

# LIFELINE

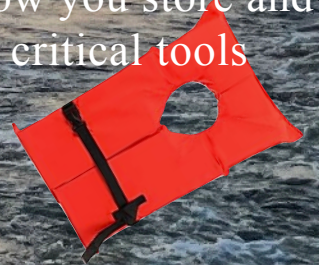


*THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE PRINCE WILLIAM YACHT CLUB*

*JULY 2023*

## LIFEJACKET USE

The name says it all!! Take a look at this months Safety Officer Report and give some thought to how you store and use these critical tools



# THE BRIDGE



## FLAG OFFICERS

**Commodore** ~ Rick McHarg ~ [commodore@pwyc.org](mailto:commodore@pwyc.org)  
**Vice Commodore** ~ Jim Khoury ~ [vicecommodore@pwyc.org](mailto:vicecommodore@pwyc.org)  
**Rear Commodore** ~ Scott Parsons ~ [rearcommodore@pwyc.org](mailto:rearcommodore@pwyc.org)  
**Secretary** ~ Sabrina Salter ~ [secretary@pwyc.org](mailto:secretary@pwyc.org)  
**Treasurer** ~ Sherry Samar ~ [treasurer@pwyc.org](mailto:treasurer@pwyc.org)  
**Immediate Past Commodore** ~ Mike Connolly ~ [ipc@pwyc.org](mailto:ipc@pwyc.org)

## FLEET CAPTAINS

**Membership** ~ Una Murphy ~ [membership@pwyc.org](mailto:membership@pwyc.org)  
**Social** ~ Denise Guess-Parsons, Sherri Connolly, Carol Vasquez, Jenna Burum, Beth Lu, Shannon Leydig ~ [social@pwyc.org](mailto:social@pwyc.org)  
**Newsletter** ~ Robin Davis ~ [newsletter@pwyc.org](mailto:newsletter@pwyc.org)  
**Safety** ~ Bob Schwartz ~ [safety@pwyc.org](mailto:safety@pwyc.org)  
**Webmaster** ~ Mike Manning ~ [webmaster@pwyc.org](mailto:webmaster@pwyc.org)

## DOCK REPRESENTATIVES

<b>A-Dock</b>	<b>Vacant - Seeking Volunteer</b>
B-Dock	Julie Finacchiaro & Keith Clouser
C-Dock	James & Dawn Brady
D-Dock	Matt & Lisa Shaw and Michele Gordon
E-Dock	Nicholas Roper
<b>F-Dock</b>	<b>Vacant - Seeking Volunteer</b>
G-Dock	Mike Strano
H-Dock	Joy & Walt Heuer
I-Dock	Chris & Sabrina Salter
J-Dock	PWM - Sales Dock
K-Dock	Jason and Shannon Leydig
<b>L-Dock</b>	<b>Vacant - Seeking Volunteer</b>
Boatel	Joe Peruzzi

## DELEGATES

**PRYCA** ~ Beth & Sheldon Lu  
**CBYCA** ~ Mike Connolly



Member Club of Chesapeake Bay Yacht Clubs Association (CBYCA) & Potomac River Yacht Clubs Association (PRYCA)

# Commodore's Corner

Rick McHarg  
commodore@pwyc.org  
EAGLE ONE K-40  
571.239.1367



Summer is upon us at last (Yay!)... the Graduation parties are done and it's now wedding season...and oh yeah Boating and Cruising Season and the kids are out of school. So may the great weather continue for July weekends and the exciting plans we have. But first, let me thank the dock reps plus volunteers from A thru D docks for the great Captains hour June 3 (led by Lisa Shaw and Michele Gordon of D Dock and their husbands with Jim and Dawn Brady of C dock). The food spread was tasty, especially the chicken choices. The next on-the-water event in June was the Annual Father's Day Cruise to Colonial Beach. The co-sponsored event with PWM was Captained by Mike Manning and coordinated with Michele Price for no less than 20 registered boats for Friday to

Monday. "Bravo" to the crews that participated in beach events, Happy Hours, wine tastings and other gatherings with old friends and new.

