



**America's Boating Club®**  
 America's Boating Club® is a registered trademark  
 of the United States Power Squadrons®



**OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF NEW ORLEANS POWER SQUADRON**

**VOLUME LXXXI**

**JUNE/JULY 2020**

**NUMBER 2**

## **Power Squadron vs Social Distancing**

*by Cdr Gregory Deis, SN-CN*

In March, I canceled the General Membership meeting. I think I closed the notification with “ See you next month!” Immediately, we started to add new words to our conversations. Words like: Wuhan, Covid-19, co-morbidities, self-quarantining, mandatory closings and social distancing. The assumption that we would see each other “next month” has turned into a three or more month pause.

We started 2020 with great plans. Our calendar had scheduled lots of boating, social events, and of course, lots of opportunities for eating great Louisiana seafood. Just before the pause, the Brazeal’s, Ross’s , Clint Mouser and Cheryl Jarrell were able to kick off the Fishing Rodeo. The Fishing Rodeo is the squadron’s only ongoing activity. (My grandson, RJ, and I have gotten our fishing lines wet a couple of times, but so far, no luck.)

The Bridge has practiced the recommended “social distancing” practices, and met each month “on line”. The first and last question on the Bridge Agenda has been: “When are we going to have a meeting again?” This is truly a heavy question for the Bridge to ponder, as we recognize the majority of our members are senior citizen, and by definition, are theoretically “at risk”. The abstract theory became a stark reality when long term member, JC Reed, was lost to this pandemic.

Right now, because of all the “if’s” involved, we don’t truly know when the General Membership meetings will resume. If we get through the city opening phases by the end of June, we will begin our own opening in

July. If the crowd limits and essential business closures are lifted, the NOYC facility will be hopefully open to us by then. When we finally do meet, we will implement the appropriate level of Social Distancing/masking appropriate at that time. We will decide at the July “virtual” bridge meeting and send out an update.

The pause has been hard on Power Squadron Members as we are social beings. We have been confined and inconvenienced. We have, lost jobs, and unfortunately friends. Now we move to resume normal life. We hope to have a General Membership meeting in July. As the ifs are resolved in to knowns, we can resume our activities, hopefully in late July 1. Until then, get your fishing lines wet when you can and take your boats out if you get a chance.

Finally, just a note of thanks to Ken Raymond for painting the trailer roof.

Take care, stay well.

### **What's Inside**

- Dues & Dan Boater - 2
- USCG Boat Stats - 3
- Past Activities Pics - 4
- Past CheeseBurger Pics - 5
- NOPS History - 6
- Education - 7
- Flotsam & Jetsam - 8,9
- Moonraker Lake - 8
- Hurricane Info - 10
- Activities - 10

June/July 2020 (nbr 2020-2)

**MASTHEAD**

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE  
NEW ORLEANS POWER SQUADRON  
DISTRICT 15

located at

7601 Breakwater Drive  
New Orleans, LA 70124

Published 6 to 8 Times a Year



**Commander**

Gregory Deis, SN-CN  
[deisfamily@outlook.com](mailto:deisfamily@outlook.com)

**Executive Officer**

Don R. Ellis SN-CN  
[DonEllis-Bay@cox.net](mailto:DonEllis-Bay@cox.net)

**Educational Officer**

Tracy L. Hamlin, N  
[hamlinhs@bellsouth.net](mailto:hamlinhs@bellsouth.net)

**Administrative Officer**

Charles B. Chapman, Jr. SN-CN  
[sonights@bellsouth.net](mailto:sonights@bellsouth.net)

**Secretary**

Peter S. Gambel  
[petergambel@att.net](mailto:petergambel@att.net)

**Treasurer**

William "Mike" Turner, AP  
[turnermb@cox.net](mailto:turnermb@cox.net)

**Assistant Educational Officer**

Chester Cooke, SN-CN  
[cgcooke3@yahoo.com](mailto:cgcooke3@yahoo.com)

**Assistant Secretary**

Eddie Brazeal, AP  
[eddiebrazeal@att.net](mailto:eddiebrazeal@att.net)

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

Daniel C. Ross, S  
[dross14@cox.net](mailto:dross14@cox.net)  
Peter Ingrassia, Jr  
[petejaning@aol.com](mailto:petejaning@aol.com)  
Clint Mouser, S  
[cmou5@aol.com](mailto:cmou5@aol.com)

