club and possibly recruit new members. With the start of the new boating season don't forget about getting a Vessel Safety Check as part of your spring commissioning. It is a complimentary, no strings attached service that is beneficial to veteran boaters as well as new ones. I look forward to seeing everyone out on the water this year!



Administrative Department

P/C Carol J. Hanson, AP

Strong Leadership Celebrated at our Annual Change of Watch

On the first day of Daylight Saving Time, 2024, thirty-five of our Boating Club members thoroughly enjoyed a delicious brunch provided by Schaefer's Canal House. There, overlooking the waters of the C & D Canal, we celebrated the 84th Change of Watch on the 86th year of our history! Mike Maszczenski, the District 5 Assistant Educational Officer from America's Boating Club Mid-Atlantic, officiated the Induction of Officers for the 2023 – 2024 Bridge.

We are delighted that LT. John Bailey will serve as our new Commander. We are especially grateful to Richard Butler for his service as Commander for the past two years and appreciate his willingness to serve as Club Secretary. Bridge Officers who have also agreed to continue to serve - Carol Hanson as Administrative Officer, Bill Barber as Education Officer and Treasurer, Lynn Mahaffy, Social Committee Co-Chair and Flag Officer, and John Schleicher, Webmaster and Cruise Co-Chair. Additionally, we are pleased to welcome Justin Doheny, Audit Committee Chair, Peter Weintraub, and Bart Wilson to the Executive Committee.



We are thankful for the dedication and commitment of those rotating off the Executive Committee; Chris Atkinson, Executive Committee for 6 years, and Secretary the past two years; Mark Atkinson, former Squadron Education Officer, and on the Executive Committee for 6 years. Mark coordinated the Basic Boating Course and successfully partnered with the New Castle Sailing Club as the new location for the Basic Boating Course. Chris and Mark have been members of USPS for 23 years. We will miss them.

We sincerely appreciate all the devoted service provided by our dedicated leadership and look forward to more camaraderie during the interesting and fun activities in the coming months!



Photos provided by ABCW Members

Socials and Events Scheduled or Under Consideration by the Social Committee

Your Social Committee has been hard at work, meeting monthly and communicating frequently!

Please consider the following activities and let us know your interest!

Friday, 3 May 2024, New Castle Sailing Club, 12:00 pm – Learn about Nurdles!

Our own Environmental Studies professor Lynn Mahaffy will discuss nurdles, and why they are a concern to our rivers and bays. Lynn currently teaches in the Department of Biological Services at the University of Delaware. A Punchbowl invite has been sent out. BYO lunch and beverage. Dress comfortably for beach combing. Address: 614 South Street, New Castle, DE. Parking is available next to the Clubhouse. Rain date – May 17th.

Saturday, 1 June 2024 – Commander's Cocktail Party and Annual Summer Cruise

Land Lubbers welcome! It promises to be a fun week! Please see details in the Lubber's Line, page 9.

Saturday, 20 July – Flea Market and Social - North Point Marina – ABCW members and North Point slip holders

are encouraged to **bring no-longer needed boat items** for a Flea Market in the pavilion from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm. Vessel Safety Checks and VSC sign-ups will be available. If the price is right, a **Crab Feast for ABCW members** will be held starting at 4:30 pm. Land Lubbers are encouraged to attend! Sign-up and prepay will be necessary. Orders will be taken. A Punchbowl invitation will be sent out.

Boater's weekend raft-ups are scheduled for the weekends of **July 13th & 14th, August 10th & 11th, September 14th and 15th**, and **October 12 & 13th**, wind and weather dependent. Stay Tuned!

Sunday, September 22, 2024, 2:00 pm – BYO Picnic at Beth and John Stevenson's

Join us for a **fun social** BYO picnic on the eastern **Elk River**, at the lovely cottage of Beth and John Stevenson's, eight minutes off Route 213. A grill will be available.

Many thanks for the creative work of our Social Committee members: Joan Barber and Lynn Mahaffy, Co-Chairs, Betty Ingram – Punchbowl, Terry Butler, and Gail Weintraub!



