

LIFELINE



March 2022

The official newsletter of the Prince William Yacht Club

Issue #2

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

MEET THE FLEET CAPTAINS

It takes a lot of work to keep our yacht club going. Let's meet some of the folks who go the extra mile bringing the fun to river.



Are you ready for boating season?

Flakes may still be flying, but this is a great time to think about getting your safety gear ready for Spring..



Affiliate Yacht Clubs

Ever wonder why we're members of other yacht clubs. Beth Lu tells us all about PRYCA and how to take advantage of some of the great benefits membership brings.



New USCG Fire Extinguisher Regulations Coming In April 2022

If you don't follow USCG regulatory changes, this may come as a surprise to you! Check out our Safety Officer report on this big news from the Coast Guard regarding fire extinguisher life. Also, go to the [USCG FAQ](#) site for more.



THE BRIDGE



FLAG OFFICERS

Commodore ~ Rick McHarg ~ commodore@pwyc.org
Vice Commodore ~ Jim Khoury ~ vicecommodore@pwyc.org
Rear Commodore ~ Scott Parsons ~ rearcommodore@pwyc.org
Secretary ~ Shannon Leydig ~ secretary@pwyc.org
Treasurer ~ Sherry Samar ~ treasurer@pwyc.org
Immediate Past Commodore ~ Mike Connolly ~ ipc@pwyc.org

FLEET CAPTAINS

Membership ~ Una Murphy ~ membership@pwyc.org
Social ~ Denise Guess-Parsons, Sherri Connolly, Carol Vasquez, Jenna Burum, Beth Lu ~ social@pwyc.org
Newsletter ~ Robin Davis ~ newsletter@pwyc.org
Safety ~ Bob Schwartz ~ safety@pwyc.org
Webmaster ~ Ginger Gaston ~ webmaster@pwyc.org

DOCK REPRESENTATIVES

A-Dock	Vacant - Seeking Volunteer
B-Dock	Julie Finocchiaio & Keith Clouser
C-Dock	James & Dawn Brady
D-Dock	Matt & Lisa Shaw
E-Dock	Craig & Lisa Chuba
F-Dock	Charlotte Blane
G-Dock	Mike Strano
H-Dock	Joy & Walt Heuer
I-Dock	Chris & Sabrina Salter
J-Dock	PWM - Sales Dock
K-Dock	Laura Lee
L-Dock	Arthur & Rebecca Fernandes
Boatel	Joe Peruzzi

DELEGATES

PRYCA ~ Beth & Sheldon Lu
CBYCA ~ Mike Connolly, Tim Abel



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



Greetings PWYC members! The pace of your Yacht Club activities is ramping up. We are another month closer to warmer, river cruising days, de-winterization, and the sweet smell of marine fuel exhaust and burning through your outboards and inboards. March holds several events of interest that I'll highlight later, but for now let me thank your Club Safety Officer, Bob

Schwartz, for coordinating the two recent Boating Safety Zoom Seminars. Bob hosted CAPT Elizabeth Christman on Jan 26 and Mario Vittone on February 9 for presentations and Q & A Sessions from both of these well experienced sea safety experts. CAPT Elizabeth is a Chesapeake Bay Pilot qualified in vessels of any size, and Mario is a retired USCG Chief Warrant Officer, helicopter rescue crewman. Both presentations were recorded and if you missed them you can find them on the WA website. They both provided relevant perspectives on recreational cruising to the approximately 25 Club members that participated. Thanks again Bob!

Other activities in February were the Sunday Brunch on the 6th. It was a casual pot luck held in the Blue Bath House (BBH) and we had about 25 attendees for the feast. The following Sunday was Super Bowl Sunday and kicked off with the Prince William Marina Slipholders Party. This afternoon gathering was held at the Electric Palm for a change in venue from the Service Garage – And if you are a Slip holder and if you didn't get enough to eat and drink, its your own fault... Don't forget the door prizes... A great time was had by yours truly...It certainly takes some of the Sting out of your new Slip rental contract.

The March activities coming up include another Sunday Brunch on the 6th, an Occoquan River Safety Seminar on Mar 22nd. Additionally, the USCG Auxiliary will conduct a Boating Safety class in the blue bath house on the 26th. Sign up is through the Marina.

Beyond that, there's the Cherry Blossom Cruise for Photos of your Boat April 2nd, and then Opening Day! Look for the Flyers for each event later in the issue.

Don't forget to make sure your membership profile with contact info, slip number, emails and phone numbers is correct by March 1 because the club directories are being ordered.

Finally, I'm excited to introduce to you, our Fleet Captains. So, turn the pages and meet the amazing people who are working so hard, behind the scenes, to keep PWYC an active and vibrant yacht club.

Thanks to everyone and I'll see you around the marina.



Membership Chair

UNA MURPHY
MURPHYS LAW



Una and Her husband Steve Levenson have been members of Prince William Yacht Club since purchasing their first boat from Prince William Marina (a bowrider) in 2014. Two boats later, they are now in their forever boat - a 340 Sundancer – and enjoy boating with friends and family. While Steve is happily retired, Una (his child bride) still has a few years to go. Until that time, they are weekend boaters but look forward to a time that they, along with their First Mate Louie the Golden Doodle, can go on a long-term boating adventure!

Social Committee Chair

Denise Parsons
ISLAND TIME G34



Denise and Scott have been members of the Prince William Yacht Club since 2015. Denise served as the F-Dock Representative from 2017-2020, Lifeline Editor from 2017-2109, and Social Chair from 2018-present.

Denise and Scott enjoy spending time with their marina family, four daughters, and four grandchildren.

Denise is looking forward to hearing your ideas on events that can be added to the yearly calendar.

Safety Officer

BOB SWARTZ



Rosemary Phillips and I have owned the Alexandra since 2003. We both live in Washington, DC. Alexandra lives in F-12. The three of us have been members of Prince William Yacht Club (PWYC) from the day the boat was purchased. Alexandra is the only craft Rosemary and I have ever owned.

