

LIFELINE

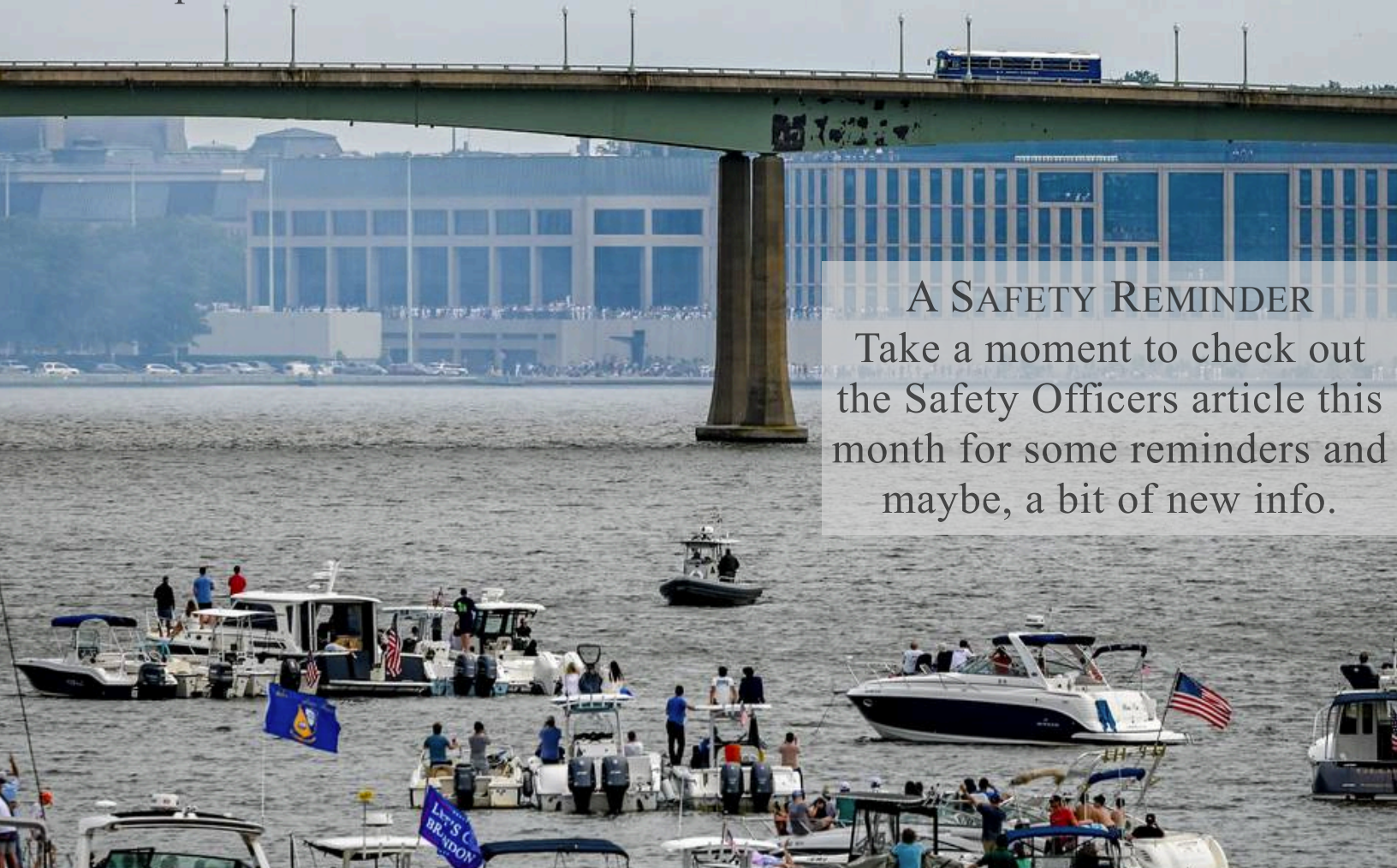


THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE PRINCE WILLIAM YACHT CLUB

MAY 2023

COMMISSIONING WEEK
The United States Navy's
Blue Angels will be in
Annapolis this month

A SAFETY REMINDER
Take a moment to check out
the Safety Officers article this
month for some reminders and
maybe, a bit of new info.



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 ~ Sabrina Salter ~ 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, Shannon Leydig ~ social@pwyc.org
Newsletter ~ Robin Davis ~ newsletter@pwyc.org
Safety ~ Bob Schwartz ~ safety@pwyc.org
Webmaster ~ Mike Manning ~ webmaster@pwyc.org

DOCK REPRESENTATIVES

A-Dock	Vacant - Seeking Volunteer
B-Dock	Julie Finacchiaro & Keith Clouser
C-Dock	James & Dawn Brady
D-Dock	Matt & Lisa Shaw
E-Dock	Nicholas Roper
F-Dock	Vacant - Seeking Volunteer
G-Dock	Charlotte Blaine
H-Dock	Joy & Walt Heuer
I-Dock	Chris & Sabrina Salter
J-Dock	PWM - Sales Dock
K-Dock	Jason and Shannon Leydig
L-Dock	Vacant - Seeking Volunteer
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



Ahoy! The Water is on... The Water is on! That's right folks, Temps are intermittently in the 80s, so you should be de-winterized, Safety -inspected, sea-trialed, and recommissioned for another fabulous cruising season. And if you attended our PWYC Opening Day Activities, you are reacquainted with your dock-mates, fellow boaters and the PWYC bridge. We had a Shoreline Cleanup courtesy of PWM, a PWYC Board and General Membership meeting, Lunch, Flag Raising and Sock Burning, Duck Drop, Boater's Flea Market, a Dock Rep Meeting, Seminars, Safety Inspections all day, and a Captains Hour sponsored by the Bridge!

