



WAYPOINTS

NOVEMBER 2022
AMERICA'S BOATING CLUB NORTH STRAND
 INNOVATION, EDUCATION, COMMUNITY



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FROM THE HELM

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Administrative Officer's Report

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Hello, everyone. I hope you had a wonderful Thanksgiving and that you're gearing up for an enjoyable holiday season. We have the boat parade on Saturday, December 3 and the Ladies' Lunch on December 7. On December 8 we'll be together to enjoy Conway's Rivertown Christmas Celebration from 6 to 8 pm. Many of us are driving to this event, which is part of the Conway cruise. We'll meet up at the marina. Watch for an email with details.

Because we have moved our Change of Watch to February, our annual business meeting will take place in January instead of October. The slate of officers for the upcoming watch year is presented the month before the business meeting, so there will be a brief business session at our Christmas party to present the slate and budget. Please plan to attend the Christmas party on December 12, both to become familiar with the slate and budget and to have a good time celebrating with your boating club friends.

Marc and I will be in Switzerland for my nephew's wedding, so we won't see you at the Christmas party.

I wish all of you a safe, happy, healthy holiday season. You are what makes America's Boating Club North Strand a success. Please accept my sincere thanks for all you do, from volunteering to attending meetings, to spreading warmth and welcome to your fellow members.

The days are getting shorter, and we are very close to closing the 2022 calendar permanently but there is still a lot of activities happening in the Squadron. The squadron exists because of you and when you joined you did so with the commitment to get involved. Now is the time to live up to that commitment. December 3rd is the NMB Christmas parade, and your squadron has a float promoting our squadron and what we do: Learn Boating Skills, engage in fun boating activities and connect with the boating community. We need you to help us do exactly that so come out and join us. Let's get a big group and show our strength in the parade.

We also have the Conway trip the first full week in December. Drive down if you can't boat and join us for a great few days and nights in Conway. The streets will be lit, the stores open and Christmas decorations everywhere. It is a great time, and you don't have to have a boat to participate. Following that is our Ladies' Luncheon and our Potluck Christmas party. Something for everyone. Get involved and help make this Squadron the best of the best.

Like anything else, the more you put into it, the more you will get out of it.



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Educational Officer's Report
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Educational Activities

We held a Marine Electrical Systems class with three students in November. The class schedule was 4 hours of class twice a week, allowing us to complete the class in two weeks with the exam on the third week. The exams are now at national for grading.

We have no additional courses scheduled this fall.

We have 3 ABC classes scheduled in 2023, A Boat Handling (Seamanship) class will follow the first ABC class and a Marine Navigation (Piloting) class will follow the second ABC in July.

As always, let the education department know if there are any seminars or courses you would like for us to present.

Merry Christmas



CALENDAR OF EVENTS 2022

DECEMBER

- 03 Lunch and Boat Decorating - 1:00 PM @ Lippincott's, 1505 Hillside Dr. N, NMB
- 03 Christmas Parade - 5:30 PM, N. Myrtle Beach
- 07 Ladies Christmas Luncheon - 12:00 PM @ Hickory Tavern, NMB
- 08 Virtual Executive Committee Meeting - 7:00 PM via ZOOM
- 12 Annual Christmas Party - 5:30 PM @ VFW Post 10804, Little River
- 21 Heritage Shores Park Cleanup - 3:30 PM @ Cherry Grove (end of 53rd St. N)



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|----------------|----|
| Roger Clark | 16 |
| Jeff Pazona | 19 |
| David Canty | 21 |
| Caroline Sever | 24 |
| Gary Walston | 29 |



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INFLATABLE LIFE JACKETS

When inflatable life jackets fail, the results can be deadly. Unknown bladder leaks, fabric degradation or an improperly installed carbon dioxide cylinder can render inflatable life jackets ineffective by preventing inflation or their ability to stay inflated.

Properly inspect and maintain your inflatable life jackets to ensure that all parts remain in good working order. Follow the maintenance instructions for your brand as instructions vary by manufacturer.

The following basic inspection guidelines should not replace or supersede manufacturer recommendations or instructions.

Before getting underway

Inspect the service indicator, if any, to ensure it's green. If it's red, the mechanism has been fired or fitted incorrectly.

- **Check for visible signs of wear or damage.** Make sure that there are no rips, tears, or holes; the seams are securely sewn; and the fabric, straps, and hardware remain strong.
- **Ensure that auto-inflating components are armed and not expired.** Following the manufacturer's instructions, reveal and inspect the inflation system and oral inflation tube. Check that the CO2 cylinder is firmly secured and free from rust or corrosion. If you remove the cylinder for inspection, replace it carefully and don't over-tighten.

Repack the lifejacket following the manufacturer's instructions. Ensure that the pull-tab lanyard is accessible and unlikely to be inadvertently snagged when worn.

Periodically or when in doubt

- **Inflate the bladder using the oral tube.** Leave it inflated overnight in a room with a steady temperature. If the bladder loses pressure, take the life jacket to an authorized service center for further tests. Don't attempt to repair a life jacket yourself. If pressure remains steady, deflate the life jacket by turning the inflation tube cap upside down and pressing it into the inflation tube. Gently squeeze the inflatable life jacket until you've expelled all air. Do not wring or twist the life jacket. **Repack the life jacket** following the manufacturer's instructions. Make sure the pull-tab lanyard is accessible and won't be snagged when worn.

Store your life jacket in a dry, well-ventilated location out of direct sunlight. Rinse your life jacket with freshwater after saltwater exposure and dry it thoroughly prior to storage. If your life jacket is set for auto-inflation, remove the auto-inflation cartridge prior to rinsing. The life jacket manufacturer may have specific requirements, so read the instructions on the jacket.

-U.S. Coast
Guard