

THE C-WAY

AMERICA'S BOATING CLUB

"For Boaters By Boaters"®



DBA America's Boating Club of Chattanooga

Commander's Message

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See our Website <https://www.usps.org/localusps/sss-cha>

THE PIRATES ARE COMING!!!!



What a sight to see motoring towards Chickamauga Dam just after Halloween!!! I'll bet the pirates had a Jolly Halloween! (Photo: Carol Fairfield)

Following is some information from our National Newsletter team – thanks Debra!

Boating Under the Influence: Talk about it before it's too late

Let's talk about boating under the influence (BUI). Just because November is upon us and a lot of boats have been winterized, we continue to need to educate each other about this dangerous practice. America's Boating Channel™ BUI videos offer an excellent way in which to do this.



Check out the “Dispelling BUI Myths” video in Season Four that covers six major misconceptions about boating under the influence (BUI). It teaches viewers about unique dangers associated with boating while intoxicated and features law enforcement actions and penalties for conviction of BUI. In Season Five there is a video entitled “BUI Fatalities” that covers the most fundamental reason for not boating under the influence of alcohol or drugs. Viewers will learn of additional associated risks and receive tips for avoiding BUI, such as using a designated sober operator.



It's not too early to start planning your boat show booth. Have you considered using a computer or TV to play a loop of the many America's Boating Channel videos? It is an excellent way to draw people in to talk with you about safe boating through education and the opportunities your club offers.

The videos referenced here, and others, are available to USPS members to view and download for free at bit.ly/USPSABC. There is an index to help you find the topic you need, which is very convenient for instructors who want to use these videos in the classroom without the need for an internet connection. Otherwise, visit America's Boating Channel on YouTube at <https://www.youtube.com/@AmericasBoatingChannel> to find these and nearly 100 other safe boating videos, which are an excellent tool to help recruit participants to our educational program and to membership. Invite your friends and neighbors to watch, like and subscribe to America's Boating Channel to introduce them to what our organization has to offer.

In addition to YouTube, these professionally produced high-definition safe boating and boater education videos are available via the America's Boating Channel on-demand app on Roku, FireTV and, as of November 2023, Apple TV. [America's Boating Channel™](https://www.youtube.com/@AmericasBoatingChannel) is produced by the United States Power Squadrons® (USPS) under a grant from the Sport Fish Restoration and Boating Trust Fund administered by the U.S. Coast Guard.

Recruiting with ABC Videos:



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You could create a multi-topic loop or just use two single-issue videos on the leading contributor to recreational boating deaths to offer just over nine minutes of education. Check out the "Dispelling BUI Myths" video in Season Four, which covers six major misconceptions about boating under the influence while teaching viewers about unique dangers associated with boating while intoxicated. Season Five has a video entitled "BUI Fatalities" that covers the most fundamental reason for not boating under the influence of alcohol or drugs.

Grant-funded through the U.S. Coast Guard, these videos also are available on [YouTube](#) and via the America's Boating Channel on-demand app on Roku, FireTV and, as of November 2023, Apple TV.

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Executive Officer's Message

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The HEAD OF THE HOOCH is taking place this weekend. More information can be found at the website: <https://www.headofthehooch.org/>. Fun to see youth to Seniors racing, so if you don't volunteer, come out and watch the flurry of activity at Ross's Landing or just watch the graceful rowers anywhere on the river, starting 5km upstream.

Please remember to sign up for the Boat Show in February if you're not going to the National meeting. Volunteer Boat Show Sign-Up sheets will be available at the next few monthly meetings, or contact Jack Everett (info above) or Linda Grotjan at (423-843-9743 or dlgrotjan@epbfi.com) if you will not be at the meetings. Thanks in advance for your help!

Lastly, a reminder to please be ready to volunteer for a Bridge or committee position when the nominating committee calls!