Thanks to Vice Commodore Jim Khoury and Social Chair Denise Guess-Parsons for a great menu of activities. Also if you signed up for a PWYC directory, you received one courtesy of Membership Chair Una Murphy. Way to go Una! With Wild Apricot software, if you have the app on your phone, you can find members, so a hard copy

directory may not be convenient for you. We elected to make the printed directory an option to save effort and costs, but you had to check the box on your WA registration if you wanted a printed copy.

And we also held the rescheduled Annual PWM Employees Appreciation Pot Luck dinner on April 29 in the Blue Bathhouse. It was a Great Mexican Fiesta for all the team members and families that could attend. Thanks to all who signed up to bring a dish and again to Denise for Coordinating.

Be sure to read VC Jim Khoury's note to find out about May activities ashore (many) and RC Scott Parsons column about on the water activities. In particular, popular events include:

- Mother's Day Cruise to DC (the Wharf) May 5-7
- May Board Meeting (BBH)/Safety Checks May 13
- 2023 Dock Crawl (All Docks) May 13
- Blessing of the Fleet (Belmont Bay Marina, 12 -2 PM May 20
- Occoquan Paddlefest May 20
- All Hands Mattawoman Raft-Up May 27
-

Don't forget to sign up for the Progressive Dinner in June. It will be helpful to the planners to know who is coming or not and whether you can host or not. See the event calendar for deadlines. Sign up/Register for these events and find out more info on our website: www.PWYC.org. Access is easy through your password. Don't have one? Write to our Webmaster at webmaster@pwyc.org. He's Mike Manning, the guy who works diligently to post items of interest on the home page for you.

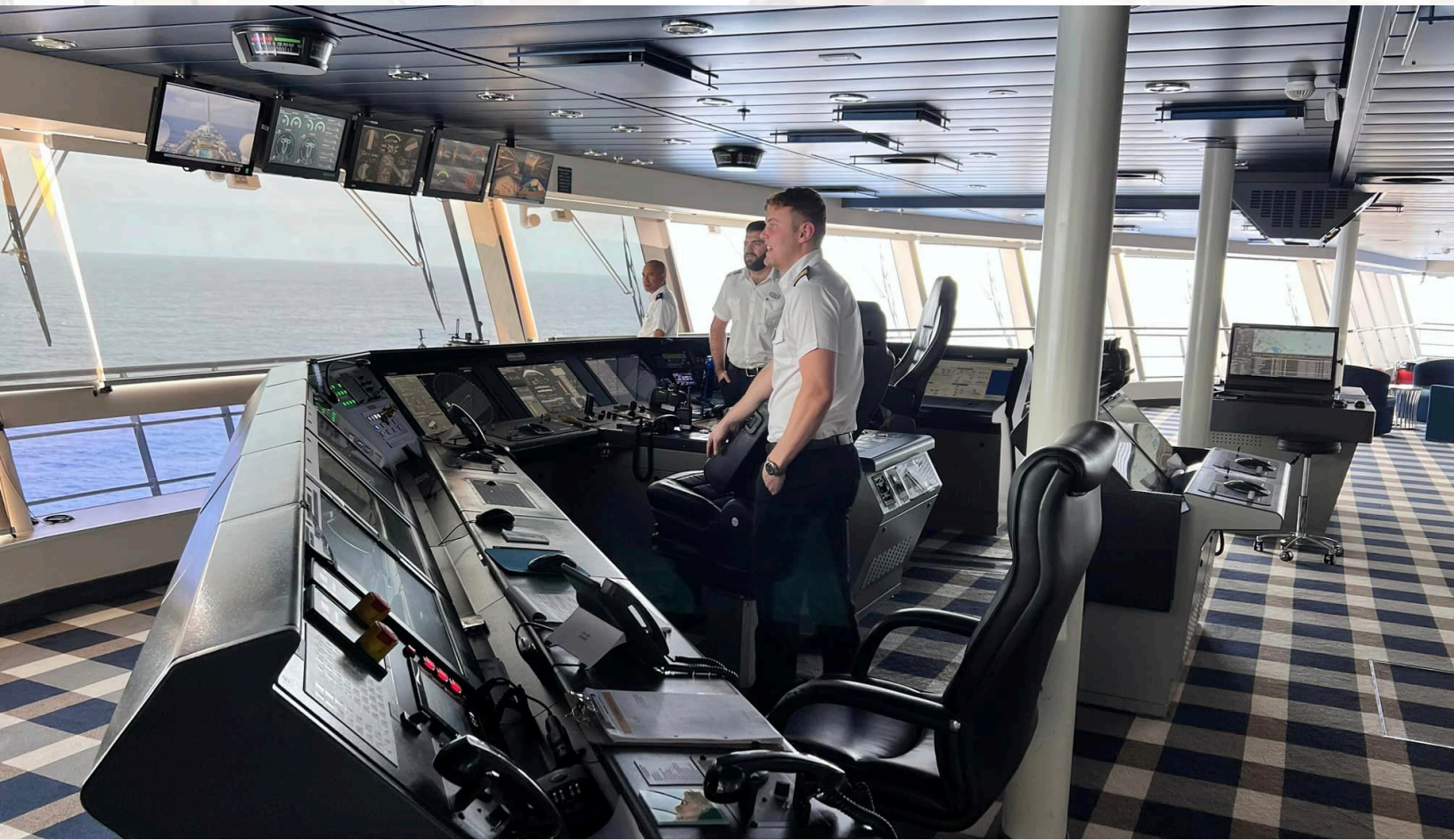
Still have opportunity for volunteers to Captain a cruise. If you know where you'd like to go, chat about it with RC Scott Parsons and maybe you can become a YC CAPT... Hope you all had a great Easter! It's time to start thinking Summer and Cruising and Boat Drinks and Jimmy Buffet.

