

AMERICA'S BOATING CLUB

For Boaters, By Boaters®



THE DRUM

A Publication of the Finger Lakes Chapter

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Report any errors or omissions to:

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From The Commander

By Phil Cherry, S

SV Harmony

HOB – Hat Over Board!

We were on the lake the other day and the wind was blowing about 8-10 from the north. We were on a starboard tack and this gust of wind suddenly caught hold of the brim of my hat and blew it into the air. This wasn't just any hat, this was my Watkins Glen hat, the only hat that seems to fit my fat head and the one that brags about the best place on earth. I'd been meaning to wash it because it's been through a lot, but I hadn't quite gotten to that yet...and then it hit the water.

I turned to Judy and authoritatively said... "Man Overboard drill!" I then appointed her as spotter and told her to not take her eye off the hat. Of course, it's a hat, difficult to see once it got wet and partially submerged, but she tried hard. I proceeded to come about and home in on the reported location. By this point Judy was spotting from the bow and with a bit of good luck, was able to retrieve the



hat with a boat hook. Whew... that was close!

This story had a happy ending and is admittedly silly, however it did prompt me to ask myself what I'd do in the case of a real man overboard (MOB) situation. We've covered the subject in *Seamanship* and *Boat Handling* classes, and I know some of us have actually had to use their MOB training right here in Seneca Lake, but I dare say not many skippers practice MOB drills. It would be helpful if they did.

I then asked my new best friend, ChatGPT to outline the primary benefits of practicing MOB drills and received the following:

1-Emergency Preparedness: Man overboard drills are designed to simulate the sudden and

unexpected event of a person falling into the water. By regularly practicing these drills, boaters become better prepared to handle emergencies efficiently. Through repetition, individuals develop the necessary skills to react quickly, maintain composure, and implement effective rescue procedures. This preparedness significantly increases the chances of a successful rescue, potentially saving lives.

2-Rapid Response and Recovery:

In a man overboard situation, time is of the essence. Every second counts when it comes to locating and recovering the individual in the water. By practicing man overboard drills, recreational boaters develop their ability to initiate an immediate response. They learn how to promptly raise the alarm, maneuver the boat towards the person overboard, deploy life-saving equipment such as buoys or life rings, and execute retrieval techniques effectively. These drills enhance coordination among crew members and facilitate a swift and coordinated rescue operation.

3-Crew Coordination and

Communication: Recreational boating often involves multiple individuals working together as a team. Man overboard drills serve as an excellent opportunity to enhance crew coordination and communication. These drills emphasize the importance of assigning specific roles and responsibilities to each crew member during an emergency. By practicing the drills, boaters learn how to effectively communicate instructions,

coordinate search patterns, and execute rescue maneuvers in a synchronized manner. These skills translate into improved teamwork, fostering a safer boating environment.

4-Familiarity with Safety

Equipment: Man overboard drills enable boaters to familiarize themselves with various safety equipment onboard. From life jackets and personal locator beacons to rescue lines and throw bags, recreational boaters can learn how to properly use and deploy these devices during a drill. Familiarity with safety equipment ensures boaters can respond swiftly and effectively in a real emergency, maximizing the chances of a successful rescue and minimizing risks to all involved.

5-Increased Confidence and

Reduced Panic: Accidents can induce panic and impair decision-making abilities. Regular practice of man overboard drills instills confidence and helps boaters overcome fear or anxiety associated with emergencies. By rehearsing the procedures and techniques required in such situations, individuals become more self-assured and better equipped to handle stressful scenarios. This confidence enables quick decision-making and reduces the likelihood of panic, leading to more effective response and increased safety.

So, there you have it, the five best reasons to practice MOB responses.

Over a cocktail that evening, Judy and I contemplated how much fun – and how instructive – it might be if we held a MOB “contest”

The Drum

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here in Watkins Glen. Imagine the cardboard boat Regatta, except it's teams of boats competing for the fastest MOB retrieval, best PFD deployment, furthest rope

bag toss, et cetera... Think of the fun we could have!

Enjoy your Summer! I'll try to keep my hat dry and practice those MOB drills!

- Phil, SV Harmony
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From the Executive Officer

By Ray Margeson

SV Hattie L.



The XO Does AI

While suffering from some acute writers' block, I thought I

would ask ChatGBT about sailing on Seneca Lake. Here's what it said...