Photos provided by ABCW Members

2024 ABCW Photo Contest

The Photo Contest is on for this 2024 Year! When you are on The Chesapeake Bay don't forget to capture your favorite images of

PEOPLE



BOATS



SCENIC/WILDLIFE



SUNRISES/SUNSETS



In past years, you have shown us your talented photographic expertise!

First, second and third place winners will be announced in the November/December Lubber's Line. Please submit your best three photos for each category. Winning photos will also be featured on our website, Facebook page and potentially, in SpinSheet magazine. Images are to be about life on the Chesapeake Bay only, where we spend much of our time. Additionally, they should be taken since last year's contest ended: October 1, 2023 through September 31, 2024.

Please send medium-sized pictures. It's OK to send more than one email.

By submitting your images to the Photo Contest Committee, you agree to have your pictures published in the Lubber's Line, on ABCW Facebook page and Website and possibly, SpinSheet.

Send photo contest images by October 1st to: photocontest@ABC-Wilmington.com

Show off your photographic skills and impress your fellow ABCW Members!

Roam Monitor Installation Aboard Scrimshaw

From Lt. John Schleicher:

The Roam Marine Monitor is a cellular boat monitoring system that provides real-time updates on the status of all your boat's vitals. I was interested because Scrimshaw is currently in wet winter storage at North Point Marina in Rock Hall and our home is in Allentown, PA, 2-½ hours away.

The key attributes are: **1) Remote reporting over cellular 2) Low power consumption 3) Monitors 12VDC Supply Voltage, Location, Sea State, Temperature and Humidity 4) Optional Inputs for 2nd Battery, Bilge Pump and Level 5) Reasonable Cost**



The monitor costs \$299 and the monitoring subscription is \$5/month billed annually at this time. The base kit includes a power/primary battery monitor fused cable, two secondary battery/pump wires and a bilge float switch. Longer wires are available for the secondary battery/pump wire, but you shouldn't need them.

An 8 page description of John's purchase, test and installation of this device in *Scrimshaw* is available to those interested at [Roam Monitor Installation Aboard Scrimshaw](#)



Education Department

P/C Mark C. Atkinson

Basic Boater Certification Class Begins 4 May

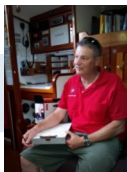
The second of two basic boater classes for 2024 will begin at 1300 Saturday, 4 May and continue for the next two Saturday afternoons. Classes are being held at the New Castle Sailing Club at 614 South Street in New Castle, DE. Classes in 2024 are being offered in a new partnership with the New Castle Sailing Club which wanted to expand boating education opportunities to enhance the skills of its members. The agreement to use the classroom space at the clubhouse solved a need for classroom space for ABC Wilmington.

The agreement approved by the boards of the two clubs in January allows ABC Wilmington to offer boater certification to the public as well as to the members of NCSC. In addition, the long-standing partnership between the Delaware Army Reserve National Guard Safety program and ABC Wilmington will continue. Also, ABC Wilmington may use the classroom for advanced grades and elective courses and include NCSC members as time allows and other terms as agreed upon.

As of the deadline for this issue of Lubber's Line, 12 students have registered to take the class in May. Four are members of the NCSC, including Commodore Meg Farrugia and her husband Rob Farrugia who started the class in February but will finish in May as they had a vacation planned during the final two sessions. Two others are members of the National Guard. The balance of six are from the public and learned about the class through the calendar of certification classes on the Delaware Natural Resources and Environmental Control webpage.

At the February class, seven students passed the exam, four of whom scored above 90%. Eighty percent is the minimum passing grade. Classes were taught by P/C David Sharpless, AP who has over 30 years of teaching experience with assistance and class coordination by Chairman of Local Boards P/C Mark Atkinson, AP.