**TOPSIDE TALK STAFF**

**Editor**

Cheryl D. Jarrell, AP  
130 Sherwood Forest Dr NOLA 70119  
504-430-9743  
[cdjarrell@cox.net](mailto:cdjarrell@cox.net)

Photographers Cheryl, Charlie C, Chester  
<https://www.usps.org/localusps/neworleans>

® The USPS Ensign (Flag Design), "Wheel-and-Flag Design", "United States Power Squadrons", "USPS", "The Ensign", are registered trademarks of United States Power Squadrons.  
America's Boating Club® is a trademark of the United States Power Squadrons®

**Dues Renewal and DAN Boater Info**

Do you go to your mailbox and find it full of bills? Would you notice if one was missing? For most of us, our dues are up May 31. For the first time, because of the Corona Virus isolation, USPS Headquarters is tardy sending out has transition to exclusively renewing membership by e-mail. No more paper invoices--one bill that wasn't in your mailbox!

If you have a valid email on file, National USPS has sent you no less than two emails as reminders of your upcoming membership expiration, with the links to renew. If you are like me, you get tons of junk mail, and it's easy to miss important notifications. I hope missing your renewal is an oversight. If you don't have a valid email no doubt you haven't seen your dues notification. Either way, this is a reminder that you are now past due. I hope your delay is an oversight. You can go to the USPS web site and become current now.

In case you've been off the grid, you have the opportunity for a great travel insurance program, offered by DAN Boater. DAN is a bargain, but adds \$25.00 to your membership fees which must be paid on line. Visit [danboater.org/abc](http://danboater.org/abc) for complete details on this valuable benefit program To sign up for DAN, got to [www.usps.org/DANBoater](http://www.usps.org/DANBoater), and click on "Benefit Status." You'll be asked to log in with your certificate number and PIN. Once logged in, choose "Join/Renew DAN Boater Benefit" to sign up. If you don't know your certificate number and PIN, click "Forgotten Certificate Number or PIN" on the log in page and enter the email address you used when you became a member of America's Boating Club. After you receive your certificate number and PIN, you can then return to "Benefit Status," log in and choose "Join/Renew DAN Boater Benefit" to sign up.

If you have any questions please contact our membership chair, P/C Mike Turner, [turnermb@cox.net](mailto:turnermb@cox.net) Or myself, [deisfamily@outlook.com](mailto:deisfamily@outlook.com)

Regards,  
Greg Deis  
Commander, NOPS

**This is part of the info provided to Cdr Greg, by Mary Catherine Berube of USPS Headquarters:**

To renew online immediately, go to [www.usps.org/dues/pay](http://www.usps.org/dues/pay) They will need a certificate number, invoice number or PIN, which can be retrieved on the renewal page. The page also includes a link, life members can use to renew their DAN Boater member benefit.

Headquarters continues to maintain reduced employee hours in the education, membership, shipping and accounting departments. Your continued support and patience as we navigate these uncharted waters is appreciated.

## USCG Recreational Boating Statistics for 2019

from Nick Strickland's FB Posting on Boating Mississippi Gulf Coast

**Table 1 • 2019 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

<b>TOP FIVE PRIMARY ACCIDENT TYPES</b>						
Accident Rank	Accident Type	Number of Accidents	Number of Deaths	Number of Injuries		
1	Collision with recreational vessel	1071	47	650		
2	Collision with fixed object	493	44	326		
3	Grounding	413	16	253		
4	Flooding/swamping	399	45	124		
5	Falls overboard	299	189	122		
<b>VESSEL TYPES WITH THE TOP CASUALTY NUMBERS</b>						
Casualty Rank	Type of Boat	Drownings	Other Deaths	Total Deaths	Total Injuries	Total Casualties
1	Open motorboat	201	87	288	1246	1534
2	Personal watercraft	24	22	46	614	660
3	Cabin motorboat	14	20	34	248	282
4	Canoe/kayak	107	18	125	121	246
5	Pontoon	32	8	40	153	193
<b>LIFE JACKET WEAR BY TOP FIVE KNOWN CAUSES OF DEATH</b>						
Known Cause of Death Rank	Cause of Death	Number of Deaths	Life Jacket			
			Worn	Not Worn	Unknown if worn	
1	Drowning	439	57	362	20	
2	Trauma	92	35	49	8	
3	Cardiac arrest	17	5	12	0	
4	Carbon monoxide poisoning	5	0	3	2	
5	Hypothermia	4	2	2	0	
<b>TOP TEN KNOWN PRIMARY CONTRIBUTING FACTORS OF ACCIDENTS</b>						
Accident Rank	Contributing Factor	Number of Accidents	Number of Deaths	Number of Injuries		
1	Operator inattention	546	36	296		
2	Improper lookout	506	26	425		
3	Operator inexperience	458	39	273		
4	Excessive speed	358	22	325		
5	Alcohol use	282	113	221		
6	Machinery failure	274	18	93		
7	Navigation rules violation	235	21	141		
8	Weather	184	31	58		
9	Hazardous waters	170	48	87		
10	Force of wave/wake	140	12	117		