Sailing on Seneca Lake in New York can be a wonderful experience, offering beautiful scenery and the opportunity to enjoy the water and wind. Here's some information to consider when sailing with a 31-foot sailboat on Seneca Lake:

1. *Lake Overview: Seneca Lake is in the Finger Lakes region of New York. It is the largest of the Finger Lakes and stretches approximately 38 miles in length. Seneca Lake offers ample space for sailing, with its wide expanse of water surrounded by picturesque landscapes.*
2. *Marinas and Access Points: Seneca Lake has several marinas and public access points where you can launch your sailboat. Some popular marinas on Seneca Lake include Seneca Harbor Park Marina in Watkins Glen,*

Roy's Marina in Penn Yan, and Harbor Lights Marina in Geneva. It's advisable to contact the marinas in advance to inquire about boat launching facilities, availability, fees, and any regulations or permits that may be required.

3. *Weather and Wind Conditions: Before setting out, it's essential to check the weather forecast and wind conditions for Seneca Lake. Seneca Lake is known for its variable winds, which can range from light breezes to stronger gusts. Being aware of the weather conditions will help ensure a safer and more enjoyable sailing experience.*
4. *Navigation and Hazards: Familiarize yourself with the navigation charts and local rules of the lake. Seneca Lake has a marked channel that aids navigation, and it's important to stay within the designated areas to avoid underwater hazards and shallow areas. Pay attention to any navigational buoys, markers, or signage.*
5. *Local Regulations: It's important to comply with all relevant local regulations and laws when sailing on Seneca Lake. This includes having the*

necessary permits, registrations, and safety equipment required by the New York State Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation or other relevant authorities.

6. *Safety Considerations: Prioritize safety when sailing on Seneca Lake. Ensure that your sailboat is well-maintained, equipped with proper safety gear such as life jackets, fire extinguishers, and navigation lights. Be mindful of other boats and watercraft sharing the lake and follow general boating etiquette and right-of-way rules.*
7. *Attractions and Points of Interest: Seneca Lake offers plenty of attractions and points of interest to explore during your sail. You can visit the various charming towns along the shore, such as Geneva, Watkins Glen, and Penn Yan. There are also wineries, vineyards, parks, and scenic viewpoints to discover.*

Remember, conditions and regulations may change over time, so it's always recommended to check with local authorities, marinas, or sailing associations for the most up-to-date information before embarking on

your sailing adventure on Seneca Lake.

- Ray (& ChatGBT)

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From the Administrative Officer

By Maggie Martin

SV Wined 'n' Down

Our Next

Company, 29 Franklin Street in Watkins Glen at 1800. (6PM) We are delighted that the owner's daughter, Maggie MacBlane is available to tell us about her career as a merchant marine onboard ocean vessels based out of Norfolk, Virginia. (We will have more details about her talk in a follow up.)

Come and enjoy a beverage and the club will provide a light dinner for your donation.

Hope to see you all there!

- Maggie

ao@abc-flx.org

Gathering!

You won't

want to miss this one!

On Tuesday August 1st we will be meeting at Seneca Cheese



From the Education Director

By Andrew Price, AP

Boating season is well underway, and the marina is bustling

with boats and people and festivities planned for the Summer. In the midst of all this, ABC-FLX is busily engaging boaters in the many courses offered by the club. You may have noticed the instructors and students gathering beneath the mast near the parking lot.

The range of subjects is comprehensive, and any of them will improve your seamanship.

In short, there are courses in boating safety, advanced skills, short seminars, certification programs, and even informal sessions. Have a look! You will

find the list here: <http://www.abc-flx.org/index.php/education>.

Additionally, advancing through these courses can confer upon the student the USPS Grades and Awards, such as AP (advanced Pilot) or IN (Inland Navigator) to name a few.

Given the numerous offerings, it may not be easy to know where to start. However, because New York is phasing-in the requirement for a boating safety course through 2025, with boaters of all ages and experience required to have a boating safety certificate by January 1, 2025, the best place to start might be with the ABC Boating Safety course. The club is planning a boating safety course for Watkins Glen this Summer, so if you need your safety certificate, you are in luck!