Rosemary, Alexandra, and I have been up and down the Potomac River hundreds of times. Additionally, we have dozens and dozens of stints on the Chesapeake Bay. We are as excited about boating today as the day we bought the boat.

I have been the Safety Officer of PWYC since 2017. Over the years, I have never claimed to be the marina expert on safe boating. My main objective since accepting the position has been to keep the topic front and center for those who are based at Prince William Marina.

No matter the size of their vessel, the people at Prince William are smart, intelligent people. Conditions on the water are always changing. I believe that if you keep hammering them on boating safely, they will make the wise choices.

Webmaster

GINGER GASTON
PATRIOT DREAMS, H-43



Ginger and her husband J. Gaston are New England transplants to Northern Virginia courtesy of the military in 1999 (both are retired Army). They have three sons, two of which live in the NoVa area while the youngest lives in Portland, ME.

The Gaston's have been members of Prince William Yacht Club since Jan 2004 and have pretty much been on the PWYC Bridge ever since! Ginger started as the co-newsletter editor with J. in 2004 when it was still sent out snail mail through 2009 when it was sent out electronically. She became webmaster (by default since no one else stepped up!) in 2011 while J was Commodore of PWYC. They have both been a part of the 3 different website conversions (starting in 2008) to its current Wild Apricot website format and app. They started boating together in 2003 with a trailered 240 Sundeck, quickly moving to a 300 Sundancer when J. wanted to 'camp out' on the River. They have owned their current boat Patriot Dreams, a 40 Motor Yacht, for 16 years now, even living aboard for 6 months while having their home built in Aldie. PWYC/PWM quickly became their home away from home, their 'family' to share

things with - both happy and sad.

While the Gaston's try to attend as many PWYC events and boating trips as they can, Ginger's favorite anchoring spot is Three Sisters (especially in the Fall), her favorite marina is Spring Cove in Solomons Island and her all time yacht club event is Pirates Night on the Hook! The CoW runs a close second! (One you get to dress up as a pirate wench, the other as a princess! What's not to like about that?!)

LifeLine

ROBIN DAVIS
NAUTA YACHT, BELMONT BAY HARBOR MARINA



Bernadette and I live right here on the river, moving from Leesburg in 2019. Together, we've been boating for over 15 years, starting in a local boat club. In 2010, we purchased our first boat and for reasons I still don't understand have had 5 boats and a jet ski since then. In 2021, we sold our beautiful rocket ship 2015 470 DA and purchased a 2021 270SDO. SOOO MUCH FUN!! But, we're searching in earnest for the next distance cruiser. Bernadette and I have 3 kids who love the water.

We learned to "boat" together, taking many classes along the way. Because she's a brainiac, she always out performed me in plotting courses and she's a very good operator. I went on to ultimately become a 50T Credentialed Master Captain. I'm excited because she's actually considering becoming credentialed herself.

I am a lifelong public servant. I began public safety as a volunteer firefighter /EMT back in 1986 and went on to become a nationally registered flight paramedic and aviation commander, doing helicopter medevac, law enforcement and search and rescue here in the NCR. While I am still actively engaged as a field paramedic, I retired from Fairfax County Police after 28 years in law enforcement.

Working for PWM has been great for me and for us. I love the connections, the friendships and the community we are building since leaving our home of 30 years. I really enjoy working for the marina and also providing private lessons, helping people to safely enjoy boating as much as I do.

As the new editor for LifeLine, I must give a nod to all of the editors who came before me. Thank you for providing a foundation upon which we can grow and continue to engage our membership.

SCALE 1:4 000

Nautical Miles



Pohick Bay

MASON NECK



38°

Pump-out facilities

NEWS FROM THE BRIDGE

Occoquan Bay

Sycamore I



Vice Commodore

Jim Khoury

vicecommodore@pwyc.org

Pegasus K-7



Thoughts from your Vice Commodore...

Even though the Winter Season isn't over, the tease of warmer weather that Mother Nature has been poking us with over the past few weeks is giving me cabin fever!

With the Spring break-out just a few weeks away, my thoughts are wandering towards the activities connected with the warmer weather and our universal love for the water.

R.C. Scott Parsons has a bunch of cruises in the planning stages, while our Social Committee is busy planning events and parties to keep us all entertained throughout the upcoming season.

Membership is busy gathering the information needed for the distribution of our annual directory, and to make it as accurate possible, please login to our membership website and adjust your profile to bring all your data up to date.

We have a multitude of land-based activities scheduled for the next two months to kick off the season with all the fun associated with owning a boat!

Check with the PWYC Website Events Calendar frequently to stay on top of the upcoming events. Sometimes, an added event may appear that wasn't in the original plan – so check often!

Speaking of “owning a boat”... the Dulles Boat Show is scheduled for March 11th through the 13th. Mark your calendars and check it out! You always find that much needed item that your boat (or you) desperately need at a boat show. It's inevitable, and the opportunity is right at your back door.

The PWYC is sponsoring the “Employee Appreciation Dinner” for the members of the staff of Prince William Marina. This is scheduled for **March 26th @ 6:00PM**. The folks at PWM are an integral part of our well being during the summer. They really go above and beyond to keep us afloat

and mobile. Please show your support and make an effort to attend.

The Prince William Yacht Club's **Opening Day is scheduled for April 9th**. This day is loaded with activities for all in attendance! Here's the schedule planned for the day:

- 9 AM – PWYC Board Meeting (blue bathhouse)
- 10 AM – PWYC General Membership Meeting (blue bathhouse)
- 1:30 PM – Opening Ceremony/Flag Raising (flagpole by boat ramp)
- 2:30 PM – Dock Rep meeting/Boating Seminars (blue bathhouse)
- 6 PM – Commodore's Happy Hour #1 (blue bathhouse)

Nautical Flea Market for Boat equipment; Blue Bathhouse downstairs- Sell/donate anything you don't need.