# Squadron Activities from Past Years

## Since We Can't do Much this Year

2013 Crawfish Boil



2015 Spring  
Beach Sweep



2014 Safe  
Boating  
Week



# CheeseBurgers Over the Years



2016



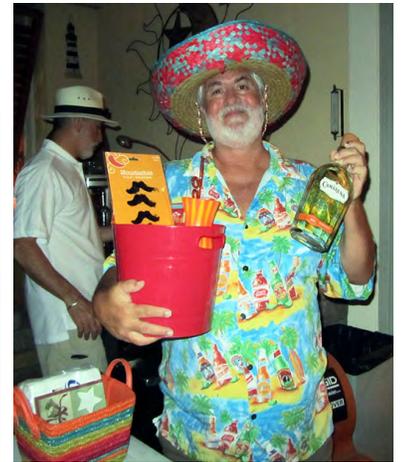
2012



2017



2013 - And Brian's drink won him a lot of loot



## More NOPS History

In March, Marlene Cooke was cleaning up, and found the **Pelican Yearbook from 1970**. Chester sent a couple of pages to be included in the April issue of TOPSIDE articles. Some more this month:

### HISTORY OF THE NEW ORLEANS POWER SQUADRON - THE BIRTH OF NOPS

The year was 1939. War clouds that had been gathering in Europe were about to erupt, and in this country, defense industries were accelerating their activities. While a variety of unpleasant events were unfolding throughout the world, they were in a remote manner responsible for the humble birth of the New Orleans Power Squadron. For the times dictated that George W. Rappeleyea, N of Baltimore, Maryland, moved to New Orleans to join the A. J. Higgins ship building organization.

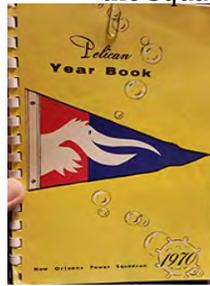
Mr. Rappeleyea was an enthusiastic member of the Patapsco River, Maryland Power Squadron for some ten years and brought with him the idea of a local power squadron in the city of New Orleans. He alone, promoted the idea and conducted the first piloting class for 39 men, 21 of whom became Charter Members of our Squadron.

Although the New Orleans Power Squadron charter is dated 27 December 1939, it was formally presented to the membership by P/C/ C Henry A. Jackson of the New York Power Squadron on 5 January 1940 at a breakfast on the porch of the Southern Yacht Club, during which the Charter Members were also presented their membership certificates. Gilbert Gray was the first Commander of the New Orleans unit and Gene Schaffenberg, Vice Commander. Of the 21 Charter Members, A. W. (Red) Brandin is the sole remaining member still active in Squadron affairs.

The New Orleans unit was the first in the South along the Gulf Coast area. It was not long, however before various yacht clubs along our Gulf Coast began to talk squadron and shortly thereafter, a unit was formed at Mobile, Alabama.

### THE EARLY YEARS

For some ten years New Orleans Squadronites held their meetings in office buildings, the basement of a member's residence, the Southern Yacht Club and other locations. A prime topic of discussion in the early years was how members could best prepare themselves for the Emergency and be fit to assist the Armed Forces, should the occasion arise. As each session ended members were beset with the problem of where the next meeting would be held.



Despite the many administrative problems, Education was the primary purpose of the Squadron from the very first, and classes and the pursuit of knowledge were the highlights of Squadron activity. Classes were held in various schools and office buildings, and the Educational Department progressed, with members completing advanced grades including JN and N.