Not all courses are available all the time, so, you can visit <http://www.abc-flx.org/index.php/upcoming-events> to see classes that may be starting, and you can also check this newsletter for upcoming offerings. As well, some courses are prerequisite to others, so to learn the order of courses and requirements for the different certificates, you can visit <http://www.abc-flx.org/index.php/education/course-map>.

The courses are not only a great education and way to improve boating knowledge and skills, they are a way to encounter new people and engage the club socially. Having taken a few of the courses, both in person, online, and remotely, I can attest to the depth and breadth of them!

The courses are long enough to engage a deep level of information, and the material is interesting and challenging enough to make the courses worth

taking. Check the end of this newsletter for the upcoming offerings and sign up! You will be glad you did!

- Andrew
seo@abc-flx.org

From the Assistant Education Officer

By Katie Alley, AP

SV Tomfoolery

Thunder & Lightning



As I write this, we're having some of the first real

thunderstorms of the summer, and they're not holding back. It was fun for the first twenty minutes to sit on the porch and listen to the booms and watch the strobe lights. But now I'm afraid my power is going to go out and that would simply be largely inconvenient and not so fun.

Looking at the lightning tracker apps are interesting. The free app I have, *My Lightning Tracker*, shows where lightning has recently hit on a satellite map. After seeing several strikes that appeared to be right up my street, and hearing sirens, I decided to take a look. Most, if not all, appeared to be striking on tall trees or in open fields. There were a few lone strikes over the middle of Cayuga Lake. I always hope everyone takes the severe thunderstorm warnings seriously.

The start to the boating season has certainly been wild – weather-wise – with too little wind to sail, too much wind to sail, and too much smoke to even be outside! With the recent humidity and heat waves we've had since April, I don't think these will be the only severe thunderstorms of the season. I just recently emphasized the importance of weather forecasts to the ABC class I taught.

Speaking of Courses

This year, we chose to offer America's Boating Course (ABC) in June at the start of the season.

I'm happy to say we had 11 students and they all passed! That's 11 more

knowledgeable and refreshed boaters out on the water with us. This was the first time I "led" the class, although I could not have done it without Jim McGinnis! He helped me with completing all the paperwork, getting all of the materials around, and thinking of all the small details I needed to remember to have the class run smoothly. So, thank you Jim! And, another thank you to Andrew, our Squadron Education Officer, for helping with virtual correspondence, registration numbers, and the on-the-water session. Definitely appreciate you guys immensely!

ABC-FLX invites you to...

Sampson Boater Weekend

July 28th-30th

Travel as a group to Sampson, enjoy the state park, learn something new during our on-the-water activities, and join us for a cookout with live music by the *Take 3 Quartet* on Saturday night

Reserve your slip:
315-651-4949
www.senecalakeresorts.com/Sampson-park/marina/

We had fantastic hosts over at the Watkins Glen Yacht Club, where we held the class. Toni and Bob welcomed everyone and brought great energy to the class in their role as students as well! They said they learned a lot, despite being experienced boaters. Most rewarding of all, the couple said they've been thinking about what our class taught every time they've been out on Seneca Lake. Bob mentioned that he gave a safety briefing to 10 guests aboard his 40-foot powerboat and they all appreciated him taking the time to do that. It's a great way to make guests comfortable and have them feeling less than clueless if something goes wrong. We hope to offer ABC again in August, as we have done in past years. This June class was a mixture of new boaters and experienced boaters who needed their NYS Boater's Card to meet the requirements of Brianna's Law. Several Watkins Glen Yacht Club members mentioned that they know of others who need their boater's card, so I expect to run the class again.

Speaking of other classes, the Advanced Marine Navigation students received their exam critiques and were officially able to celebrate passing. Am I allowed to brag and share that I got the highest grade in the class with a 97? They don't make just anyone Assistant Education Officer!

Instructor Tom Alley is gearing up to teach the *Junior Navigation* class, starting with some sextant lessons this coming month. I'm

ready for this challenge! The question I get asked the most by passengers on *True Love* is if I am working towards getting my captain's license. While that is a goal of mine for the future, I like surprising them by sharing that I'm learning celestial navigation first!

There will be an opportunity for prospective JN students to handle a sextant and take sights at our Sampson Rendezvous. I'm sure others are hyping up this weekend trip elsewhere in this newsletter – as they should be! Join us July 28th-30th up in Sampson State Park for boating activities, music, and food! (If you weren't sold already, there will definitely be drinking once we're at the dock.)