Don't miss the Progressive Dinner on Saturday, June 24. A great opportunity to participate in a "Where do I go for my next course?" Organized by Phil and Heidi Schoepflin, they made up the rules and the invites to make the game of "what's next" a very fun experience for the guests and a chance for many members to see other boats and meet club members they might not have known. At the end, we will all meet back at the Blue Bathhouse for dessert and drinks as one big happy family. It's going to be a ball!

Starting off July is the 4th of July weekend. While we have no scheduled Yacht Club events, there may be an "Ad Hoc" Pool Party, weather permitting, on Sat or Sunday afternoon starting at 5. If you are heading up the river to DC for the Fireworks on Tuesday evening, be sure to check out the DC Metro Harbormaster Web Page for particulars on where you can anchor and what other restrictions there may be. I will make my annual plea to avoid the mass exodus of boats heading south after the fireworks. Boats of all kinds and speeds – some with lights, some without- heading home. If you just maintain position until the masses have left then cruise slowly north to 3 Sisters beyond Key Bridge to anchor, you can have a peaceful overnight. For others, the extended weekend offers the opportunity for friendly raft-ups over in Mattawoman Creek.

The next event is the 2023 Bay Cruise – with me as your Coordinator. The itinerary starts on Fri 7/14 and we will stay at Corinthian YC (mouth of the Potomac), Solomons (Spring Cove Marina), Annapolis (Ego Alley 2 Nts), Baltimore Harbor East (2 Nts), Cambridge MD, Pt Lookout Marina, home on Sat 7/22. Look for the event on the website calendar and sign up!

Be sure to read the Vice Commodore's column for valuable info on our Founders Day celebration at the end of the month – there will be games and a BBQ Slider lunch provided – but you must register so there's enough food. And our PRYCA Rep would get mad if I didn't mention the annual PRCYA Float-in at Coles Pt. It is the same weekend as Founders Day, 28-30 July. I went last year and there's a good crowd there, so Call Beth Lu if you are thinking about it.

So the update on the Dahlgren Range Expansion is that the Chesapeake Bay Yacht Club Association (CBYCA) Legislative Committee has demonstrated interest in helping to promote our concerns. We will see if there is any movement on that front. During the last Board meeting, we had a discussion about how to get the word out

about activities and to get more volunteers to assist the social committee and Dock reps with running the Captains Hours. It certainly takes a village, so if you know your dock is running the show, please try to volunteer to help out. For our part, we will try to post flyers again and Michele of the PWM will send our Lifeline Newsletter to all Marina Slip holders and Boatel folks.

And if you're not asleep yet, there's news on the Great Loop front. Another member couple has turned Gold! Dave and Sonia Astle aboard "Crew Lounge" a beautiful 2021 Ranger Tug 41 returned this Spring to their summer home on the Northern Neck and hoisted the coveted Gold pennant to the yardarm. It's an amazing accomplishment, 6000 mi and nearly a year. So Congrats to them. And as I type this, our two latest Loopers Vicky and Bob Carr ("CarRUISIN' II") and Fred and Kathy Roggero ("General Fun") have made it up the Hudson River and Erie Canal and across Lake Ontario to Clayton, NY where they can see Canada (if the smoke has cleared) in the Thousand Islands area of the St Lawrence River. July 1 is "Canada Day" so I hope they are in Trenton, Ontario, at the start of the Trent-Severn Heritage Canal for the celebrations.

See you on the docks or at the pool,

Commodore Rick

# Prince William Yacht Club

## 2023 Chesapeake Bay Cruise

**July 14 – 22/23**

Cruise CAPT Rick McHarg "EAGLE ONE" 571-239-1367

### Cruise Itinerary

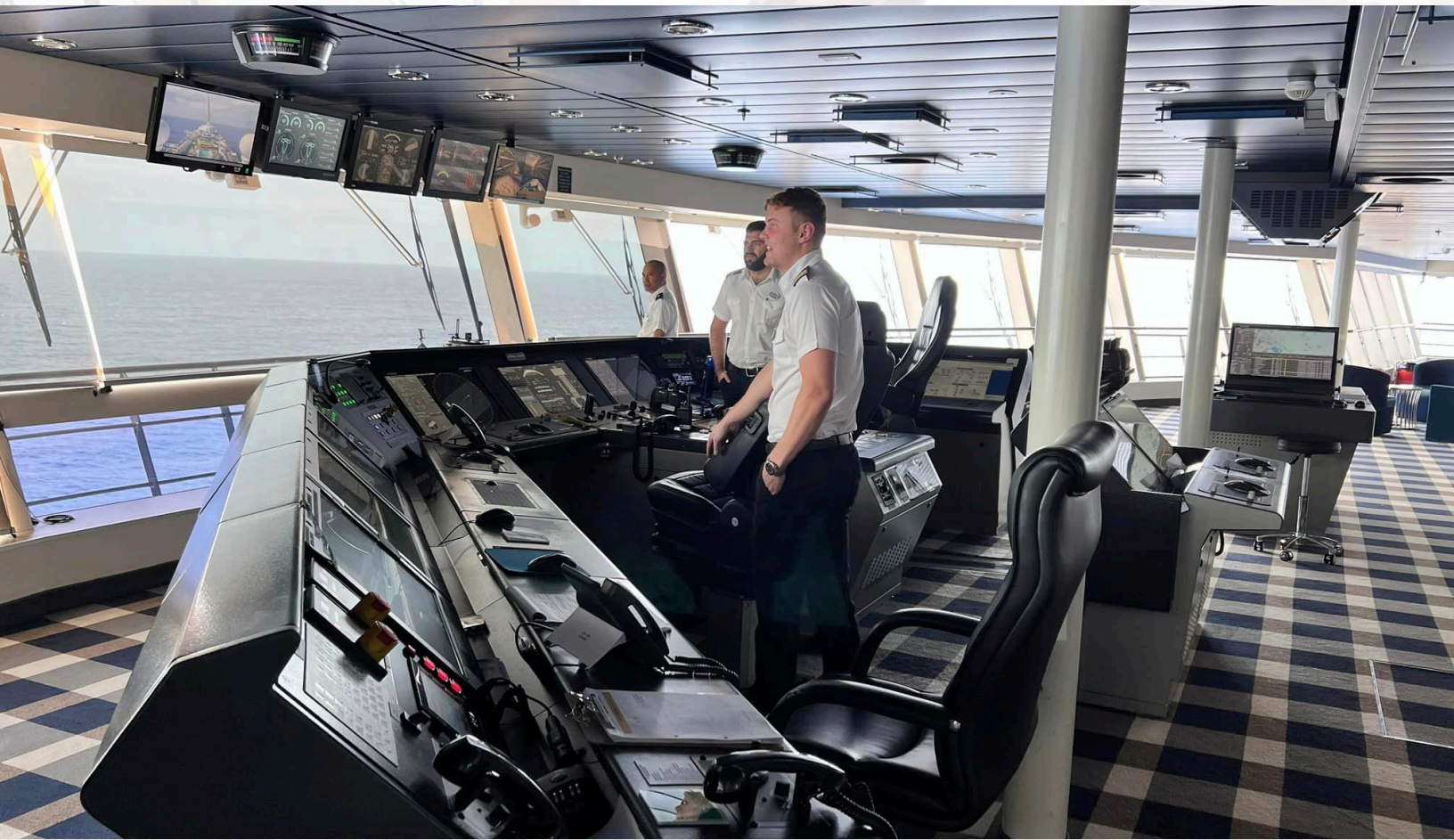
- Fri July 14 Depart PWM AM Arrival Corinthian Yacht Club (CYC) PM - Stay 1 night.**
- Sat July 15 Depart CYC AM Arrival Spring Cove Marina (SCM) PM - Stay 1 night.**
- Sun July 16 Depart SCM AM Arrival Annapolis City Marina (ACM) PM - Stay 2 nights.**
- Tue July 18 Depart ACM AM Arrival Baltimore Inner Harbor E. (BIH) PM - Stay 2 nights.**
- Thu July 20 Depart BIH AM Cambridge Muni Yacht Center PM (CMY) PM - Stay 1 night.**
- Fri July 21 Depart CMY AM Arrival Point Lookout Marina (PLM) PM - Stay 1 night.**
- Sat July 22 Depart PLM AM Arrival Colonial Beach YC (CBYC) PM - Stay 1 night.**
- Sun July 23 Depart CBYC AM Prince William Marina PM - Home Port.**

**REGISTER on the PWYC Website ->"Wild Apricot"**

Make your own Slip Reservations and confirm with Rick per below instructions:

1. Corinthian YC – Use Snag-a-Slip to reserve your slip for Fri 7/14. In remarks put "Prince William YC". If unable to use SAS, email Craig (Club Measurer) at [rczzimmy@gmail.com](mailto:rczzimmy@gmail.com)
2. Spring Cove Marina, Solomons. Make Slip Resv ASAP for evenings Sat 7/15 Call dockmaster Derrick at 410-326-2161. Tell them you are with the Prince William YC group
3. Annapolis City Marina. Make Resv for Sun 7/16 & Mon 7/17. Go to [www.annapolis.gov/harbormaster](http://www.annapolis.gov/harbormaster) and fill out the slip resv form. Note that you are part of the Prince William Group.
4. Baltimore –Inner Harbor East Marina. Make Resv on Snag-a-Slip for Tues 7/18 and Wed 7/19. Note you are part of the Prince William YC Group. If needed, dockmaster Mike is at 410-625-1700.
5. Cambridge Muni Yacht Center-- Make Resv on line Snag-a-Slip for Thurs 7/20. Note that you are part of the Prince William YC group.
6. Same as #1. Make a Snag-a-Slip Resv for Point Lookout for Fri 7/21. Put Prince William YC in remarks.
7. You are either heading to PWM (home) or Stopping at Colonial Beach for Sat 7/22. Make a resv for CBYC on Snag-a-Slip and be sure to let me know what your plans are.
8. Congrats! if you got this far you are on the Potomac and headed for home.

# NEWS FROM THE BRIDGE



# Thoughts from the Vice Commodore

**Jim Khoury**  
vicecommodore@pwyc.org  
Pegasus K-33



July's events & June's reflections from your Vice Commodore....

June started out well with the Captain's Hour sponsored by Docks A-D. I want to thank the Dock Reps that took the time and put in the effort to make this Captain's Hour another success for the Prince William Yacht Club.

July promises to be a busy month with a Bay Cruise, Float-in, Founder's Day celebration, and of course a Dock Rep's meeting to educate participants for the "Christmas Holiday Boat Lighting Event" sponsored by Prince William Marina.

July 8th at 9AM, the Board of Directors will be holding the July meeting in the BBH. All members in good standing are invited (urged) to attend.

Immediately following the BOD meeting will be a short Dock Rep's meeting to discuss the Boat Lighting event... I know it's July, and December is just a fleeting thought, but the planning for a really successful combined effort to get your dock on the judges' minds will take some time. Best to start planning with your mates now... There are some big money & valuable prizes at stake!

On July 30th, your Yacht Club will be holding its 31st Anniversary Founder's Day Celebration! Here's the sequence of events for the day:

## **Prince William Yacht Club 31st Anniversary Founder's Day Celebration**

- 10:30AM Treasure Hunt
- 1:00PM Lunch (pulled pork, chips, cookies, soda, water, beer, and wine)
- 1:30PM Bingo
- 3:00PM Cornhole Tournament
- 3:00PM Pool Party

This event never fails to be a day packed with fun, food, games, and entertainment. The pool party at the end is always a blast! BYOB and hang out poolside for the festivities. Bring Cash! Last year, our 50/50 netted a lucky winner over \$400! Your Social Committee is hard at work planning this event.

Please refer to your Yacht Club's Website **often**: <https://pwyc.org> – there are updates and new additions frequently posted as they become available.

**Jim Khoury**  
Vice Commodore PWYC  
vicecommodore@pwyc.org  
(718)494-3365  
Pegasus K-33

# THE PATRIOT CRUISE

## *Needs Your Help*

As we celebrate our 17th anniversary of the Patriot Cruise & Salute, we are seeking your assistance in identifying exceptional individuals who have shown remarkable bravery and selflessness in saving the lives of others, often at great risk to themselves. Our mission is to pay tribute to our heroes from the US Armed Forces, Gold Star Families, First Responders, Law Enforcement, and Firefighters.

If you know of someone who deserves to be recognized, we invite you to recommend them for our upcoming event on 9/16/2023. We want to express our gratitude to them and their loved ones by providing a day of relaxation and appreciation, which includes a boat ride with volunteers who wish to show their appreciation. Following the boat ride, we will gather everyone at Prince William Marina for a meal and coin ceremony to honor each hero.

We are also seeking volunteers to serve as boat captains, first mates, and guides to assist our honorees throughout the event. Additionally, we need ground crew members to help with setup, teardown, and assisting honorees on and off the boats. We are also accepting donations of any kind to create thank-you bags for each honoree. To fund the event, we are selling raffle tickets and sponsorships.

The day's activities will start at 11 am and conclude around 6 pm, with some volunteers starting as early as 8:00 am. We welcome your recommendations and appreciate any support you can offer to help us find and honor these deserving individuals.

If you know someone who deserves recognition or would like to learn more about how you can support our cause, please visit our website at <https://www.patriotcruise.org/> and contact us.





# SCENES FROM THE LOOP

CarRUISIN' and General Fun



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Experience a Stellar Event from Years Gone By!

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**PWYC**



## **2023 Progressive Dinner on the Docks – June 24, 2023**

Ahoy PWYC boaters! We are excited to invite you to participate in this year's progressive dinner party. It is a super, one-of-a-kind event to meet fellow boaters, show off your "home away from home" (you know--your boat, your seaworthy chateau, your Potomac Palace!), see other member's classy crafts (boats!), and enjoy great food, fine drinks, and amazing friends!

This year's PWYC Progressive Dinner on the Docks will take place on Saturday, June 24th, 2023 from 5:00 pm to 10:00 pm. We are hopeful that you will choose to be a part of this unforgettable fun-filled

event. Philip and Heidi Schoepflin will be coordinating the event and can be reached at:

[philip.schoepflin@gmail.com](mailto:philip.schoepflin@gmail.com) .

Here's how it works:

-There will be a total of four courses served throughout the evening. They are:

1) First Course- Appetizers and cocktails will kick off the evening for everyone and will be served at the deck near the Bath House located near C-Dock. This will be a chance to meet and greet all participants and share sea stories as we begin the event.

2) Second Course- Soup/salad course with a beverage will be served by your hosts on the first boat you will visit.

3) Third Course- Main dinner entrée with a beverage will be served by your hosts on the second boat you will visit.

4) Fourth Course is our dessert and coffeehouse finale to the event which will be hosted by the Boatel in the upstairs community room of the Blue Bath House. This will bring everyone back together to finish out the evening with continued sea tales among shipmates, sweet tooth enjoyment, beverages and more great conversation.

-Each boat serving either a second or third course will host between 4 and 8 guests at their boat (based on group size offered by boat Captain). It's totally up to you what to serve...though you will want to make it something you can easily have ready within a few minutes of arriving to your boat from the previous course. (Hosts can leave the previous course 10 min early to prepare for the arrival of their guests.)

-At each of your stops you will be with a new group of fellow boaters.

-All participants, once they have RSVP'd to Philip and Heidi at: [philip.schoepflin@gmail.com](mailto:philip.schoepflin@gmail.com) , will be emailed a confirmation of their attendance at the event and the course they have decided to cover.

-As mentioned previously ALL participants will meet at the deck of the Bath House near C-Dock at 5:00 pm for the First Course. It is during the First Course that you will receive an envelope containing the name and location of the boat you will report aboard for the Second Course.

This envelope will be opened upon the sounding of the boat horn signaling the end of the First Course and you will begin making your way to the Second Course host boat found within your envelope.

-Upon completion of the Second Course, the boat horn will sound and the host boat's Captain will give you an envelope with the name and location of the boat you will enjoy your Third Course aboard. This envelope will be opened upon receipt and you will begin making your way to the Third Course host boat found within your envelope. After the Third Course, the final boat horn will sound, notifying everyone to make their way to the community room of the blue bath house for the Fourth Course of dessert and coffee (and perhaps more cocktails?).

- We anticipate starting at 5:00 pm, with about 50-60 minutes for each of the first three courses and about two hours for the fourth course.

# HELP WANTED

LIFELINE is looking for an Editor for the 2024-25 timeframe. It's a great way to spread the word about the club, educate and engage the membership.

I'll be leaving the area and I think it's best to have someone who is local and active to hold the position.

So, don't be afraid. There's amazing support to get you going. You can take Lifeline to the next level by making it your own. Make it amazing!!

So if you're even remotely interested, give me a ring or an email, let's chat.

*Robin D*



# Treasurer

SHERRY SAMAR  
IRISH HAWK, H-41



## PWYC Treasurer's Report 05/01/2023 – 05/31/2023

### INCOME

Dues	\$	850.00
Interest	\$	0.24
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>850.24</b>

### EXPENSES

Capital expense (Go Fund Me for Eric Kuhn)	\$	500.00
Opening Day	\$	150.68
PWM ice for Opening Day	\$	47.53
Employee Appreciation	\$	180.37
Wild Apricot Expense	\$	0.00
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>878.58</b>

Checking account balance 06/01/2023 **\$ 28,296.20**



# Ships Manifest

Membership Chair

Una Murphy

[membership@pwyc.org](mailto:membership@pwyc.org)



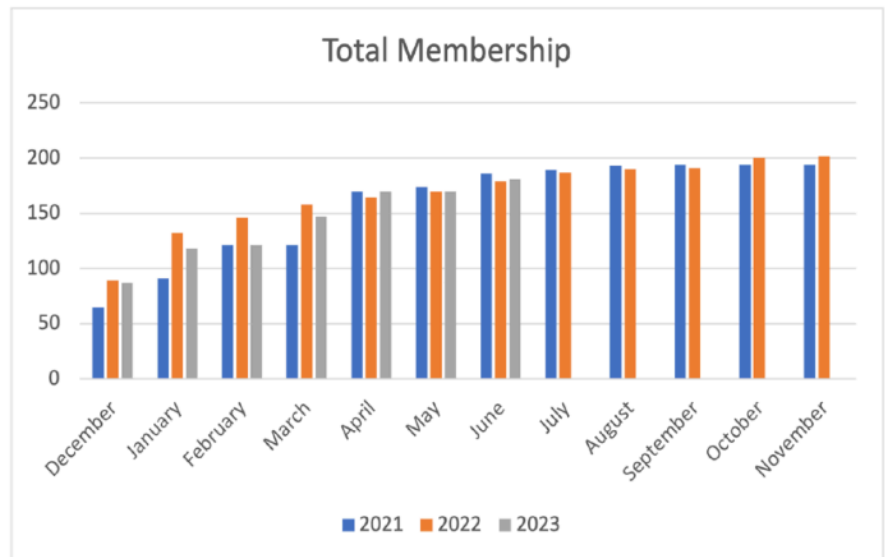
## Welcome to all new and renewing members!