Meanwhile, the USCGAUX will be providing VSCs (Vessel Safety Checks) throughout the day. It's a good idea to have the vessel certified and display the decal. If your pass under the WW Bridge, you're almost guaranteed to be boarded without the decal on display.

THE USCGAUX is also conducting additional VSC examinations on **April 9th and 16th and May 14th**. You may sign up at the Blue Bath House. There will be a sign-up document available 10 Days before each scheduled VSC.

The Prince William Yacht Club is sponsoring its annual Dock Crawl on **May 14th**. This is always a great event to attend. Food and drink are always so much fun to share while you meet with your fellow boaters.

Something from Days Past at the PWYC... **The PWYC Progressive Dinner**. This event is planned for May 21st from 5:00PM to 10:00PM. I am told that this event was a major attraction for the Yacht Club in the past (before my time). Sounds like a great evening! Please see the event's calendar and contact Vicky Carr directly to register. You may click the email link on the event's information page.

That pretty much brings us into the head of the season... There's plenty more on the Social Calendar, I'll report back with the next issue of Lifeline.

Please remember to keep informed by visiting your PWYC Website frequently!
<https://pwyc.org>

Hope to see you all soon!

Jim

Jim Khoury
PWYC Vice Commodore

Rear Commodore

Scott Parsons
rearcommodore@pwyc.org
Island Time G25



This month has been nothing but planning for me. I have worked out contacts and checked with some local establishments for the first two cruises, The PWYC Pre-Season cruise to Colonial Beach and the PWYC Mother's

Day, May 8, 2002 cruise to National Harbor.

I called the Boathouse Marina to check on availability. Bob Bowman, the owner was very easy to talk to. He stated that he could accommodate 6-8 boats definitely and may have room for a couple more. I also talked with the Colonial Beach Yacht Center (CBYC) and at this time they said they could support up to ten. Please know these are marinas that take on visitors so all this could change. They both would like for us to get in our requirements as soon as possible. Bob Bowman would like us to send him a list of who will be using his facility with sizes and power requirements. The CBYC uses Snag-A-Slip but would also like a list for their planning. There will be more to follow.

I am planning to start my voyage on Friday afternoon. Departure time around 2PM (1400 for those who tell time on a 24 hour clock). For those wishing to join there is a new brewery called the Icehouse. They have food and several beers on tap. They also have wine and soft drinks for those not in the hoppy mood.

Some of you may know Mike and Leah Munnis who used to have their boat at PWM and moved down to Colonial Beach a few years ago. He has equities in the Colonial Beach Brewery, and I have talked with him about doing a tasting event on Saturday when they open (3PM). He and I are still working out details of how and what will take place. I am also in conversations with two local Wineries who are receptive in providing a few bottles of their wines for a pre-dinner tasting on Saturday. For Saturday night dinner I am working with the Tiki Bar at the CBYC.

Trip two will be the PWYC Mother's Day Cruise on the 7th and 8th of May. As this is to the National Harbor Marina, they have limited slips for transient boaters. The sooner we can get our requirements in they will do their best

to accommodate. I called and talked to Grace who provided me a spread sheet and she would like that as soon as possible to start planning and to allow time for updates the closer we get.

Again, I plan to go up on Friday afternoon and for those joining I plan to make reservations at the Irish Whisperer restaurant. Saturday morning there will be Bloody Mary's on Island Time at 1000. The Brass Tap is willing to accommodate a large group for dinner on Saturday. But there are a variety of other restaurants for the choosing. For Saturday night I plan to make reservations at Bobby McKey's Piano Bar. A couple of years back we had a PWYC group go there, and we had a blast. Working with them to see if our club can get a discount. More to follow on this trip

If you are still reading this than I have gained your interest and attention. For you that know me I am great at providing food for an Army (Jay Gaston) but planning for unknowns is a challenge. I am one that uses the old saying "**REMEMBER THE SEVEN P's**" "Proper Preparation and Planning Prevent Piss Poor Performance" and this goes right along with

being on the water. From prepping for a day trip to accomplishing the Great Loop (Rick and Kris McHarg).

The Flyers for each of these trips are posted on the PWYC website and within this Life Line. Please register soon so I can provide numbers and information for those that need it.

I am getting cauliflower ear from being on the phone so much so don't make fun of me at the Marina. I have the number for bullies anonymous, on the positive side I will gain a half a mile per hour being aerodynamic and that will save me some gas money too. Levity aside I am having a blast getting to meet representatives from these establishments.

Still looking for Champions for some of the cruises (List Below) and I stress that you will get assistance from others who will be part of the flotilla. If you are interested or have questions you can contact me at rearcommodore@pwyc.org. Be safe and we will see each other soon. Don't forget the land events, as we always need volunteers.

Your Rear Commodore,
Scott

Upcoming Cruises

- | | |
|-------------------|--|
| 02 April | The Cherry Blossom Cruise (Mike Connolly Championing) Backup date is April 9 |
| 23-24 April | PWYC Colonial Beach Cruise (Scott Parsons Championing) |
| 06-08 May | PWYC Mother's Day Cruise to National Harbor (Scott Parsons Championing) |
| 28-30 May | Memorial Day Cruise to DC Wharf (Jim Khoury, Championing) |
| 17-20 June | Father's Day Cruise Location TBD (PWM and PWYC) Still working details with PWM |
| 01-03 July | <i>Cruise to the Yards Marina (Need a Champion Nats are in town)</i> |
| 17-23 July | Bay Cruise (Commodore/Vice Commodore) |
| 23-24 July | <i>PRYCA Float In at Coles Point (Need a Champion)</i> |
| 12-15 Aug | <i>Solomons Island Cruise (Scott Parsons Championing Would like some help)</i> |
| 26-28 Aug | <i>Three Sister's Raft Up (Need Champion)</i> Backup date 3-5 September (Labor Day) |
| 23-25 Sept | Pirates Night on the Hook (Joint PWM and PWYC) (Need a Team Effort) |
| 07-10 Oct | Commodore Cruise to Tides Inn (Rick McHarg's) |

CHERRY BLOSSOM CRUISE & PHOTO SHOOT

PRINCE WILLIAM YACHT CLUB

Saturday, April 2, 2022 or Saturday, April 9, 2022

(inclement weather dates will be the following Sunday)

Kick off the 2022 boating season by joining us on the Annual Cherry Blossom Cruise and Photo Shoot! Bring family and friends on this PWYC cruise up the Potomac River, to the tidal basin in Washington, DC.