Closing Thoughts

The summer solstice just passed and I'm trying to enjoy the longest days of the year – while also working 40-50 hours a week, preparing to move (again), planning a friend's bridal shower, attempting to maintain a social life, and maybe do my laundry in between those things somewhere. I know with the July issue of *The*



Figure 1: Summer solstice sunset at the True Love dock.

Drum it seems like things are just getting started. But then by our September issue, it feels like we are forced to think about fall. I try to take a few minutes every day to simply stop and enjoy the world around me – as cheesy as it sounds. This is usually a 10-minute walk around the backyard at work. Today it was sitting on the porch and experiencing the thunderstorm. Later this week, I plan for it to be standing on *True Love* looking out at the lake. Take a moment, stop working, and appreciate summer wherever you are!

- Katie

aseo@abc-flx.org

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Secretary's Sidenotes

By Kris West

Summer – Go and Do!



Summer - the season we all dream of is finally here! My husband and I feel like we're in the honeymoon phase with our new boat and we're

having fun getting to know her. We have different levels of boating experience so, as a team

building exercise and to make sure we're both comfortable at the helm, we took the *Boat Handling* class together.

The course had excellent instructors who combined their vast personal experience, USPS classroom teaching materials, demonstrations, and hands on exercises to provide great learning experiences for both of us. The course improved our teamwork by providing a common understanding of techniques and best practices and helping us

improve our on-board communication skills.

So, mission accomplished! We definitely have more confidence to get out on the water and practice our skills *together*. We're thankful to the members and leadership of this local USPS chapter for carrying out our educational mission so effectively!

Now, get outside and have fun!

- Kris

secretary@abc-flx.org

ABC-FLX News

Happy Birthday!

Happy birthday to our members:

July

Andrew Price
Jacqueline Honsberger
Cynthia Swank
Terry Mason
Kris West

August

Mary Honsberger
Peter Wigley
Christa Wolf
Bob Sisbarro
Bob MacBlane
Tom Alley

Katie Alley
John Chesebrough
David Dawson-Elli
Tom Keebler
Jeff Mack
Andrew Price

Life Jacket Loaner Trees Contribute to Boating Safety

WATKINS GLEN (June 9, 2023)
– The Finger Lakes Chapter of America's Boating Club (ABC-FLX) is helping to ensure a safe water experience for area residents and visitors to Seneca Lake with two life jacket trees in Watkins Glen.

The structures are at the Clute Park boat launch on the canal and at the park's kayak and canoe

launch at the southeast end of the lake. They hold life jackets of all sizes that may be borrowed and returned at no cost. The boating safety project was launched in 2019.

Programs such as offering life jackets for loan are crucial to boating safety, said Phil Cherry, commander for ABC-FLX, formerly known as the Seneca Sail and Power Squadron.

The boating club, based in Watkins Glen, also is committed to promoting boating safety through offering a wide variety of classes in person, on the water and online, Cherry said.

"Anyone interested in joining the club is welcome," he said. "Please check out our website for a list of current and future boating

Congratulations AP Grads!

A hearty "Congratulations!" out to the recent graduates of our Advanced Piloting course:

education classes and to see how you can get involved.”

For more information about America’s Boating Club–Finger Lakes Chapter, go to www.abc-flx.org or [Facebook](#) at “America’s Boating Club–Finger Lakes Chapter.”

America’s Boating Club is the nation’s largest non-profit boating organization, with nearly 30,000 members in more than 350 clubs. The local chapter of the United States Power Squadrons boasts members from across the Finger Lakes Region who enjoy their



Figure 2: This free life jacket loaner tree is located at the Clute Park kayak and canoe launch in Watkins Glen, at the southeast end of Seneca Lake. A second tree is located at the Clute Park boat launch on the canal. The Finger Lakes Chapter of America’s Boating Club started the boating safety project in 2019.

time on the water in vessels ranging from kayaks to power boats to sailboats. Boat ownership is not a membership requirement.

Got News?

If you have news to share that you think would be of use to your fellow boaters, please submit it to you friendly newsletter editor so that it can be included!

Upcoming Classes & Seminars

Where Do I Start?