And if you want to know about anything happening at the marina and can't get good info, don't hesitate to give me a call at 571-239-1367

See you around the docks!

Commodore Rick
EAGLE ONE K-40

NEWS FROM THE BRIDGE



Thoughts from the Vice Commodore

Jim Khoury
vicecommodore@pwyc.org
Pegasus K-21



Now that our season is officially underway, there are lots of activities to fill our “Boating Time” – Both on and off the water!

I want to thank all who attended our opening day celebration and the raising of our flags to commemorate the kickoff of the season.

For those that missed the event, to bring you up to speed, PWM sponsored a “River Clean-Up Event” led by DJ Phillips and staff. We started with our Board of Directors meeting, followed by a General Membership meeting. This is to keep our members in the loop of the general health of our club, and update all on upcoming events and general issues which may arise from time to time. The Board meetings are open to our members as a rule, and if you want to understand how we operate, please attend.

Your Social Committee sponsored and orchestrated lunch for all attending, immediately followed by our Annual Flag Raising Ceremony – commemorating the opening of our season at Prince William Marina! It’s an exciting experience, as it really hits all of our very souls that we are embarking on another great year of boating and friendship at the Marina! If it’s anything like last season, get ready for yet another season-long party on the Potomac!

We sponsored several seminars – I met with our Dock Reps, Scott Parsons hosted an enlightening seminar on the navigation in our area to bring them up to speed for the coming season, Lou Ward gave those interested in our photo contest a run-down on what is expected and allowed – as we all looked past him at last year’s winners hanging on the wall.

Our Commodore provided us with a slideshow and synopsis of his and Kris’ experience while out on the Great Loop Adventure, and we ended the evening with the Commodore’s Captain’s hour.

All-in-all, it was a great event. We hope to see you at our next event in the coming weeks. Please check our website to stay in touch with your club’s activities.

To our Dock Reps. - Who volunteer their time to keep you all in the loop and appraised of the activities going on throughout the season... Thank you! If you do not know who represents your dock, please check our website’s “Bridge Page” for the complete listing. We do need to fill three positions as Dock Reps, so if you are so inclined, please come forward and let me know.

Helping your Dock Rep. doing his/her/their work is a fine way to promote the friendship and camaraderie needed to make every season a success! Please get to know your dock-mates, and others. It will certainly contribute to the overall promotion of our Yacht Club.

While on the subject of “Yacht Club Promotion”, if you know of others on your dock(s) that are not yet members, please try to get them involved as this will help your club expand and provide more services and

events. Many folks don't join because they are unaware of the benefits of membership. Your help in bringing them on board will benefit all.

To those that participated in the PWM Employee Appreciation party, as always, thank you! Those folks work hard to extend themselves to make your boating season a success without the stress of failure of your beloved vessel – just as you were planning a cruise!

During the month of May, we have several land-based activities you should be aware of:

1. There two USCGAUX events scheduled 13 May:
 - a. 13 May – the USCGAUX is running a BS&S Class (Boating Safety & Seamanship). This course is mandatory for anyone planning on running a vessel. There are many online versions, but the very best way to get trained is in person.
 - b. 13 May – the USCGAUX is providing VSC (Vessel Safety Checks). There will be a sign-up sheet in the blue bath house – lower level ten days prior. If you travel on the Potomac, having the decal on your window will be helpful if you are chosen for boarding by the authorities.
2. Be on the lookout for the PWYC Board meeting on 13 May @ 9:00AM. Again, this meeting is open to all members in good standing.
3. The Grand Baby of them all... Our Annual Dock Crawl! 13 May @ 6PM... All hands! There will be a massive party along Sea Ray Boulevard sponsored by all docks. Food and drink sponsored by your Dock Reps and their respective Dock Mates.

Don't forget to participate in the other activities offered by your club. The on-water and special land-based fun mentioned elsewhere in this newsletter will certainly be a great time for all.

I wanted to mention an on-water activity scheduled for May. Usually, I would stay in my lane, but this is a great event, and a nice way to ease into the season... On May 20th, the ORMA Blessing of the Fleet is going to be at the Belmont Bay Marina fuel dock. Please refer to our events calendar for details. There's still time to register and you may also win a prize!