Please be aware that from Nov 15-last day of February each year the Hiwassee Refuge is closed, including to boat traffic other than in the main channel surrounding the Refuge, to provide protection to the migrating sandhill cranes. A dozen or so sandhills and hundreds of white pelicans have recently been spotted in the refuge. The Observation Platform is open all year during daylight hours. These birds are amazing to see!

Submitted by: Jack Everett



Sandhill Cranes Photo : Carol Fairfield



Administrative Officer's Message

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Hello from Admin,

Looks like we're finally getting into fall. The trees on the mountains and ridges are finally showing off their colors. I've been cleaning up the garden and planting some winter crops, and my Thanksgiving Cactus has finally set buds for their annual show. Jim mowed the yard for what we hope is the last time this year and we've been trimming some of the bushes and weeding the flower beds. This is the first stretch of days that the weather has been cool enough to get outside and actually get something done before the holidays set in.

I do have a few things to bring to you this month, the first and foremost being our annual collection for Samaritan Center. The Center will not sponsor a "Gift Shop" this year. They are seeing more need in the areas of budgetary expenditures. They have been providing weekend "Pack Sacks" for school children, providing school supplies for teachers and students, and helping the homeless through the McClellan Shelter and renters through their rent program. In addition to supporting an increasing monthly Food Box program, the area has had an influx of immigrants who need financial counselling and monetary support. All this at a significantly increased cost due to inflation has significantly impacted their budget. So, **this year we are asking member NOT to bring \$20 gifts, but to consider bringing a CHECK for \$20 (or more), made out to the Squadron, which we can then donate to the Center.** Tom will collect the money at the meeting and then write a check to the Center.

I also want to remind everyone about the Veterans' Day Parade in Ft. Oglethorpe, on Saturday, November 11th, starting at 2pm on Battlefield Parkway. We would like to invite members who would like to help or ride in the parade to get in touch with me or Glynn Pope for more information. Lloyd Hensley who was formerly a member (and Marine), has volunteered his boat for the parade and will pull it with his truck during the parade.

Finally, I want to invite everyone to come to the Chili Supper Cookoff on Tuesday, November 7th, from 5 – 7pm, at Privateer Yacht Club. As I write this, we have so far just three cooks, but are hoping to add a few more. Cost is \$7/person; cooks are free (one per family), and we will have prizes! I hope a few members will also have time to fix an appetizer or dessert to share with all.

Submitted by: Sue Kuemmel



Education Officer's Message

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Asst. Education Officer

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There is a new course coming out called Offshore Navigation that will replace the old Jr. Navigation course. It will focus on electronic navigation using Open-CPN and a user-friendly program called Visual Passage Planner 2. Like the old course there will be a practice cruise and an exam, but there will not be any celestial sights as part of this course (all the celestial navigation will be consolidated into one course). From what I know of it this should be a really good course. The Open-CPN program is also used in the Marine Navigation and Advanced Marine Navigation courses, as we transition our focus from paper charts to electronics based navigation.

Each year we train 100-150 new boaters in safe boating practices. Anyone have interest in helping out with this effort? If you might like to teach, or help out with class administration, let's talk!

Submitted by: Greg Golian

USPS/ABClubs Governing Board Meeting, Kansas City:

As the Rear Commander and Chair for the Environmental Committee of ABClubs I conducted two environmental workshops at the meeting, I'll briefly highlight the high points of each workshop herein. First, I sought input from attendees regarding how to make the most effective use of the 25 authorized committee members on the national Environmental Committee. After considerable review and discussion, it was recommended that I designate each of the 25 committee members to be responsible as national environmental liaison between the committee and a specific district, but not the district in which they reside.

I am in the process of setting up this system. Come to my workshop in Orlando in February how this works out!

The other workshop was a power point presentation involving participants input on how to be "good stewards" of the environment as active ABClub boaters in the marine environment. It was well received with good input from all that attended.

One other environmental note of current interest: I have asked our Sea Scout coordinators to join us in a local waterway "clean up" this spring. More to come on this; I hope to involve a good number of our members to participate in a local water way clean up activity as a way of getting us involved in getting to better know and help them to have some actual hands-on activity with us as a club.