The course uses the curriculum and examination of the Delaware State Safe Boating and Boater Certification course, an eight-hour course offered in three, three-hour sessions with a proctored closed book exam at the final session. The curriculum is approved by the National Association of State Boating Law Administrators and the US Coast Guard. The approval means that the certificate awarded upon completion is recognized in all states requiring boater certification. In Delaware, certification is required of any person operating a mechanically propelled vessel born after 1 January 1978. On Maryland waters certification is required for any person born after July 1975. Other states have different age limits.



Boating Safety: Is Your Boat Safe?



As members of **America's Boating Club Wilmington (ABCW)**, we strongly encourage safety on the water. How Safe Is Your Boat? A **Vessel Safety Check (VSC)** is a courtesy examination. It is **free**; there is no citation and no obligation, just indispensable information to keep you safe on the water. Commander John Bailey has been chairing our Vessel Safety Check Committee for over seven years. Additional certified ABCW VSC officers include James T. Walton and Gail Weintraub. Our expert VSC officers will review the condition of safety equipment required by State and Federal regulations. They will make recommendations and may discuss certain safety issues that make us all better boaters. They then provide you with a copy of their evaluation for follow up. Those of us who pass the safety check can display the distinctive VSC decal. If you have a sticker on your boat, word is that you will be less likely to be boarded by the Coast Guard for a safety inspection, etc. An example of items checked include registration and vessel numbers, navigation lights, life jackets, fire extinguishers, bilge, and general safe boat condition. So, **how safe is your boat?** Schedule your free Vessel Safety Check today with one of our certified vessel examiners by contacting John Bailey, J. T. Walton, or Gail Weintraub. Their info is in your ABCW Yearbook. Not only do we encourage safety on the water, but we are also good role models for other boat enthusiasts!



Secretary's Department

P/C Richard Butler, JN

As many of you know by now, Vicky Lai, our fantastic Lubber's Line Editor for the past year has moved on to a new opportunity which has taken her out of our area. This makes it impossible for her to continue in her editor role. We thank her again for her great upgrades to one of our important means of communication.

In the meantime, I have taken on the task of putting out the newsletter. This involves taking the articles, photos and other materials supplied by fellow club members and putting them into a software package that produces the .pdf file that you can either read or print. Although most of our past editors have used Microsoft Publisher, Vicky and I have been using a similar program called Office Libre Draw for the past year and a half.

I would very much like to give another club member the opportunity to carry out this role. Moderate word processing skills, nothing fancy, are the main requirement. I would be happy to work with you to demonstrate the process I'm now using and would not object to your using another program that you're familiar with that can output a .pdf file. This could also give you an opportunity to implement any upgrades or improvements to the newsletter, as Vicky has done.

If you have any interest in this role, please get in touch with me and let's discuss the possibility.



District & National News

2024 Summer Council/Rendezvous

The upcoming Summer Council/Rendezvous at Solomon Island is 25 -28 July. The District is working with two marinas and one hotel. Safe Harbor's Zahnisers (410-326-2166) is the host marina with Spring Cove (410-326-2161) contributing. Slips are going fast as well as the block of rooms at the Holiday Inn Express (240-237-1463).

On all reservations, mention you are with the United States Power Squadron Summer Rendezvous for the discounted rate. Plans are underway for: on-the-water training for the IN course; a First Aid Course; a Sail Regatta and Power Boat navigation contests; land Geo locations and scavenger Hunts; and games on Friday night with prizes given out at the Saturday banquet.

Chief Commander Ralph Bernard is leading a southbound cruise to Solomons and Jim Zeigler from ABC Richmond is leading a northbound cruise from the lower parts of the Bay to Solomons. Contact them to join the cruises. Let's get together as Squadrons, get on the water, and have a good time.

Navigating the USPS Websites

The ITCOM PowerPoint Presentation "Navigating the USPS Websites" (32Mb .ppt) which was presented at the 2024 Annual Meeting in Orlando is now available for download at [https://www.usps.org/images/secretary/itcom/Navigating the USPS Website.pptx](https://www.usps.org/images/secretary/itcom/Navigating_the_USPS_Website.pptx)

West Marine Discount Coupon

Use this link (https://www.usps.org/images/Exec/Safety/vsc/WM_Safety_Coupon_2024.jpg) to access the Safety Committee page that contains a West Marine discount coupon for safety items.