[Where Do I Start? \(usps.org\)](http://usps.org)

To work through the progression of Boating Classes and the progression of Boating skills development we have organized the classes and skills on the Long-Term Schedule. If you have any questions or want a class offered sooner let me know.

See also: <https://usps.org/sss-where-do-i-start>

Offshore Navigation – July 2023

Also known as *Junior Navigation*, this course is the first of two classes that will teach you the art and science of navigating by the stars. *Junior Navigation* will focus on position determination using the sun while the broader concepts of celestial navigation are presented. Stars, planets, and

the Moon will be added into the student’s celestial toolkit later on in the *Navigation* course.

Topics covered in *Junior Navigation* include:

- Precise time determination
- Use of the *Nautical Almanac*
- Taking sextant sights of the sun
- Reducing sights to establish lines of position
- Special charts and plotting sheets for offshore navigation
- Offshore navigational routines for recreational craft
- Electronic and computerized offshore navigation

In *Junior Navigation*, you will continue to use GPS as the primary position sensor, as you learned to do in *Marine Navigation* and *Advanced Marine Navigation*. However, the offshore environment poses many different elements for

consideration by the navigator. Ocean currents, wind, and sea state all affect a vessel’s performance over the longer passages.

Also, visible terrestrial landmarks are no longer available to the navigator as reference points. In the *Junior Navigation* course, you will learn to substitute the sun as a reference point. The course begins with the study of celestial navigation, teaching you to take sights on the sun with a marine sextant, and derive a line of position from that observation. Next, you will apply the principles learned in *Advanced Piloting*, and plot a running fix from two sun sights taken about four hours apart. Once you have learned the basics of celestial sight reduction, the course continues with planning, positioning, and checking your position in the offshore environment, using both electronic and celestial tools.

There are two examination elements for the *Junior Navigation* course: the Sight Folder and an Open Book Exam. The sight folder is graded at the squadron level. The Sight Certification Form must be submitted with the completed open book exam for the exam to be evaluated when it is submitted to Headquarters.

When/Where: Sextant handling sessions will be held in late July at the Watkins Glen Village Marina. Exact dates will be communicated directly to all students that sign up.

A full-blown “field trip” will be on Saturday, July 29th, at the Sampson State Park Marina where the class will begin collecting data needed for their sight folder.

Additional sight-taking outings will occur on Saturdays in August and early September at the Watkins Glen Village Marina.

Classroom sessions will be held on Wednesday evenings at the Schuyler County Human Resources Building in Montour Falls beginning on September 27th

at 7:00 pm. Classes will continue through December 6th and will conclude with a 2-week take-home exam.

Prerequisites: Advanced Marine Navigation (AP) or equivalent.

Cost: \$155 (USPS members), \$255 (nonmembers). Discounts available for multiple family members.

Students should also plan/budget on purchasing the following:

- Nautical Almanac \$30
- GPS AntiSpoof app \$20

ABC Boater's Safety Course - August 2023

Our next ABC course this year is planned to occur sometime in August. Stay tuned for details!

Course Fee: \$45.00

Seminars

Again, if you haven't looked at the USPS seminar offerings, you might be missing out. USPS has a wide variety of Online Seminars available on the USPS Website [America's Boating Club | All](#)

Education Seminars

americasboatingclub.org) This winter you can complete a few to add to your skill set and keeping boating on your mind.

How to Register

How to Register If you have questions about any of these courses, or better yet, if you wish to sign up, please contact: Finger Lakes Chapter Education Director, Andrew Price

seo@abc-flx.org

Or you can go to the national web site (www.usps.org) and register under the “Find A Boating Class” tab on the member home page.

Looking for Something?

ABC-FLX would be happy to hear your requests and ideas. Feel free to contact me, Andrew Price at SEO@abc-flx.org.