Finally, I hope to begin a relationship with others starting this weekend at Harrison Bay State Park boat ramp off Highway 58 from 9 a.m. until noon with various sponsors and initiated by Sunshine Tours. They provide all the gear. I hope we can be a sponsor with them for another event in the Spring!

Happy Thanksgiving and remember we are responsible for being good stewards of our environment but especially our waterways!

Submitted by: John DiPrima
National Environmental Chair, USPS/ABClubs



Secretary's Message

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Minutes October 3, 2023 Meeting Privateer Yacht Club, Hixson, TN

The short meeting was called to order by Executive Officer Jack Everett, who asked John DiPrima to give grace.

Jack reminded us of several boating related activities which were described in more detail in the October C-Way:

- a) The Nominating Committee met on October 23 to suggest nominations to fill the Bridge and Committee positions for 2024. Take a look at the positions, and volunteer where you think you could best serve. Let me or the committee know what you will do. Please step up as some have been serving many years and need some downtime or assistance. Even if you did not sign up for a committee position, you are welcome to come out to show support and get more information.
- b) The 'Pinta,' a replica of a Portuguese Caravel used by Columbus and many early explorers will open as a "floating museum" and be docked at the Chattanooga Pier from November 3-20. Dockside, educational tours will be available, as will self-guided tours from 9:00am-5:00pm daily while the vessel is in Chattanooga. No reservations are necessary. Tickets are purchased at the ship and prices are \$8.00 for adults, \$7.00 for seniors/military (65+), and \$6.00 for children (5 - 16). Children 4 and under are free. Teachers or organizations wishing to schedule a 30-minute guided tour with a crew member during the weekdays should go to ninapinta.org/tour/html. Group tours require a minimum of 15 people. Call [251-293-4193](tel:251-293-4193) or email ninapintatour@gmail.com for more information.
- c) River Cleanup was held Oct 19.
- d) Lock Through Oct 5-7 with additional dates given in October C-Way.

- e) The Squadron unanimously agreed to sponsor a booth at the Chattanooga Boat Show, which will be held February 1-4. If interested in helping with setup/take down or manning the booth please contact Jack Everett. Note: this coincides with the National ABC meeting in Orlando.

Sue Kuemmel introduced our guests, Tom Colbert, with the Youth PYC sailing program, and Pete Oggi, also with PYC. Sea Scouts Ship Skipper Kevin Atkins, also joined us at the meeting. Kevin brings a great deal of leadership and knowledge to this newly established Ship, with our Squadron has coupled with. 7 youth have signed up, with a Kick-off held Oct. 15 at Chickamauga Dam Recreation Area to entice additional youth from ages 14-21 to join the Sea Scouts Ship. Sue Kuemmel is our Chairperson to contact with any interest to help with the Sea Scouts. Another new guest, Robin Gates, also joined the meeting. Robin has enjoyed boating for years, but has taken on the role of captaining her pontoon boat, and may be interested in attending some classes. A warm welcome is extended to all guests.

John DiPrima gave a brief overview of his work as National Environmental Chair, USPS/ABCubs. Please see his synopsis above.

The meeting adjourned at 6:22 pm. Submitted by Carol Fairfield



Chef Norm doing fabulous grilling!
Photos: Sue Kuemmel – many thanks!



The meeting after yummy steaks!



Treasurer's Message

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No submission this month.



2023 Calendar of Events

All dates are **TENTATIVE!** **WATCH** the newsletters for changes in dates or locations.

Saturday-Sunday, November 4-5, 2023	Ironman Head of Hooch - FYI
Tuesday, November 7, 2023	Privateer Yacht Club Chili Cookoff (5-7 pm)
Saturday, November 11, 2023	Veteran's Day Parade float; Rossville, GA (12:30 pm setup; parade 2-3 pm)
Tuesday, December 5, 2023	Privateer Yacht Club Christmas Party (5:30 - 7:30 pm)
* Announcements Only	