Please refer to your Yacht Club's Website **often**: <https://pwyc.org> – there are updates and new additions frequently posted as they become available. If you have anything you would like to see posted on our website, please feel free to contact Mike Manning by email: webmaster@pwyc.org and let him know!

Jim Houry

Vice Commodore PWYC

vicecommodore@pwyc.org

(718)494-3365

Pegasus K-21

Mother's Day Cruise to the DC Wharf
6 and 7 May 2023



Register via the event page at <https://pwyc.org>

We will be using the Wharf DC Marina as the primary location.

They use Snag-A-Slip to make reservations

<https://www.snagaslip.com/chesapeake-bay-marinas/potomac-marinas/wharf-marina>

\$4 per foot (Example: 38 ft x \$4 =\$152)

N38°52'36.6" W 77°01'21.0"

650 Wharf Street SW

Washington DC 20024

<https://www.wharfdcmarina.com>

dockmaster@wharfdcmarina.com

Marina Office phone: **202-595-5165**

The other option is Capital Yacht Club

Some like to stay here as they have long time boating friends

65ft LOA or less

\$3 per foot per day (Example: 38 ft x \$3= \$114)

Over 65 ft

\$6 per foot per day (Example: 65 ft x \$6 = \$390)

Reservations: <https://www.capitalyachtclub.com/reservations>

Cruise Plan and details will be forthcoming to those who are registered

For those interested in arriving on Friday, Cinco de Mayo, there will be members of PWYC there already

Rear Commodore

Scott Parsons
rearcommodore@pwyc.org
Island Time G34



Here we are in May and the Spring flowers should be in sight. What a wonderful winter that past us by. I think I saw snow once. I gave the end of March and the beginning of April a chance to come back with a vengeance, but it didn't and now the color of most boats in the marina is yellow due to the pollen. Yep, Island Time is one of them, but she is in for some cosmetic work, a little nip and tuck, and then a well deserved spa day, okay spa days.

As for PWYC cruises, the PWYC Mother's Day cruise, to the DC Wharf, is right around the corner (6-7 May). Planning is underway for 10 boats on the float plan and slip assignments. We always have a great time up there as there are numerous places to go and things to do. It's a few blocks from the National Mall for those who like a little trek and the new location for the International Spy Museum is just a 12 minute walk.

Our next cruise is the PWYC Memorial Day Raft up at Mattawoman on 26-28 May. Mike Manning will be championing this event as he wants to learn the ins and outs of coordinating a raft up. He will have plenty of assistance as he checks off this block in his experience log. This was a suggestion from last year as slips were unavailable and you had to pay for a three day minimum no matter what. Another suggestion was to have an early raft up with experienced captains to provide guidance to those who have never rafted up before. Rafting up can be intimidating especially when asked to drop an anchor or securing lines with other boats. This will benefit the first timers and even the most experienced captains as the unexpected always raises its ugly head.

The PWYC Father's Day cruise to Colonial Beach is planned for the 16-18 June, some have already booked their slips. Please see the flyer in this Life Line. This is a Co-Sponsored event with Prince William Marina and PWYC. Details are forth coming on this cruise.

If you would like to help out on any of the cruises contact the cruise champion or any one on the board and they will gladly take your offer. This is a good way to learn the ins and outs of coordinating a group trip for any occasion by someone who has some experience in contacting marinas, building a float plan, and guiding a flotilla to any given location.

Safety inspections by the Coast Guard Auxiliary have begun and Island Time passed with flying colors. I hope everyone that were getting their vessel inspected on the 8th and 9th didn't have any issues either. I didn't see any walks of shame so maybe that was a good thing. You know that walk, the captain that went to turn on his anchor light and both bulbs were out, or looked at his flares and the expiration date was the week prior to his inspection.

The next dates for vessel safety inspections are 15 April and 13 May. For those that are still needing their boat inspected please pre-check all items on the inspection sheet. There is a check list on the PWYC website to make sure everything on your boat is in good working order according to Coast Guard guidelines.

Below is the list of upcoming trips and with the person championing them. I still need a Champion for two of the cruises. Again, if you would just like to help out on any of the cruise or PWYC events for that matter, please contact the Champion for that cruise or you can contact me at rearcommodore@pwyc.org and I will

assist getting you in touch with the right person. I am working with PWM for the Father's Day cruise. Coordination is underway. Please see the attached flyer. If anyone would like to help coordinate, please contact me as there are a lot of moving parts to this cruise such as activities during the day and potential cook out on one of the evenings.

Be safe and we will see each other on the water soon. Don't forget the land events, as we always need volunteers.

2023 PLANNED CRUISES:

06-07 May PWYC Mother's Day Cruise to the Wharf DC (Scott Parsons Championing)

26-28 May Memorial Day Raft up in Mattawoman Creek (Mike Manning Championing)

16-18 June Father's Day Cruise Colonial Beach Yacht Center (PWM and PWYC) Still working details

15-21 July Bay Cruise (Commodore Rick McHarg)

28-30 July PRYCA Float In at Coles Point (**Need a Champion if PWYC plans to attend**)

18-20 Aug Three Sister's Raft Up (Rick McHarg Championing) Backup date 1-3 September (Labor Day)

16 Sept Patriot Cruise and Salute (PCS Championing)

22-24 Sept Pirates Night on the Hook at Mattawoman Creek (Joint PWM and PWYC) (A Team Effort)



THE PATRIOT CRUISE 2023

The Patriot Cruise provides recuperating veterans and their families a day of boating and camaraderie on the Potomac River, followed by a luncheon and ceremony. Two years ago, the Patriot Cruise expanded its reach and now recognized that law enforcement and first responders serve our nation everyday and very often, suffer greatly. The Patriot Cruise is a way for our community to say “Thank you” to those who serve and protect us at home and abroad.

How can you help?

There are so many opportunities to get involved. Certainly, by hosting our honorees on your boat. But, we will need people to help with set up, meeting the honorees, dock hand, deck hands to assist on the boats and many more tasks.

As the season begins, please mark your calendar for **September 16th** and keep an eye on the coming editions of Lifeline to learn more.





BLESSING of the FLEET

Saturday May 20, 2023

RAIN DATE MAY 21, 2023

12 - 2 P.M.

Blessing Boat Will Be Located at
Belmont Bay Harbor Marina Fuel Dock

Occoquan River Maritime Association proudly presents the
2023 Blessing of the Fleet.

This is a centuries-old tradition where receiving a blessing
from the local Clergy was meant to ensure a safe and
bountiful season.

This is a **FREE EVENT** for all area boaters!
Private, Commercial, Power, Sail, Big or Small!
Each boat will be blessed by Clergy as they pass the
Blessing Boat located at Belmont Bay Marina Fuel Dock.

Boats must be registered to win FREE PRIZES!

LEARN MORE & ENTER TO WIN
www.facebook.com/ORMAblessing

PROUDLY SUPPORTED BY



Holly Acres



HOFFMASTER'S MARINA



BELMONT BAY HARBOR

Historic Town of Occoquan



Experience a Stellar Event from Years Gone By!

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 .

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 , 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.

-Most importantly we will need you to RSVP to Philip and Heidi at: philip.schoepflin@gmail.com as early as possible to commit to participating in this event but **NO LATER THAN June 3rd, 2023**. The event's success depends on commitment of all involved. We will need volunteers to host the second or third course on your boat. Those who do not wish to host for the second or third courses will be asked to bring either an appetizer and cocktail for the first course, or a dessert for the fourth course. Further clarification instructions will be emailed to each participant with regard to their choice course. In your RSVP email, please indicate if you can host a course on your boat, specify which course you prefer to host as well as the number of boaters you can accommodate on your boat.

-QUESTIONS before you commit? Please email us at: philip.schoepflin@gmail.com .

-We will need approximately 20 boats to host in order to make this event successful.

-Once the RSVPs close there cannot be late additions due to the pre-planned invitation logistics involved.

-This evening event is for the adults and to make it work we need to ask that you leave the little mates at home for the evening.

-If you are interested in showing off your boat, showing off your culinary skills, meeting other PWYC'ers, or just showing off your appreciation for finer dining and drinking events, then please email Philip and Heidi at: philip.schoepflin@gmail.com to sign up for the PWYC Progressive Dinner on the Docks on June 24th, 2023. Early RSVPs are encouraged so please sign up today! We need to know well in advance the number of boats, how many guests (including yourselves as hosts) you can host on your boats, and which course they prefer to host. Please be flexible as things will most likely change and update and we want this to be a very smooth event on that day. Semper Gumby (always flexible) is in effect for this event.

RSVPs for this event will close on June 3rd, 2023 to provide enough time to prepare the invitations and give the selected host boats time to plan their culinary delights!

Treasurer

SHERRY SAMAR
IRISH HAWK, H-41



PWYC Treasurer's Report

03/01/2023 – 03/31/2023

INCOME

Dues	\$ 1,300.00
Change of Watch	\$ 930.00
Interest	\$ 0.27

TOTAL INCOME **\$ 2,230.27**

EXPENSES

Embassy Suites for CoW and After Party	\$11,515.59
Table cards and decorations (CoW)	\$ 98.75
CoW Favors	\$ 117.93
CoW Photographer	\$ 400.00
CoW DJ	\$ 739.00
CoW NJROTC Color Guard	\$ 120.00
Gifts for past board members	\$. 83.23
Wild Apricot Expense	\$ 157.50

TOTAL EXPENSES **\$13,605.09**

Checking account balance 04/01/2023 **\$28,648.11**



Ships Manifest

Membership Chair

Una Murphy

membership@pwyc.org



Member Packets will be available for those who have requested them on Opening Day.

If you are unable to pick up your packet on opening day, I will leave your packet in a box in the blue bathhouse for pickup at your convenience. If you did not indicate on your online membership record that you want a membership packet, please send an email to membership@pwyc.org with your request. Then go into your online record and check off the box that says you want a member packet.

The 2023 PWYC Membership Drive Continues!!

Please help me welcome new and renewing Prince William Yacht Club Members (from March 11, 2023 – April 10, 2023; any membership payments received after this date will be listed in the next Lifeline):

Ken and Deborah Campbell

Arthur and Rebecca Fernandes

Gerd Hennsen

Skip and Krysten Jones

Marge Kirby

Jon Marshall

Chris and Kristi Prociuk

James and Vanessa Schondel

Sherman and Ling Vandevender

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

Or

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

PWYC Membership Renewal

c/o Prince William Marina

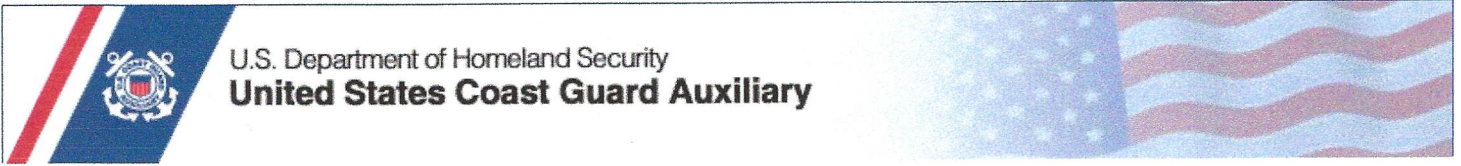
12849 Gordon Boulevard

Woodbridge, VA 22192-3240

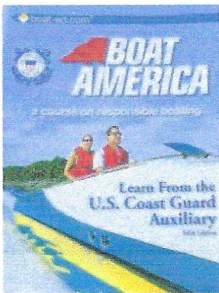
If you know marina friends or dockmates who have not yet renewed, please give them a reminder. If you know marina friends or dockmates who are not members, please recruit them for membership!

BOAT AMERICA

Boating Certificate Class



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.
- **Trailering** – 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, 13 May 2023
Hours: 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM
Duration: 8 Hours
Lessons: 1
Location: Prince William Marina / Electric Palm
12745 Sea Ray Lane
Blue Bath House By River
Woodbridge, VA 22192

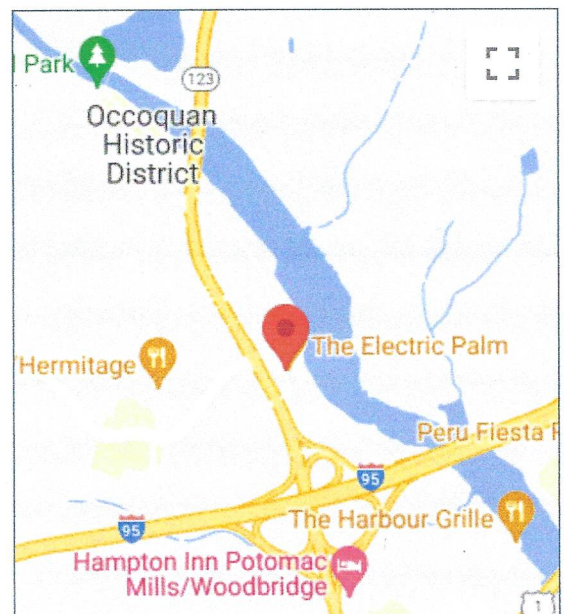
Contact: Teresa Allen
tallen@pwmarina.com
(703) 494-6611

Course Cost: \$35

Register By: Fri, 12 May 2023

Comments: Take Sea Ray Lane down the hill to the bottom & at the stop sign turn left to bathhouse #2 on your right hand side. Class is in big blue bldg next to the pool.

Posted: Wed, 01 Feb 2023



Safety Officer

Bob Swartz



Another Boating Season Starts—Some Things To Think About

As the pollen fills the air and our lungs, it can only mean one thing...boating season is upon us. Everyone is anxious to get dewinterized or maybe those last few pre-season projects completed. But, in our haste, it's important that we slow down and think about how to actually prepare for a safe season.

When you mention "Safety" to most people, eye begin to roll. A chorus of "yeah, yeah, yeah, whatever" echoes across marinas everywhere. But, the truth is, boating is inherently dangerous and the time to think about its dangers and how to do some risk reduction, is not in the middle of the emergency.

A. From The Latest USCG Recreational Boating Statistics

- In calendar year 2021 the USCG counted 4,439 accidents that involved 658 deaths. Most incidents occurred during benign weather conditions: calm waters, no or light wind, and good visibility.
- Where cause of death was known, 81% of fatal boating accident victims drowned. Of those drowning victims with reported life jacket usage, 83% were not wearing a life jacket. It is the responsibility of each boat captain to follow the rules of Virginia, Maryland, and the District of Columbia regarding the wearing of personal flotation devices for children 13 years and under.
- It critical to wear a life jacket when underway as it may be difficult to don one in an emergency. The life jackets should be serviceable, properly sized, correctly fastened, and suitable for the activity."
- Alcohol continued to be the leading known contributing factor in fatal boating accidents in 2021, accounting for 86 deaths, or 16 percent of total fatalities.
- Operator inattention, operator inexperience, improper lookout, machinery failure and excessive speed ranked as the top five primary contributing factors in accidents.
- Where boating instruction was known, 75 percent of deaths occurred on vessels where the operator had not received boating safety instruction.
- The most common vessel types involved in reported accidents were open motorboats, personal watercraft, and cabin motorboats.
- Where vessel type was known, the vessel types with the highest percentage of deaths were open motorboats (44 percent), kayaks (15 percent), and pontoons (10 percent). This is the second time that pontoon vessels ranked in the top three.

<https://coastguardnews.com/coast-guard-releases-2021-recreational-boating-statistics/>

<https://www.uscgboating.org/library/accident-statistics/Recreational-Boating-Statistics-2021.pdf>

B. When Entering & Leaving The Marina Fairways

- The purpose is to make the Occoquan River as safe as possible for everyone who uses it. It is not to point a finger but to accept the responsibilities imposed on each of us.
- The following have been determined to be vessels by the Coast Guard, the lead agency in determining what is and is not a vessel.

- Human-powered craft such as kayaks and stand-up paddleboards.
- A person drifting down the river on a tree trunk.
- Someone floating down the river on an inner tube.
- Any motor-powered craft.
- Simply put in Rule 2 of the published Rules of Navigation (COLREGS), every vessel has equal rights to use the Occoquan according to the rules of the road. No vessel, motor driven, wind-driven, or human-power-driven is automatically given the right of way over any other vessel.
- Inland General Rule 2 Responsibility: Nothing in the Rules exonerate any vessel, or the owner, master, or crew from the consequences of any neglect to comply with these Rules or of the neglect of any precaution which may be required by the ordinary practice of seamen, or by the special circumstances of the case. In construing and complying with these Rules due regard shall be had to all dangers of navigation and collision and to any special circumstances, including the limitations of the vessels involved, which may make a departure from these Rules necessary to avoid immediate danger.
- It is not wise to read the Rules of the Road as if each were in a vacuum. Each encounter may bring its own set of circumstances.

<https://www.navcen.uscg.gov/sites/default/files/pdf/navRules/navrules.pdf>

C. The New Virginia Move Over/Slow Down Law

- By all reports, the Virginia Move Over/Slow Down Law will be enforced.
- As of this writing Tow BoatUS and SeaTow are included under the Virginia Move Over/Slow Down Law.
- 4VAC15-390-85. Operators to give right-of-way and reduce speed.
 “Every motorboat, when approaching or passing within 200 feet of any law-enforcement vessel or emergency services vessel that is displaying flashing blue or red lights shall slow to no wake speed so that the effect of the wake does not disturb the activities of law-enforcement personnel or emergency services personnel. Where the operator of a motorboat fails to comply with the provisions of this section and such failure endangers the life or limb of any person or endangers or damages vessels, the operator shall be guilty of a Class 3 misdemeanor. Upon conviction, the operator shall additionally be required to complete and pass a National Association of State Boating Law Administrators approved safe boating course as required in § 29.1-746 of the Code of Virginia.”
- Everyone is on their own while using the narrow Occoquan Channel or the no wake zone when coming upon a covered vessel.

Webmaster

Mike Manning
Aquatini, E-dock



Ahoy PWYC, it's been a great learning experience as we just leveled up our IT infrastructure to be able to manage a club our size (and not take valuable boating time away)

Hopefully, you are enjoying the changes

- . New content on the home page every few days (some links you do have to login)
- . Access to Lifeline, without login, so you can read it almost anywhere
- . Mariner/Safety notices/Around the marina available without login

The membership profiles and event details are **our most critical data**, and the most important to protect. That's why it's within the database behind firewalls and passwords. Cybersecurity is only as strong as its weakest link, so please help keeping our data protected with strong passwords, print only what you must, and when done with the paper, please shred. **As a gentle reminder, the information is for PWYC members use only, cannot be shared, or used for commercial purposes**

Looking forward to seeing you or meeting you on the docks or river

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



The Blue Angels Are Coming



Back in 2008, Bernadette and I were members in a boat club. We weren't sure what we wanted to buy and the club was a neat way to figure it out. In May of that year, we heard about the Blue Angels show in Annapolis, and as luck would have it, our club had a location on the South River.

So, we called some friends and headed over. It's funny how time has a way of making you look back and wonder, "how in the world did I think I was ready to do that??" We arrived at our club, secured the keys to a Sea Ray 290DA and headed out. Before long, we were in the thick of it. Not the weather, but the Annapolis Basin. There were boats EVERYWHERE. We found a spot, dropped the hook and could not believe what we saw. More than what we saw, but from the vantage point. We were anchored off the US Naval Academy. It was simply amazing.

Fast forward to May 2022, I'm now working on the water in Annapolis. I'm assigned as Crew on the largest boat in the company fleet, 120'. We made our way out, with a private party charter and stopped in, what we realized was the perfect spot. Literally, thousands of boats filled in around us. There were charter boats, big boats, little boats, police and fire boats. And then...there was Fat Albert.

The arrival of Fat Albert could only mean the Angels weren't far behind. When the first pair of F18 Super Hornet's screamed past, at what appeared to be a million miles per hour, I was suddenly a kid again. We all were. For 45 minutes, we gazed into the heavens and watched in awe. Sitting here at the keyboard, the words to describe what I felt are as hard to come by now as they were then.

When the show was over and the Fat Albert "sang", the basin erupted in a chorus of airhorns, that I'll bet even the pilots could hear. Then, as if dismissed by rows, the thousands of spectators lifted anchor and in no time, were gone. Ego Alley, of course, never changes. Our big boat made it back to the City Dock. I met up with my wife, who had been aboard another boat. We instantly said, "We gotta do this next year on our boat." And we will.

The Blue Angels are coming back to Annapolis this year. If you get a chance to go, you absolutely should go. You can listen to the broadcast of the show, I'm told it's on AM1300 radio. (Hopefully, it's also streaming

somewhere). Bring the family. Come by yourself. Annapolis comes alive during Commissioning Week and it's a very moving event to experience.....especially by boat.

It may look intimidating, but the Annapolis Harbor boats and other first responders do a great job of helping you find your way safely.

The following information comes from the City of Annapolis website:

Practice Day: May 23rd, 2023

Around 10:30 am: The restricted zone in the Severn River is closed to all unauthorized traffic.

Around 2:00 pm: Practice air show begins.

Around 4:00 pm: Once the all-clear is given, the Severn River will be open to all vessel traffic.

Show Day: May 24th, 2023

Around 1:30 pm: The restricted zone in the Severn River is closed to all unauthorized traffic.

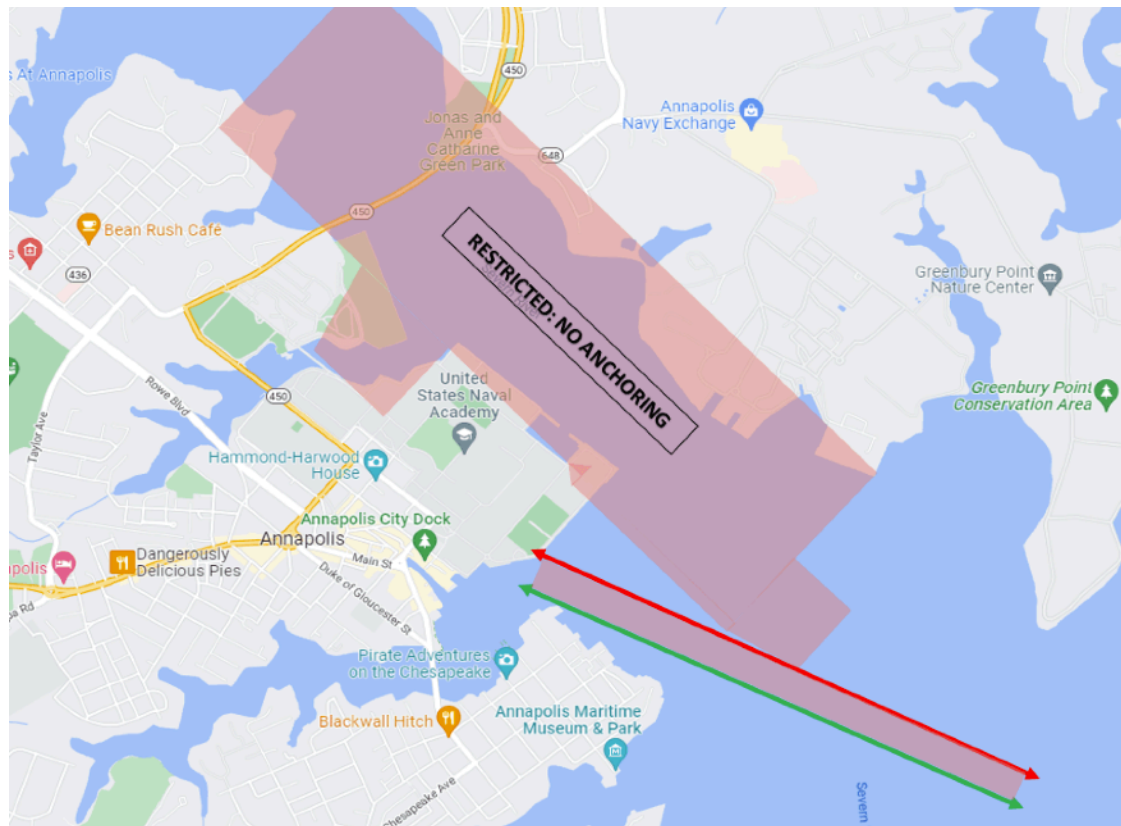
Around 2:00 pm: Air show begins.

Around 4:00 pm: Once the all-clear is given, the Severn River will be open to all vessel traffic.

There will be a temporary channel in place marked with red and green buoys. This channel MUST be kept clear of anchored boats throughout the duration of the shows. You will be moved if you are anchored in this zone.

See the map below that will show the temporary zones that will be in place for the few days during the event.

Anchoring is only allowed outside of these red restricted zones. The best places to anchor are off of Greenbury Point by Carr Creek, or on the other side of the flight box closer to the Rt. 50 Bridge.



From the editor's desk



It's hard to believe that I'm approaching two years as the editor of Lifeline. It's really been a lot of fun trying to put together a newsletter that is informative and engaging. A newsletter that I hope, has been entertaining for the PWYC membership.

But, my time is coming to an end and the search is on for a NEW Lifeline Editor. Bernadette and I will be leaving the area for who knows how long. We're planning to use this summer to get used to living aboard our board, as we cruise the Chesapeake Bay. I'm working on the water in Annapolis, again this year. Taking on more responsibility and having a ball. At the end of the season, we're planning to point the bow south and chase 80 degrees all winter.

Which means, Lifeline will need some new blood. Someone to make it better. So, if you're interested at all, please let me know.

Robin D