Meet our New Members: The Capaldi's



Jeff Capaldi, of Avondale, PA with wife Cindy and their sable cocker spaniel Carla – joined in August 2023. A Wilmington native, Jeff boated the Chesapeake with his father (circa 1971) and vowed to someday get a boat of his own. “Someday” finally came last September

when they acquired *Adriana* – a Tartan Legacy 32. As a maiden voyage, they moved *Adriana* from Rock Hall to Summit North Marina.

Jeff’s retired from JPMorgan Chase (technologies). Cindy – an 8 year Airforce Veteran and “foodie” – is a Sr. Recruiter at Wuxi Advanced Therapies.

Although Summit North is their home port, they intend to have extended stays at various Chesapeake Marinas to enable exploration and vacation at many of the Chesapeake’s quaint towns.

Jeff has a keen interest in exploring and even charting some of the 1800 Chesapeake shipwrecks.

Their favorite places include Ocean City NJ, Annapolis MD, Venice and London.

Pictured – Jeff’s first boat: Circa 1972 – his father’s dingy with a sail made from an old shower curtain rod and a sheet!



Final Plans for the Annual Cruise Getting Near

The **2024 annual June Cruise** is not far off. This article contains updates for members from the Cruise Committee.

We Really Mean It. Invitation to Non-cruisers:

Members without boats are invited to join the cruisers and participate in all land activities. Think about joining us at the Smithsonian Environmental Research Center (SERC), Cambridge and/or Annapolis. Just because you do not have a boat does not mean you can't join us and enjoy the fun!

6/1 Commander's Kickoff at North Point Marina. **1700-1900**

6/2 and 6/3 We will anchor at the **Rhode River** for two nights. On the second day we have reservations to tour the **Smithsonian Environmental Research Center (SERC)**. **1400** We will also have dinghy activities.

6/4 We will anchor at picturesque **Leadenham Creek**. Since this is a long leg of the cruise, we will not have a dinghy activity.

6/5 and 6/6 Cambridge Yacht Basin. Highlights include these options:

Wednesday, 6/5

Tour of the Horn Point oyster hatchery - depart 1230

Lunch at Horn Point sponsored by the Cambridge Squadron -1500

Thursday, 6/6

Harriet Tubman Underground Railroad National Historic Park – depart – 0930

Tour and scavenger hunt at the Cambridge Maritime Museum – 1400

Dinner at the Cambridge Yacht Club - 1750 (we are invited to order off the menu)

We will use a rental van to transport people to different sites. Non-cruisers may choose to drive their own vehicles. An email will be sent to cruisers in May to determine how many people will use the van so we can determine the per person shared cost.

Non-cruisers may want to come early to Cambridge to see the fleet arrive. Those taking the van will be asked to arrive at the Cambridge Yacht Basin pavilion by 1230 on Wednesday. An email with more details will be sent to all members in May.

6/7 We anchor at Dunn Cove. We will likely have a dinghy activity.

6/8 Port Annapolis Marina - BBQ Banquet, 1730. We will circulate a questionnaire to gather feedback from everyone who participates in the cruise.

6/9 Return to Rock Hall.

What Else Is New?

We have at least two new boats that that will join the cruise. Cambridge Squadron member John O'Reilly will join us on his sailboat *Sans Souci*. We appreciate John's many suggestions and extra help with planning the Cambridge events. Also, ABC Wilmington members Mark Cofone and Karin Sorenmo will join us on their boat *Froya*.

As if this is not enough, a Chesapeake Bay trivia game will be played each day we are at anchor, featuring lots of facts and fun about the Bay we have sailed on for so many years.

So, What's next?

All ABC Wilmington members will receive an email asking about their interest in riding in the van that will be used to get to different Cambridge events. It will also inquire about how many non- cruisers will be coming to visit Cambridge or other land locations.