Available subjects for instruction can be found on the chapter web site:

www.abc-flx.org

Long-Term Class Schedule

Seneca Education Department

BOC Level	Title	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028
Inland Navigator	Classes	ABC	C/X	X	X	X	X
		Boat Handling	C		X	X	
		Engine Maintenance					X
		Marine Electrical Systems			X		
	Seminars	Using A Chart	X				
		VHF/DSC Radios	X				
		Using GPS					X
		Basic Weather and Forecasting				X	
	Skills	Basic Powerboat Handling					X
		Fire Extinguishers					

BOC Level	Title	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028
Coastal Navigator	Classes	Marine Navigation	X		X		
		Marine Communication Systems		X			
		Weather	X				
	Seminars	Tides & Currents	X				
		Rules of the Road		X			
		Anchoring					
		Mariner's Compass			X		X
	Skills	Coastal Nav					X
		Pyrotechnics				X	

BOC Level		Title	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028
Advanced Coastal Navigator	Classes	Advanced Marine Navigation	C			X		X
		Cruise Planning		X				
		Marine Navigation Systems			X			
		Radar		X				
	Sem.	Emergencies Onboard	X					
		Marine Radar		X				
	Skills	Advanced Coastal Nav	X					
		First Aid						

BOC Level		Title	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028
Offshore Navigator	C	Offshore Navigation	X			X		
	Sem.	Computer Weather Forecasting		X				
		Thunderstorms / Severe Weather		X				
	Skills	Offshore Navigation		X				
		CPR/AED						
Endorsements		Sail		X		X		X
		Boating on Rivers, Locks, and Lakes	C				X	
		Canadian Regulations			X			
		Paddlesmart			X			X
Other		Instructor Development						X
		Instructor Recertification		X		X		X
		Operations Training						X

Table Key

X = Planned

C = Completed

ABChannel Launches Season Seven

Ron Jones

Public Relations Officer, America's Boating Channel



United States Power Squadrons® We Are America's Boating Club®



“WHY WEARING A LIFE JACKET IS COOL” Will Be First Video to Premiere

Raleigh, NC, 1 June 2023 – America's Boating Channel™, the U.S. Coast Guard funded boating safety and boater education video service of United States Power Squadrons® (USPS) – America's Boating Club® (ABC), will publicly debut its new season of twelve videos across its smart TV, online, and mobile distribution platforms starting in June.

In making the announcement, USPS-ABC Chief Commander Craig Fraser remarked, “We're excited to introduce America's Boating Channel's seventh season of original, non-duplicated, boating safety and boater education videos. This year's slate of titles reflects a sharpened focus on critical safety considerations, operational guidance, and electronic aids to navigation.”

The first video in the new series, **WHY WEARING A LIFE JACKET IS COOL**, will premiere on Fire TV, Roku, and YouTube, as well as Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, and other social networks at 8 PM EDT on Thursday June 1.

WHY WEARING A LIFE JACKET IS COOL asks a series of "What if..." questions about contemporary life jackets. Viewers will learn the benefits of wearing life jackets while underway on boats. Also featured are tips to consider when buying a new life jacket.

Every 10 days throughout the boating season, America's Boating Channel will launch a new video. Upcoming Season Seven titles include

- SLIPS, TRIPS, AND FALLS
- PARTNER IN COMMAND
- DISEMBARKING HAZARDS
- BOATING WITH SMALL CHILDREN
- ENGINE FAILURE CAUSES & CURES
- TOWED SPORTS SAFETY
- TYING DOCK LINES; INTRODUCING AIS
- MARINE RADIO ETIQUETTE
- NAVIGATING LOCKS
- BORDER CROSSING.

Smart TV viewers can subscribe to America's Boating Channel for free on Roku and FireTV. On Roku, viewers can select Store using their Roku remotes, click on Channels, search for Americas Boating Channel, and



then add the channel. On FireTV, viewers can go to Apps on their FireTV Main Menu, search for Americas Boating Channel, select Get, and then download the app.

Online, the best way to view the videos is to subscribe at no charge to America's Boating Channel on YouTube,

About America's Boating Channel

America's Boating Channel™ is produced for United States Power Squadrons® (USPS) by Lafferty Media Partners (LMP) under a grant from the Sport Fish Restoration and Boating Trust Fund, administered by the U.S. Coast Guard. The service features professionally produced, high-definition, safe boating and boater education videos, along with boating themed entertainment and

informational television programs. America's Boating Channel has been recognized with the National Boating Industry Safety Award as the 2021 Top Marine Media Outlet, and with the 2022 International Boating and Water Safety Summit Communication Award

for the top Video Public Service Announcement (PSA) Series.
AmericasBoatingChannel.com

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The Last Word

By Tom Alley, SN-CN

Routine? Not a Chance.