We were now in the 1940s and World War II was on. The country was in the midst of building up its sea services, and thousands of landlubbers had to become sailors overnight. USPS supplied Piloting Course material and the Squadron supplied the Instructors. Several of our charter members worked at it full time. A class a week was put through Piloting. The Higgins Boat Plant and a tent near the Industrial Canal were the classrooms, and the lake was the laboratory for some 500 men a week who went through the Piloting Course. This went on for seven months and an estimated 15,000 men took the course.

Very little is written about early Seamanship and AP classes; however, it is evident that AP was busy, from the number of JN classes reported. The one prerequisite was that a member be an AP in good standing. The man most often mentioned as AP Instructor in the early 1940s was R. J. McIntosh. The first lady who earned AP was Mrs. Carmelite Harvey in 1948.

### EASTWARD HO!

In 1947, the idea of an Eastward Ho! was conceived by P/C S. E. Mortimore, who was then Squadron Commander. Commander Mortimore made a strong appeal in the October issue of TopSide Talk for members to arrange to take their vacations at the same time and have an Eastward Ho! rendezvous at some desirable place within soiling distance of New Orleans. A rendezvous committee was immediately formed, and it was decided that the cruise would leave West End at 1200 Saturday, 10 July 1948, for Fort Walton, with intermediate stops along the way, and return to West End Sunday, 25 July 1948. By April 1948, 40 boots were registered for the cruise including members from the Oak Ridge, Mobile and Oklahoma City Squadrons, the Southern Yacht Club, the Lafitte Club and the Louisiana Civil Air Patrol. P/C Don Peterson (then Lt/Cdr) was the Chairman of the first Eastward Ho! and since then, with a few exceptions, this cruise has become an annual affair.

*Coming next issue, LANOPS, then a Search for a Home.*

## Educational Department News

SEO Tracy Hamlin, N  
ASEO Chester Cooke, SN-CN

New Orleans Power Squadron offered America's Boating Course on 6 June 2020. As you can see from the pictures, all participants, instructors and students alike, wore masks and maintained social distancing.

Other in-person classes and events have not yet started, but may, as the city and state move into phased openings.

It's important for all of us to help mitigate the impact of this virus on our communities, but you can still be productive while practicing social distancing and self-isolation. America's Boating Club offers a variety of online offerings to educate and entertain you from the safety of your home.

### Online courses and seminars -

We offer 10 online seminars, ranging from cruise planning to hurricane preparedness. Online seminars only cost \$30; members receive a 25% discount.

**Safe Boating Videos** - America's Boating Channel features safe boating videos and boater education digital media created especially for boaters, by boaters.

<http://www.theensign.org/uspscompass/contentmain.html>

Maybe you can take advantage of some of the above opportunities.

If you have any questions, or an interest in taking or teaching classes, please contact me, Tracy Hamlin, SEO, at [hamlinhs@bellsouth.net](mailto:hamlinhs@bellsouth.net) or 504-430-7689, or ASEO Chester Cooke, SN-CN, who can be reached at [cgcooke3@yahoo.com](mailto:cgcooke3@yahoo.com)



**Blessed is the man who, having nothing to say, abstains from giving wordy evidence of the fact.**

— George Eliot (1819 - 1880) pseudonym of Mary Ann Evans, English novelist who wrote "Adam Bede" 1859, "The Mill on the Floss" 1860, "Silas Marner" 1861.

# Flotsam and Jetsam

## From TOPSIDE Feb 2014 Flotsam - The Beginning

NOPS members LizAnn and Greg Mulvany began cruising aboard their *SV Lagniappe* before the holidays. Last heard from they were in Key West. If you want to see where they have traveled so far and where they are headed, you can follow them on their blog,

<http://lagniapessails.blogspot.com/>



**Lagniappe  
in Ft Myers  
January  
2014**

## May 2020

We arrived back in Mandeville, La this afternoon, 6-1/2 years after we left to go sailing for a year or two. The boat is secure in her slip and awaiting some serious TLC. This last leg of our travels was a 1146 nautical mile passage from Roatan, Honduras to Mandeville. This 8 day trip was our longest yet and was a blast with mostly fair winds but some serious squalls that had us sailing all over the place trying to avoid the lightening.

*Lagniappe* is secure here in the slip and we will begin working on our long list of projects in a couple days. This time at home will allow us to spend time with family and friends whom we haven't seen much of lately.