Have portraits taken of your boat and crew in front of the Washington Monument.

Two Saturdays have been set aside for the cruise. Final selection of the date will depend upon weather conditions and peak bloom dates. Sign up!

CONTACT: IPCommodore, Mike Connolly • ipc@pwyc.org

Cherry Blossom Cruise Photo Shoot Guidelines

Saturday, April 2nd, 2022 or Saturday April 9th, 2022
(Inclement weather dates will be the following Sunday.)



Photo Shoot Time:
12:00 - 2:00 p.m.

PHOTO BOAT: Summer Daze

HAILING CHANNEL: 68

CELL PHONE: 703-955-0868

NAVIGATION GUIDELINES

After passing under the 14th street bridge spans:

- locate and hail photo boat, "Summer Daze" on Channel 68.
- follow the approximate float path marked in yellow on the diagram.
- steer toward the Tidal Basin.
- close to shore, turn north and proceed slowly between the photo boat and the cherry trees.
- watch depth and avoid obstructions.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

The yellow dot marks the location of the Photo Boat (Summer Daze). The yellow oval marks the Photo Zone in which photos will be taken. Tom Payne will take several photos of your boat, to include the blossoms and the Washington Monument in the background. If you want a photo showing your boat name, stop at some point and rotate your boat, to make the name visible to the camera. Resume your pass. If another boat enters the Photo Zone while you are passing, slow down until they pass so they don't "photo bomb" your pictures. If there is rain, snow, or high winds, the shoot will be cancelled. Be prepared with all appropriate documentation should the Coast Guard board your vessel.

Photo Shoot \$25

The charge for 3 high resolution photographs is \$25. Photographs will be emailed to you upon receipt of payment. Custom 8"x 10" mat prints (ready for framing) can be ordered and shipped for an additional cost of \$15 per print. **Contact/Text -Tom Payne (Payne Relief Artworx) at: 410-458-0991 or email: stromdrummer@yahoo.com**



Prince William Yacht Club
Pre-Season Cruise to
Colonial Beach
April 23rd and 24th
Championing this event will be
Scott Parsons
Register at PWYC.Org

Detailed Float and activity plan will sent to those that register.

Island Time will be departing Friday (22 Apr) afternoon for those that wish to join.

Icehouse brewery Friday evening Colonial Beach Brewery Saturday afternoon

Colonial Beach Yacht Center Reservations via Snag-a-Slip or call (804)224-7230

Boathouse Marina can accommodate 6-8 Boats. Call Bill Bowman at (804)224-7644

Golf Cart Rentals:

T&T Call (540) 280-7009

Custom Cartz at (804) 214-6011

Beach Cart Rentals "Dustin" at (804) 761-1594

For questions Contact Scott at rearcommadore@pwyc.org or catch me at the marina.

Prince William Yacht Club

Mother's Day Cruise to

National Harbor

May 7th and 8th

Championing this event

Scott Parsons

Register at PWYC.ORG

If you arrive Friday Afternoon

PWYC will dine at the Irish Whisperer Pub

Saturday Night's Dinner will be at the Brass Tap

Followed By an Evening at Bobby McKey's for those interested

Contact Scott at rearcommadore@pwyc.org

Treasurer

SHERRY SAMAR
IRISH HAWK, E-6



Balance as of 01/01/2022:	\$ 26,283.85
Receipts (dues, Change of Watch, interest)	\$ 10,460.27
Expenses (stamps, COW expenses, WA credit card charge)	\$ -4,343.65
New balance as of 01/01/2022	\$ 32,400.47

We have paid our CBYCA dues for this year.

Ships Manifest

Membership Chair
Una Murphy
membership@pwyc.org



WELCOME PWYC MEMBERS!

Please help me welcome new and renewing Prince William Yacht Club Members for the 2022 season (between January 10, 2022 – February 10, 2022, Any membership payments received after this date will be listed in the April Lifeline)**:

- Randy Becker and Theresa Becker
- Hunter Bell, F-9
- Corey Brown, Sinisterque96, H-9
- Shawn Burget and Stephanie Burget, Nordica, K-42
- Doug Burum and Jenna Burum, Another Sunday Morning, E-1
- Kathy Cordelli and Justin Cordelli
- Pam Cressey
- Peter Ewald and Veronica Ewald, Boatel
- Robert Fertig and Jennifer Fertig, Knot Anchored
- Greg Fletcher and Sandy Fletcher, Boatel
- Pete Giambastiani and Claire Giambastiani, H-13
- Martin Harris and Natalie Harris, Boatel
- John Ingram and Heather Ingram, B-2
- Richard Jones and Christine Jones, Andiamo
- Werner Knapp and Charlotte Blane, At Last, F-6
- Michael Kropp and Barbara Kropp, Boatel
- Doug Livesay and Holly Shenk, Boatel
- Frank Murray and Amy Marshall, Coming in Hot!!!, G-27

- Michael Perrella and Debra Perrella, Boatel
- Pete Popsuy and Nancy Popsuy, Natasha, G-36
- Chris Regan and Susan Regan, F-11
- Skyler Stegall and Becky Dunklee, Anger Management, G-13
- Matthew Shaw and Lisa Shaw, Land Escape, D-13
- Heidi Schoepflin and Philip Schoepflin, Liberty Call, Boatel
- Mike Strano and Teresa Strano, At Ease, G-21
- Mike Shelkin, K-12
- Phil Suchyta and Brandy Suchyta, Freudian Slip, E-15
- James Thomas and Caroline Thomas, Sweet Indulgence, H-15
- Michael Turch and Jessica Turch, It's F8, I-32
- Jim Vant and Sabrina Vant, B-6
- Robert Voith and Paula Voith, Boatel
- John Wagner and Jennifer Wagner, Launch Pad, H-36
- Karl Walther and Peyton Onks, South of DL, Boatel
- Dave Weekman and Kathy Weekman, Slip Away, K-38

** If you think you renewed your membership prior to February 10 and don't see your name here, check your profile on Wild Apricot or send me an email at membership@pwyc.org and I will be happy to check! If you know you haven't renewed your membership for the 2022 season and want to do so, here are your options:

Renew Online

Use the Quick link on the PWYC homepage (pwyc.org) to link to your membership profile

By Check

Send a \$100.00 check payable to PWYC to

PWYC Membership Committee
 c/o Prince William Marina
 12849 Gordon Boulevard
 Woodbridge, VA 22192-3240

Safety Officer

BOB SWARTZ



Some housekeeping before getting into the Safety Report. Robin Davis presently is our newsletter editor. He also has the chops to become part of the Safety Team, having spent 36 years in Emergency Services. His contributions may be included under the safety heading or they may appear elsewhere in the monthly Lifeline mailing.

I'm looking forward to working with Robin and I'm confident that his years of public safety service will benefit us all.

WOW!! There's so much to report this month. We had 2 really good Zoom calls with very gifted and experienced mariners.



Captain Elizabeth Christman

Zoom Seminar with Captain Elizabeth Christman, Chesapeake Bay Pilot. Points to ponder: It is best to stay well away from the vessels she pilots and the deep channels she must follow. Her

ships are big, they are faster than they look, and they probably may not be able to maneuver to avoid you if you get too close.

Zoom Seminar with Mario Vittone, Chief Warrant Officer, USCG (Ret.)



On-water safety expert. Points to ponder: When on a boat, we are surrounded with something that will kill us if we're in it. We must plan for failure

BEFORE LEAVING THE DOCK to lessen the chances of being unprepared if something bad happens. Don't be afraid to use a 'Pan-Pan' call to the Coast Guard early in the event. This puts them on alert and starts the thought process of what resources they can use if a May Day situation occurs.

The links to each of the 60 minute presentations are available on the PWYC home page. It will be time well spent.

New Coast Guard Fire Extinguisher Requirements

Thanks to **CarRUISIN II** for passing this notice along: As of April 20, 2022, fire extinguishers older than 12 years must be replaced. They are no longer considered by the Coast Guard, to be serviceable.

Look for wording on the bottle stating, "This product must be removed from service within 12 years after date of manufacturing". The date should be stamped on the extinguisher. The entire date might not be seen. For example, "05" means 2005.

Included are both disposable (non-rechargeable) and rechargeable fire extinguishers. While we are checking our fire extinguishers, let's make sure they are properly pressurized, labeled for Marine use (Marine Type U.S.C.G), and are of the specific type required for our vessel length.

These regulations will be incorporated into 33 CFR 175, Sub-Chapter S in the near future. Another source that might be easier to read can be found [here](#). Check the sources provided for other specifics that pertain to your boat.

Firearms, Weapons, and Boats Disclaimer, Disclaimer, Disclaimer. As always everyone is on their own out there. There is only the suggestion that it might be wise to research the most up-to-date carry law(s) of the location(s) where a boater wants to either cruise or drop the hook for the evening. [Here](#) is a helpful link. The US Concealed Carry Association (USCCA) may be able to provide some useful information.

We are confining ourselves to the waters of the United States. There are way too many moving parts to get involved in international issues. The USCCA, however, can help here also.

Those of us who leave Prince William Marina (PWM) and head to DC sail through two states and a Federal District (DC). A vessel would probably be, at various times, in waters controlled by either Virginia (the Occoquan River), [Maryland](#) (which owns most of the Potomac River), or the District of Columbia (again the Potomac River).

Each state and DC have their own rules and regulations regarding carrying firearm(s) on board. Throw in the Coast Guard and there is a dogs' breakfast of laws to consider during a relatively short cruise.

Generally speaking, and with certain exceptions arrived at through Court decisions, treaties, agreements, etc., Maryland gun laws prevail on the Potomac River until it goes under the Wilson Bridge. According to the DC Harbor Patrol, once under the Wilson Bridge and until the Chain Bridge above Georgetown and past the Three Sisters, DC gun laws control.

The Coast Guard, being a federal agency, enforces federal firearm laws no matter where they board a vessel. They do not deal with any state law(s).

There is a difference if asked by a relevant authority whether one has a firearm aboard or if one has a weapon aboard. What a firearm is or is not usually is cut and dry. What is cut and dry is that they will not be happy if they find out they have been told an untruth. The answer to the question regarding a weapon may not be simple. It depends on the definition of what is considered a weapon.

Listed in [Virginia Code § 18.2-308](#) "Carry Concealed Weapons" are things besides the commonly thought of pistols shotguns, and rifles. Such things as knives, machetes blackjacks, nun chucks, fighting chains, and throwing stars are considered weapons.

At least one person writes that technologically, flare guns are firearms. However, these usually are excluded from the statutory definition of a firearm in many jurisdictions because they are designed for signaling distress rather than applying lethal force.

Any legal distinction between flare guns and normal firearms may disappear if a flare gun is used in the commission of a crime or carried in such a manner that it is perceived that a person intends to use it as a concealable weapon rather than an emergency signaling device.

The same may go if the flare gun is re-configured to shoot a shotgun shell. Or of the original flare gun is constructed of a stronger material than the plastic ones we normally see. Simply put, a flare gun probably turns into a firearm when someone from a relevant authority says it is a firearm and not a signal device.

Upcoming Safety Activities

March 22, 2022

Occoquan River Safety Forum. Location TBD. Either at the Electric Palm or via Zoom depending on the Virus from 10:30 am until 12:30 pm. Contact Bob Schwartz for information. Safety@pwyc.org

March 26, 2022

Boating Safety Class needed for the required license. In the Blue Bath House by F Dock. In person. 9:00 am to 5:00 pm. Contact Teresa Allen. tallen@pwmarina.com

April 9, 2022

Opening Day seminars. In the Blue Bath House by F Dock. **In person.** 2:30 pm – 6:00 pm. Various seminar leaders.

April 9, 2022

Vessel Safety Checks conducted by the USCG Auxiliary. All day. Sign-up sheets will go up approximately 14 days beforehand. Contact Bob Schwartz for information. Safety@pwyc.org

April 16, 2022

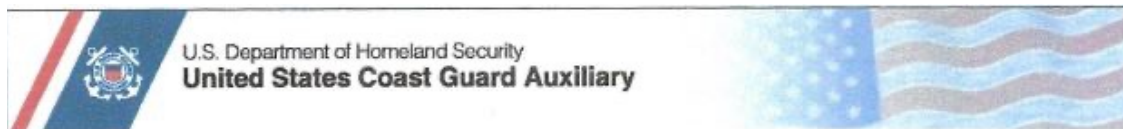
Vessel Safety Checks conducted by the USCG Auxiliary. All day. Sign-up sheets will go up approximately 14 days beforehand. Contact Bob Schwartz for information. Safety@pwyc.org

May 14, 2022

Boating Safety Class needed for the required license. In the Blue Bath House by F Dock. In person. 9:00 am to 5:00 pm. Contact Teresa Allen. tallen@pwmarina.com

May 14, 2022

Vessel Safety Checks conducted by the USCG Auxiliary. All day. Sign-up sheets will go up approximately 14 days beforehand. Contact Bob Schwartz for information. Safety@pwyc.org



Public Education Course Flyer: Boat America



Boat America is a boating certificate class that offers an in-depth and interesting boating safety course, and provides the knowledge needed to obtain a boating certificate.

Some insurance companies will also offer discounts on boating insurance to boaters who successfully complete this course.

TOPICS INCLUDE

- **Introduction to Boating** – Types of power boats, boating vocabulary, sailboats, paddle boats, powering boats, and engine types.
- **Boating Law** – Boat registration, regulations, hull identification numbers, required safety equipment, Federal boating law, state boating law, and reporting accidents.
- **Safety Equipment** – Life jackets, fire extinguishers, sound-producing devices, visual distress signals, anchors, and other safety equipment.
- **Safe Operation and Navigation** – Buoys and beacons, aids to navigation, navigation rules, docking, and the dangers of alcohol on the water.
- **Boating Emergencies** – Hypothermia, boating accidents, man overboard, capsizing, emergency radio calls, carbon monoxide dangers, and weather.
- **Trailer** – Types of trailers, lights, hitches, towing a trailer.
- **Sports and Boating** – Water-skiing, hunting and hunting gear, PWC operation, and other boating tips.

Presented by Flotilla 054-25-06
Occoquan - Fairfax, VA

Course: Boat America
Start Date: Sat, 26 Mar 2022
Hours: 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM
Duration: 8 Hours
Lessons: 1
Location: Prince William Marina
12849 Gordon Blvd
Woodbridge, VA 22192
Contact: Teresa Allen
tallen@pwmarina.com
(703) 494-6611
Course Cost: \$35
Register By: Sun, 20 Mar 2022
Comments: street address is the show room.
1/4 mile south, is Sea Ray Lane,
follow to bottom of hill turn left.
Class is in blue bldg next to pool.

Membership has its privileges!

By Beth Lu



The Potomac River Yacht Clubs Association (PRYCA) was founded in 1971 and is currently comprised of 24 Yacht clubs from Washington, DC all the way to the Chesapeake Bay. The purpose of the organization is to encourage yachting and boating safety; encourage the advancement of yachting clubs in the Potomac River Basin; represent member clubs; and promote social interactions among member clubs and their individual members. Reciprocal agreements with member clubs allow our members to visit other clubs and get to know their members.

In addition to making new friends on the water through this organization, the PRYCA provides many other opportunities to enhance our boating experience. When the Prince William Board of Supervisors was considering a boat tax, the PRYCA banded together to represent the many boaters who call Prince William County home. The tax was defeated and our whole community benefited.

The PRYCA Change of Watch is coming up on April 23 at the Hilton Alexandria in Old Town. Join in on Friday night, 4/22, for a fun pub crawl in Old Town including a stop at the Old Dominion Yacht Club. The flier for the event is included below.

Each year the PRYCA holds a **Float-In** which is a fun weekend for members to get together for friendly competitions, seminars and demonstrations, a scavenger hunt, games and lots of good food and camaraderie. This year's Float-In will held **July 22-24** at a location to be announced soon. In 2021, more than 50 boats attended the event. Put it on your calendar and help PWYC bring home the Challenge Cup!

Discounts and perks vary at each club. Best advice is to look at the club roster on the website and contact the Commodore or Dock Master for the club. Introduce yourself as a member of PWYC and ask about any reciprocal agreements and benefits they offer.

Sheldon and Beth Lu are the current delegates to the PRYCA and are proud to represent PWYC as active members of the Board. Check out the [PRYCA](#) page for more information.



Potomac River Yacht Clubs Association

2022 Change of Watch

Saturday, 23 April 2022

Hilton Alexandria Old Town

1767 King St, Alexandria, VA 22314

Cocktails: 1800

Dinner: 1900

Change of Watch Ceremony: 2000

Dancing and Merriment until 2300

Your Choice of

Herb French Cut Chicken

Roasted Salmon Filet

Seasonal Vegetarian Selection

In Lieu of a Hospitality Suite, Please Enjoy an OPEN BAR (BEER & WINE) from 1800 – 1900

Liquor will be Available for Purchase

Full CASH BAR is Available From 1900 - 2300

• \$110 per person •

To Register

Complete this Form: [PRYCA 2022 Change of Watch Registration](#)

Send a Check to the PRYCA Treasurer • Address will be Provided in the Registration Confirmation

*A limited block of sleeping rooms are available for \$129 per night (+tax) on 22-23 April
Join us on Friday night for the Old Town Pub Crawl • Rooms may sell out, so book early*

Sleeping Room Reservations

Online: [Hilton Alexandria Old Town Room Reservations](#)

By Phone: 703-837-0440 • Reference Group Code: "River" to Receive the Discounted Rate

Parking: \$20 per car overnight • \$10 per car per day

Questions: commodore@pryca.us

Check out the Social Scene



Denise Parsons
ISLAND TIME G34

We've got a lot of things coming up this season. Boat shows! Safety Seminars! So many parties! Don't miss out on all of the fun and education opportunities. Friends on and off the water.

Contact our social team – Denise Guess-Parsons, Beth Lu, Carol Vasquez, Jenna Burum or Sherri Connolly– social@pwyc.org if you would like to champion an event, assist or have suggestions for new events.

Date	Event
FEBRUARY	
26	PWYC Change of Watch Party
MARCH	
5	PWYC Board Meeting @ 9AM
6	PWYC Brunch, Blue Bathhouse, Potluck, all invited @ 10:00 AM (register on website event list)
11-13	Dulles Boat Show
22	Occoquan River Safety Forum, Electric Palm @ 10:30AM
26	USCG Boater Safety Class
26	PWM Employee Appreciation Dinner @6PM, Blue bathhouse
APRIL	
2	Cherry Blossom Cruise
9	OPENING DAY CELEBRATION





PWM Employee's Appreciation Dinner



Time to show your appreciation for the amazing customer service that the Prince William Marina provides to us!!!

When: March 26th @6PM

Where: Top of the Blue Bathhouse

Theme: Southern Food

Volunteers are needed to bring the following dishes:

Jambalaya

Pulled pork

Ribs

Potato salad

Mac-n-cheese

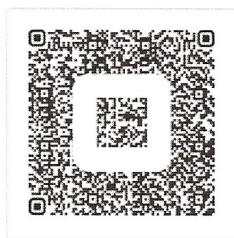
Green beans

Cornbread

Pecan pie

Apple pie

Please email social@pwyc.org to sign up for a dish



Scan QR Code to Purchase

DUCK DROP CHARITY RAFFLE

\$10.00 per ticket

- | | |
|-----------------------|--|
| 1 st Prize | Helicopter/Airplane Trip
for two to OBX for a day |
| 2 nd Prize | \$500.00 Cash |
| 3 rd Prize | Glock 9mm <u>or</u> Gift Card |
| 4 th Prize | Apple IPAD Mini |
| 5 th Prize | PWM Gas Card |

Duck Drop and prizes will be on PWYC Opening Day



Spring Cleaning?

Don't forget your PFD!

Robin D

86%

*of drowning victims
were not wearing
PFD's*

50%

*of fatalities were on
open motorboats*

18%

*of fatal accidents
involved alcohol as a
contributing factor*

Sitting in my living room, staring out at the river, frozen from shore to shore, I'm still wondering if my boat misses me as much as I miss it.

Before we know it, the days will begin to lengthen and spring cleaning will be upon us. As you're gathering your favorite hull cleaners and brushes, don't forget those pesky but oh so important, personal floatation devices.

These little orange unsung heroes are often tucked away in some dark, wet compartment, left to mold and mildew.

Cleaning and sanitizing life jackets serves several purposes. First, it gets rid of mold, mildew, sunscreen, and other contaminants that may break down the PFD's materials over time. Second, it forces you to inspect each life jacket for rips, tears, and other signs of wear that would indicate it needs replacement. Finally, a clean, attractive, odor-free life jacket is simply more likely to be worn.

"IT'LL NEVER HAPPEN TO ME"

Now, you may be looking back thru your boating experiences and say, "I've never needed those things." Not one person I've ever met, who was involved in any sort of accident or other misfortune, thought it could

happen to them. Face it, no one leaves home thinking they'll actually be the crash on I-95 that the news is reporting, yet we know it happens everyday.

According to the USCG, in 2020 there were 5,265 accidents that involved 767 deaths, 3,191 injuries and approximately \$62.5 million dollars of damage to property as a result of recreational boating accidents.

For me, these numbers are so sad and they're admittedly incomplete, as they only reflect accidents involving registered boats. I've done search and rescue on this river from helicopter and boat, and it was always frustrating to know a PFD would likely have made a difference.

INSPECTION

PFD's require routine inspection to ensure the buckles and zippers are in operating order; there's no presence of mold or dry rot. Also, look for tears or over compression of the fill material, which could impact buoyancy.

If you have an inflatable PFD, those, too require inspection. Check the exterior for abrasions, loose thread or other signs of wear. Make a habit of checking the Service Indicator that is visible inside the clear plastic window to make sure the status is green. Green means your PFD is armed and ready to inflate. Red means the vest can only be

manually inflated and needs service.

BATH TIME

Cleaning your inherently buoyant PFD's is pretty easy and the supply list is quite short:

- Bucket - appropriately sized to allow you to fully immerse the PFD
- Hose
- Soft scrub brush or sponge
- Gentle detergent

METHOD 1 – INHERENTLY BUOYANT

Step 1: Rinse the Life Jacket

Before beginning the cleaning process, it may be beneficial to hose down your life jacket with clean water to remove any loose dirt.

Step 2: Fill Your Bucket

Fill your bucket halfway with clean water warm or cold water (avoid hot) and a few drops of mild soap. I've heard that dishwashing soap is an excellent choice for this.

Step 3: Immerse the PFD

Be sure to get the jacket completely wet

Step 4: Scrub It Out

Scrub the life jacket gently with your soft brush to eliminate any stubborn dirt or stains. Alternatively, you can use a sponge on the fabric sections and your soft brush on the strap and buckles.

Step 5: Thorough Rinse

Make sure you get ALL of the soap out of the material before heading to step 6.

Step 6: Allow It to Dry

Once you've completed the wash and super rinse, it's time to dry. Now, candidly, I suspect that this is where most of us fall down. Resist the urge to toss your wet or damp jacket back into some warm, dark storage compartment. Hang the jacket where it gets good ventilation. A nice breeze works. It takes a while for PFD's and the like to dry out but, your patience will be rewarded in the end.

METHOD 2 – INFLATABLE LIFE JACKETS

Step 1: Remove the CO2 Cartridge

Before you begin cleaning an inflatable life jacket, **ensure that you follow the manufacturer's instructions for removing the CO2 cartridge.** Also, remember to remove the water sensor bobbins from inflatable life jackets.

Step 2: Deflate your Life Jacket

Ensure that your inflatable life jacket is completely deflated before beginning the cleaning process. However, you may need to unpack it to clean the air compartments.

Step 3: Clean Using Soap and Water

Clean your life jacket with mild soap and water in the same manner as described above. Other contaminants and chemicals may wreak havoc on the materials, impairing the inflatable life jacket's function.

Step 4: Thoroughly Rinse It

After scrubbing the inflatable life jacket with soapy water, rinse it thoroughly with clean water.

Step 5: Allow to dry.

Allow your PFD to dry naturally by hanging it in a well-ventilated area out of direct sunlight.

Step 6: Re-Arm your Life Jacket

Repack the air chambers and reinstall the CO2 cylinder and bobbin to re-arm your jacket.

THAT'S IT

Now that your life jackets are all inspected and cleaned, you can cruise with confidence knowing that you and your guests will be that much more prepared should the unthinkable happen.....and that yucky compartment was also cleaned out.

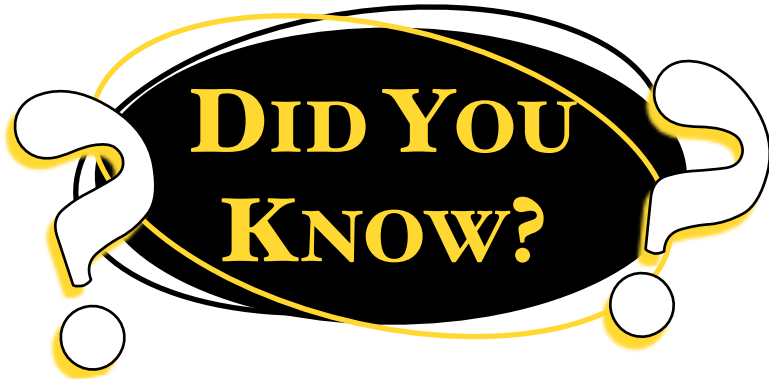


Don't we all?



Stay up to date with all of the latest news and information on our official Prince William Yacht Club website. It's chock full of great information, so check it out.

PWYC.ORG



We know the Potomac River is rich in history and you may have even heard of The Ghost Fleet of Mallows Bay. But, did you know that this fleet of 170 WWI transport vessels are not the only residents of Mallows Bay?

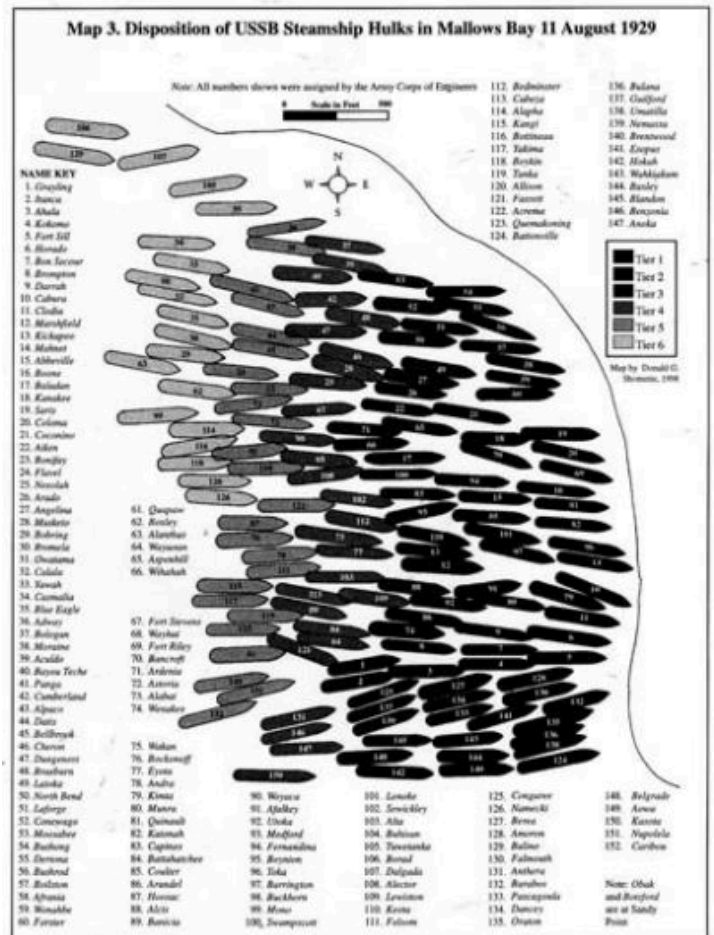
The Bay became a dumping ground and would be salvage yard in 1924, when it was purchased by Western Marine and Salvage, with intentions of recycling a fleet of obsolete transport vessels. In spite of several years of effort with little show for it,

Western Marine and Salvage collapsed in 1931, leaving the fleet to decay. Over the next 50 years, other companies tried and failed to clean up the area and recover steel from the mostly wooden fleet.

A study commissioned in 1993 discovered that in addition to the WWI relics, Western Marine and others had abandoned 12 barges, a Revolutionary era long boat, several 18th century schooners, work boats and even a few steel hull car ferries.

This same study revealed that a wonderful mini echo system has evolved. The heavy concentration of wood enriched the shallow bay's sediment, and the absence of diesel and oil polluting the water has presented a healthy habitat for many species of wildlife.

So, next time you find yourself heading to points south, slow down and check out Mallows Bay-Potomac River National Marine Sanctuary.



Mallows Bay 1929