With

Independence Day being the unofficial midpoint of the summer, we *should* be settling into our respective boating routines by now. So, why is it that I just can't get to the "settled" or "routine" part of my summer?

For one reason, things certainly aren't settling down. While I may not be pumping water out of my basement this month, there have been lots of other activities that have filled in the time being consumed by that activity! The racing season has started, so I'm out on my boat

on a regular basis. The tourist season has started, so I'm out on the *True Love* schooner on a regular basis, too.

Disrupt Your Routine!

If you haven't committed to attending the events at Sampson State Park Marina on July 28th-30th, you should give it some serious thought! This event gets bigger each year because once people attend, they want to come back for more! This is where you have to ask yourself, "What am I missing?" Come and find out!

Looking Ahead

Coming this summer is the start of the *Offshore Navigation* course (formerly known as *Junior Navigation* or *JN*). This course will change the way you look at the sky and it's one of my favorite courses to teach. We'll be taking sights out on

SV Tomfoolery

Seneca Lake in July, August and possibly in early September, too. In late September we'll be meeting weekly in the classroom until early December after which the students will take an exam and demonstrate their newfound proficiency.

Offshore Navigation is the first half of the suite of courses to learn the art and science of celestial navigation. The second course in this series will likely be offered in 2024. These courses don't get offered too often, so don't miss your opportunity!

- Your Editor, Tom

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As always, send your thoughts about this newsletter to:

editor@abc-flx.org

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Calendar of Events

July 2023

- 01 Finger Lakes *Drum* July issue publication date.
- 11 Bridge Meeting (1900).
- 21 Deadline for *The Deep 6* articles. (D/6)
- 28-30 Summer Boater Weekend, *Sampson State Park Marina, Seneca Lake.*

August 2023

- 01 *The Deep 6* summer issue publication date. (D/6)
- 01 Club Social & Guest Speaker, *Seneca Cheese Factory, Watkins Glen, NY* (1800).
- 08 Bridge Meeting (1900)
- 22 Sextant Orientation for celestial navigation students
- 25 Deadline for *Drum* Articles
- 27-9/4 Governing Board Meeting, *Kansas City, MO* (National)
- TBA ABCClass begins

September 2023

- 8/27-04 Governing Board Meeting, *Kansas City, MO* (National)
- 01 Finger Lakes *Drum* September issue publication date.
- 12 Bridge Meeting (1900)
- 27 Junior Navigation classes begin (1900)

October 2023

- 10 Bridge Meeting (1900)
- 20-22 District 6 Fall Council & Conference, *Buffalo, NY.* (D/6)
- 24 Deadline for *The Deep 6* articles (D/6)
- 24 Deadline for *Drum* articles

November 2023

- 01 Finger Lakes *Drum* November issue publication date.
- 01 *The Deep 6* fall issue publication date. (D/6)
- 14 Bridge Meeting (1900)

December 2023

- 22 Deadline for *Drum* Articles

January 2024

- 01 Finger Lakes *Drum* January issue publication date
- 09 Bridge Meeting (1900)
- 19 Deadline for D/6 *The Deep 6* articles. (D/6)
- TBA Finger Lakes Change of Watch

February 2024

- 01 *The Deep 6* winter issue publication date. (D/6)
- 13 Bridge Meeting (1900)
- 23 Deadline for *Drum* Articles
- TBA USPS Annual Meeting (National)

March 2024

- 01 Finger Lakes *Drum* March issue publication date.
- 12 Bridge Meeting (1900)

April 2024

- 09 Bridge Meeting (1900)
- 19 Deadline for *The Deep 6* articles (D/6)
- 22 Deadline for *Drum* Articles
- TBA District 6 Spring Council & Conference (D/6)

May 2024

- 01 Finger Lakes *Drum* May issue publication date.
- 01 *The Deep 6* spring issue publication date. (D/6)
- 14 Bridge Meeting (1900)
- 18-24 Safe Boating Week (National)
- TBA Sail course begins

June 2024

- 11 Bridge Meeting (1900)
- 21 Deadline for *Drum* Articles

Calendars are "living documents." For the latest information on squadron activities, please check our web site:

<http://www.abc-flx.org>

or our Facebook page:

<http://facebook.com/SenecaPowerSquadron>

for any last-minute changes.