We have been talking about doing the east coast



and Maine again in a year or so. That is a long time from now so who knows where we will be a couple years from now but hopefully we will be crossing the wakes of all the folks we met over the past 6 years. Greg and LizAnn Mulvany

## The Moonraker Lake get

together on July 18 is set. Any boaters who want to come can come on Friday afternoon and stay the weekend. The get together will be Saturday, arrive around 12 and we will serve around 2:00. As usual, bring your own drinks and chairs. We will provide the main course with salad and deserts brought by some of the ladies. There will be no cost since this is not a planned function but a get together.

I do not want to leave anyone out but I want to stress that you should come if you are comfortable enough to attend. If the weather is good, we have room to social distance but if it rains, we will be inside.

Anyone planning to attend should call me at 504-495-5060 so Sissy and I know how much food to purchase. Boaters should call so I can plan dockage.

Charlie Chapman



Moonraker Lake near Docks (from google, not GPS):  
Lat 30° 13' 20.91" Long 89° 48' 38.91"

**Virtual Vessel Safety Checks can be offered** during this time of CoVid-19. The virtual vessel examination is not intended to replace the regular vessel examination program. No VSC Decals will be awarded. This is an information and equipment confirmation only.

Any video sharing tool, Facetime, Zoom, Skype and others, which are acceptable to both parties will suffice. The Vessel Examiner may advise vessel owner as to any known safety requirement or deficit and provide recommendation.

For more details:

[https://www.usps.org/images/Exec/Safety/virtual\\_vsc\\_exam/Virtual\\_VSC.pdf](https://www.usps.org/images/Exec/Safety/virtual_vsc_exam/Virtual_VSC.pdf)

**Flotsam** from page 8

**Are You Looking for a National Job? Because USPS is Looking for Experienced Educators**

The Educational Department is looking for members experienced in using instructional strategies and teaching methods. Specifically, we need members to review educational content and help develop strategies or methods to meet the educational objectives written for the content. The reviewer will likely be part of a content review team. Educators may also confer with the content development committees during the development of new materials or revision of educational courses or seminars. If you have worked with course design and curriculum development, please take this opportunity to use your expertise to help build educational resources for recreational boaters.

Contact Bob Rayburn at [r.e.rayburn@sbcglobal.net](mailto:r.e.rayburn@sbcglobal.net)

**New Pricing for the Feb. 2021 Cruise!**

Join America's Boating Club members and friends for a Western Caribbean cruise immediately following next year's Annual Meeting. Celebrity has given us fantastic NEW lower group pricing, which still includes the two free perks to choose from (classic beverage package, onboard credit, free gratuities or free WiFi). The highly acclaimed Celebrity Edge cruise on Feb. 21-28, 2021, sails roundtrip from Fort Lauderdale and includes Key West, Costa Maya, Cozumel, and Grand Cayman. Our group of 78 would love for more to join us for the camaraderie! USPS will receive remuneration from the proceeds of this group event. For more information, including pricing, please email me at [dawnstraveldeals@gmail.com](mailto:dawnstraveldeals@gmail.com) or call 727-403-0406

Dawn Eckhart

**Cooperative Charting News**

Do you boat or live near the Mississippi River or its tributaries? You can now help the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers keep its charts up to date. Visit the updated Nautical Standard Operating Procedures for details. As we move away from stay-at-home orders, we hope all are well. Our Cooperative Charting programs can be conducted while following social distancing guidelines. Report submittal forms are available on the Cooperative Charting Committee webpage (Nautical, Geodetic Mark, Marina Survey). Visit the Cooperative Charting Committee website to view the Standard Operating Procedures. For more information about Cooperative Charting programs, log in at [usps.org](http://usps.org) then go to:

<https://www.usps.org/departments/12000/12200>

Tom Hancock [lilboy@neo.rr.com](mailto:lilboy@neo.rr.com)

**Civic Service Continues Onward!**

Learn – Engage – Connect and Safe –

Smart – Clean: Six important words from USPS and from the BoatUS Foundation, which will continue offering squadrons the opportunity to apply for the BoatUS Civic Service Award in 2020. Please visit the Administrative Department homepage, and go to Awards and BoatUS Civic Service Award. Here you will find the information sheet as well as an application form with a 15 October 2020 deadline. While much in our daily lives has been altered due to the pandemic, we encourage applications, as evidence already indicates great squadron efforts in place to adapt to our situation and to continue to provide civic service to our communities in unique and much-needed ways.