*(From April 11-June 5)*

Annita Gulati and Edwin Johonnott  
 C. Randy and Jackie Harris, K-32  
 Christopher and Fouzia Lafarree, Boatel  
 Stephen and Diane Mackey, Boatel  
 John and Marcie McCauley, I-29  
 Ryan and Courtney Merrell, Boatel  
 Patrick and Dana Mifsud, Boatel  
 Paul and Betty Morgan, Boatel  
 Dave and Jona Payne, Cool Change, L-07  
 Michael Reuther, C-04

**Benchmarking:** As our membership drive continues, it is important to benchmark where we are with our

	2021	2022	2023
December	65	89	87
January	91	132	118
February	121	146	121
March	121	158	147
April	170	164	170
May	174	170	170
June	186	179	181
July	189	187	
August	193	190	
September	194	191	
October	194	200	
November	194	202	



We are fairly in line with where we have been historically at this point, but we are a little behind where we were two years ago with our renewals. I urge you all to be the best ambassadors for the club that you can be so that our members renew their membership annually! Also, because Prince William Marina generously sponsors the first year of membership of the PWYC, when they have a good year, we have a good year.

**Don't forget that member Packets are available for those who request one.** Please indicate on your online membership record that you want a membership packet, and send an email to [membership@pwyc.org](mailto:membership@pwyc.org) with your request.

**Download the Wild Apricot Mobile App to help you stay connected to PWYC:**



**Don't forget that you can use the Wild Apricot Member App to stay connected to the Prince William Yacht Club even in the off-season.**

Download the app, sign in with the same email address and password for your **PWYC** account and start using it!

This app helps you:

- Interact with fellow members anywhere from your mobile device
- Register and make payments for events
- View all existing event registrations
- Update your member profile, including your address, phone and email
- View your membership card

**Scan the QR Code above OR download the app from the Apple App Store or Google Play!**

**Renew Your Membership Today:**

If you haven't renewed your membership for the 2023 season and want to do so now, you have options!

Renew via **Credit Card** in the Wild Apricot App or on [pwyc.org](http://pwyc.org)

Or

Send a \$100.00 **Check** made payable to: PWYC to

PWYC Membership Renewal

c/o Prince William Marina

12849 Gordon Boulevard

Woodbridge, VA 22192-3240

As always, one more reminder: If you know marina friends or dockmates who have not yet renewed, please give them a reminder. If you know marina friends or dockmates who are not members, please recruit them for membership!

# Safety Officer

Bob Swartz



## Some Thoughts For July

Here is some good news and some not-so-good news with respect to life jackets. Note the importance of wearing life jackets when riding in open motorboats.

### Life Jacket Statistics-Source At The End

- 81%. Recreational boating-related fatalities in 2021 that resulted from falling overboard and drowning.

- 400. Recreational boating-related drowning victims in 2021 alone who might still be alive today if they were wearing a life jacket.**

- 27%. Average increase in overall life jacket wear between 1999 and 2021. This excludes PWCs.

- 42%. Relative increase in number of adults observed wearing life jackets in open motorboats since 1999. Most people who fell overboard and drowned were riding in open motorboats. Take a look at what happened here. Rough water. No life jacket.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gTa2rNdfgiQ>

- 37.1%. Number of adults aboard sailboats observed wearing life jackets in 2021.
- 173%. Increase in life jacket-wearing adults aboard sailboats since 1999.

<https://boatus.mydigitalpublication.com/publication/?m=53247&l=1>. See Page 42.

## Fisher People Entering Prince William Marina (PWM) Fairways To Fish

- Based on the Virginia Code below, PWM water is public space.
- Fishing inside PWM fairways on a boat is legal.
- The docks are private. Accessing PWM docks without permission is illegal. This means no tying up to a dock or leaving a vessel to climb onto a dock.
- People fish in the PWM fairways because often that is where the fish are found. As the water and weather warms, more and more fish will take refuge in the shade of docks and anglers will follow.
- It is illegal for a dock owner, marina owner, or boat owner to harass a fisherman who enters a PWM fairway and is legally engaged in their activity.
- Virginia codes governing the waterways.

<https://law.lis.virginia.gov/vacode/title28.2/chapter12/section28.2-1202/>

<https://law.lis.virginia.gov/vacode/full/title28.2/chapter12/>

[#:~:text=All%20the%20beds%20of%20the,the%20purpose%20of%20fishing%2C%20fowling%2C](#)

- Code governing a dock owner, marina owner, or other person in general is harassing a legal fisherman,

<https://law.lis.virginia.gov/vacode/title29.1/chapter5/section29.1-554.1/>

- Code governing trespassing while fishing/hunting.

<https://law.lis.virginia.gov/vacode/title18.2/chapter5/section18.2-132/>

[#:~:text=Trespass%20by%20hunters%20and%20fishers.,of%20a%20Class%203%20misdemeanor.](#)



## Damage Caused By Errant Casting

- Because no one owns PWM water, many believe that it becomes a question of fishing etiquette rather than the law
- Unfortunately, not all those who fish exhibit the proper etiquette.
- Unfortunately, not all those who fish can cast with the accuracy needed to hit the spots aimed at.
- Torn canvass; damaged vinyl seats; dinged fiberglass and clear vinyl; lines, hooks, and weights wrapped around bow rails and dock lines can be a nuisance and under certain instances dangerous.
- Proper etiquette would be for whomever caused the problem to be responsible for solving the problem.
- All too often no one is aboard the involved vessel or the perpetrators are off and away before anyone notices the damage caused by their errant casts.
- The proper authorities will take appropriate action if they receive proof of who is responsible for the damage. It may be possible, for example, to use the PWM web cams.
- There are lots of stories about errant casts being made from those fishing close to private docks.

<https://www.spokesman.com/stories/2007/jun/17/fishing-the-docks-angler-etiquette-needs-polishing/>

<https://www.thehulltruth.com/sportfishing-charters-forum/1031499-fishing-around-docks-regardless-law-what-courteous-4.html>

<https://www.bassresource.com/bass-fishing-forums/topic/80710-dock-etiquette/>

# Webmaster

**Mike Manning**  
*Aquatini, E-dock*



The website and its underlying technology have been working well for us. All of the upcoming events are available and for some we haven't established registration yet.

I'm keeping the content fresh with pictures and news on the home page (plus links to the near term events). Great job to our Rear Commodore for a wonderful cruise to DC Wharf to visit with long term friends and make new ones.

If you see a news article or other content that would be useful to the PWYC family, please email documents, pictures, or links [webmaster@pwyc.org](mailto:webmaster@pwyc.org)

Fair winds and following seas,  
Mike Manning  
PWYC Webmaster @  
Aquatini E-3



# From the editor's desk



I started boating when I was 18 years old, over on Pohick Bay. My friend Billy and I announced to our parents that we were now *men* and we were going to buy a boat. After all, we were 18 what more could we possibly need to learn. MEN!! After their laughter settled, the men set off to purchase our boat. I believe it was a 17' Silverline (silver something) and Billy had an S10 pickup truck. We were men!! The boat was beautiful, well it was to an 18 year old.

Billy got the boat running and I got it sort of shiny, installed a radio and away we went. Of course, the truck was nearly too small to pull it and struggled going up and down the hills and at the ramp. But, it was ours. Billy's dad said to us, "Boys do NOT leave Pohick and stay away from Hallowing Point." But, I'm pretty sure what we *heard* was "Boys, there's great skiing out on the point and you should really check out the ride to DC."

For the rest of the summer, we learned to ski and I even got to be pretty good at slalom. Multiple attempts at barefoot skiing resulted in at least one trip to the hospital. We learned that Billy was easily distracted by 18 year old women in bikinis. This distraction taught us to understand the hazards of shallow water at speed. We learned that running out of gas with those same ladies on the boat requires one to climb the fence at the Alexandria waterfront, walk several blocks to the Sunoco, convince the attendant that we needed the 5 gallon gas can and we'd have to make that walk 5 times before we were confident we had enough fuel to get home. Oddly enough, those ladies didn't go boating with us ever again! Shocking!!

We sold the boat at the end of the summer when Billy moved away. The memories of that summer stick with me like scenes from the iconic movie "The Sandlot". For years I yearned to get back to the river and try to relive some of those memories. Today, I'm a commercial captain on a 200+ passenger tour boat in Annapolis and I watched my kids love boating as they grew up in the very waters on which I became a man!

Boating is in my blood. What about you? What are your favorite and most cherished memories about boating?

*Robin D*