Like the last two years, each cruise boat will receive an email that includes a detailed itinerary and more information that will be helpful to members in planning for the cruise.

The Cruise Committee has incorporated suggestions and ideas we received from the 2023 Cruise Questionnaire. Your feedback made a real difference. Cruisers have always valued the shared experiences of the group - we hope this year it can include non- cruisers as well.

Let's Celebrate the May/June/July Birthdays

MAY

Carol Hanson	May 03
Lynn Mahaffy	May 07
Thomas Minshall	May 12
Mae Alfree	May 12
Richard Butler	May 14
RJ Onesti	May 14
Bruce Wyngaard	May 16
Paul Bosco	May 18
Laura Hackell	May 20
Susan Clark	May 20
Sandy Netting	May 20
Leslie Brower	May 22

"Spring's last-born darling, clear-eyed, sweet, Pauses a moment, with white twinkling feet, and golden locks in breezy play, Half teasing and half tender, to repeat Her song of 'May.'" —Susan Coolidge



Photos provided by members



Ask ChatGPT

Personality of people born in May

- Intuitive
- Empathetic
- Imaginative
- Sensitive
- Creative
- Prone to feeling overwhelmed or anxious
- May struggle with boundaries

JUNE

John Gangone	June 01
Harold Marden	June 06
Bart Wilson	June 07
Donna Zimmerman	June 12
Robert David	June 12
Jane Drummond	June 21
Gretchen Raichle	June 29

"The air is like a butterfly, With frail blue wings. The happy earth looks at the sky, And sings." —Joyce Kilmer



Ask ChatGPT

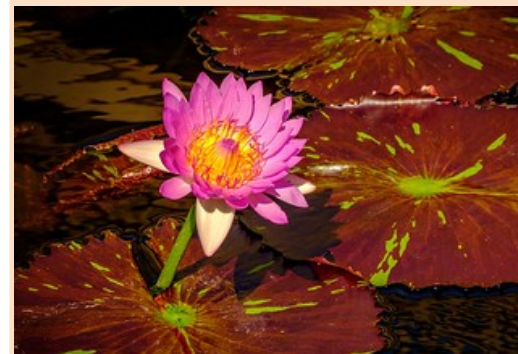
Personality of people born in June

- Curious
- Adaptable
- Communicative
- Quick-witted
- Love of learning
- Social and enjoys conversations with a wide range of people
- May struggle with indecisiveness and commitment

JULY

Lynda Hastings	July 07
Mark Cofone	July 08
Tex Houston	July 15
Kathleen Hauty	July 19
John Ingram	July 24
Lorraine Fleming	July 29

"The glowing Ruby should adorn, Those who in warm July are born, Then will they be exempt and free, From love's doubt and anxiety." —Edward Dowden



Ask ChatGPT

Personality of people born in July

- Emotional
- Sensitive
- Nurturing
- Intuitive
- Empathetic
- Family-oriented
- Can be moody or easily affected by their environment

Calendar of Events May/June/July 2023

<http://abc-wilmington.com/>



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

May Events

15 MAY 1900

ABC Wilmington Executive Committee Meeting
Via Zoom

18-24 MAY

National Safe Boating Week



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

June Events

01 JUN

Cdr's Kick-off Spring Picnic
North Point Marina

01-09 JUN

ABC Wilmington Annual Cruise



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

July Events

13-14 JUL 1900

ABC Wilmington Raftup: See Lubber's Line for Details

15 JUL

Deadline for Aug/Sep/Oct Lubber's Line Material

20 JUL

ABC Wilmington Social – Club Summer Picnic and
Combined Flea Market; North Point Marina

25-28 JUL

Mid-Atlantic Region Summer Council
Solomons, MD

Photos provided by members



Join us for weekly luncheons

Each Wednesday @ 1200
Seasons Pizza 3901 Concord Pike
Wilmington, DE 19803



Visit us on the web at: <http://abc-wilmington.com/>

The Lubber's Line is a publication of America's Boating Club® Wilmington published the first week of January, March, May, August, and November.