Connie Shay [connieinctown@aol.com](mailto:connieinctown@aol.com)

**Compass Newsletter Gets New Look**

The newly redesigned America's Boating Compass newsletter launched just in time for National Safe Boating Week with articles on hurricane preparedness, marine radio and more. The newsletter was designed to be a go-to resource to help members and new boaters get the most out of boating. Following its debut, America's Boating Compass will post a limited video series called "Knots to Know," featuring basic knots all boaters need to know. If you're not already a subscriber, sign up to receive monthly emails from America's Boating Compass and share the link with your new and prospective members! Amy Townsend [ensign@hq.usps.org](mailto:ensign@hq.usps.org)

To sign up: <http://eepurl.com/gZYHoj>

To read May 2020 issue: <https://boatingcompass.org/>



**Cdr Greg says,  
Go Fish!  
But don't forget social distancing.**

## Make a Hurricane Plan Before Season Starts

Boaters should develop a well-thought-out hurricane plan before hurricane season begins in June. Forecasters predict an active, possibly record-breaking, hurricane season for 2020.

### Plan before the storm

Know where you will keep your boat during a hurricane and whether it can be hauled before a storm.

Bring home trailer boats early, as heavy evacuation traffic could prevent you from reaching your marina.

Find out what your marina's hurricane plan is before the season starts. Does your dock contract call for you to take certain steps?

Make sure you have extra rope, chafe guards, anchors and fenders. Once a storm is forecast, the local marine store will sell out of these items quickly.

### Stay ahead of the storm

Part of your hurricane plan should be to act during a hurricane watch. Don't wait until a warning is issued. If you do so, you may not have time to move your boat. In addition, evacuation congestion and the storm's outer bands of wind and rain will hinder your preparation.

Once a hurricane warning has been issued, remove anything that could catch the wind, and tie your boat with extra lines.

### Haul your boat

Remove your boat from the water if at all possible. Waves, spray and rain will almost always overcome smaller, open boats and high-performance powerboats with low freeboard. Move all trailerable boats inland.

### Prepare your boat to weather the storm

If you can't haul out, take precautions to give your boat the best chance of weathering the storm.

Charge batteries and disconnect the electricity. Charging batteries ensures your bilge pumps will work. Next, disconnect the electric, water and other dock connections; shut off fuel lines; close through-hull fittings; and cap or plug unvalved through-hull fittings, such as sink drains.

Protect your engines. Water finds a way into every opening, so cover engine room vents, and plug the exhaust pipes at the stern.

Remove loose deck items. Remove Bimini tops, plastic, canvas and plexiglass from the boat entirely. Take down antennas and remove outriggers. Remove as many items as you can from the boat, and lash down anything remaining on deck.

Prepare the boat's interior. If your boat has a cabin,

## MEMBERSHIP MEETING 16 July Meeting

1800 Social, 1900 Meeting  
New Orleans Yacht Club

### June

Stay Home, Everything is Cancelled

### July

- 4 Independence Day
- 9 Exec Meeting
- 16 General Membership Meeting
- 18 Moonraker Lake Get-Together

### August

- 13 Exec Meeting
- 20 General Membership Meeting

remove all loose items. Clean out the refrigerator, cabinets and drawers, which may open with the boat's violent motion. If possible, remove drapes, cushions, mattresses and other cloth items that could become soaked from leaks.

Remove electronics and cover instrument gauges. Remove electronics from the boat, and cover both the holes and instrument gauges with plastic and duct tape.

Seal windows, hatches and doorways. Because wind-driven rain will enter the boat through any crack or crevice, use duct tape to make all openings and seams as watertight as possible.

**Don't even think about riding out the storm at sea unless you're the skipper of an aircraft carrier.**

–Al Ponzio

*Editor's Note: This is a portion of an article that was in the May 2020 issue of COMPASS, written by Al Ponzio. Because of space limitations, I have removed most of the instructions for things to do when keeping your boat at a mooring. While mooring generally doesn't happen in this area, he does emphasize, double lines, use of spring lines, and chafing gear where lines meet the boat. Good instructions for boats in slips, too.*

To read the entire article, go to: