

THE LUBBER'S LINE

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January-February 2023

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

<i>Commander's Message</i>	2
<i>Who's Who</i>	2
<i>In Memoriam</i>	4
<i>Administrative Dept.</i>	5
<i>Education Dept.</i>	7
<i>Secretary's Dept</i>	8
<i>2023 Change of Watch Registration</i>	9
<i>2023 Nominations</i>	10
<i>2023 Annual Cruise Info</i>	11
<i>Boating Safety</i>	12
<i>ABCW Birthdays</i>	13
<i>Calendar</i>	14

Finally . . . together!

A most fun **Holiday Social** was thoroughly enjoyed by 25 members of our boating club, **America's Boating Club Wilmington (ABCW)**. Held at the lovely, decorated home of Ewa Papiez in Hockessin, members gathered to enjoy an afternoon of socializing, libation, and the always entertaining Holiday Swap gift exchange. Due to thoughtful purchasing and the variety of items, some gifts were swapped two or three times after opening! Bev Wilson, who pulled number one, had gifts stolen at least four times, but was able to steal back her beloved Christmas throw at the end of the swap! The social was a warm and wonderful start to the Holidays with like-minded friends!



Our Hostess



All Together Again



Gift Swap



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**COMMANDER'S
MESSAGE**
Richard Butler

HAPPY NEW YEAR!!

Well, 2022 is over and gone. As we all tell each other every year each one appears to go by faster than the one before. Now it's time to start all over again. A slate of nominees for each of the Club's elected positions has been developed by The Nominating Committee. The list can be found on page 10. Many of the names are familiar, but several of our new members have stepped up and offered to use their valuable time and skills to help manage the administrative side of the Club.

In addition, **John Schleicher** has volunteered to take over the Club Webmaster position. Our website has always (for at least the past 20 years) been critical to communications among ourselves and the outside public. We need to thank **John Ross** for the many years he served as our Treasurer, Webmaster and general go to IT guy. John, you'll be greatly missed. Enjoy the many pleasures of Florida. In the same area, **Terry Butler** has taken over coordination of our Facebook Page and already has updated and refreshed it. Please take a look at "www.facebook.com/America'sBoatingClub-Wilmington".

Formal election of our elected positions will be held at our Annual Meeting after the presentation at our February Founders' Day Social. Installation of those elected will be at our Change of Watch ceremony at Schaefer's Canal House on Sunday, March 12. This will be our first (of hopefully many) face to face get-together of 2023. It would be a pleasure to see as many of you there as possible.

On November 4th and 5th Bill Barber and I attended the ABC-Mid-Atlantic Region Fall Conference. There we made contact with fellow commanders and education officers to exchange information and ideas. A number of awards were presented to the clubs that have exceeded various metrics over the past year.



Bill was awarded a certificate for attaining **Educational Proficiency**, by completing advanced grades through Advanced Piloting or higher and at least three of the elective courses. ABC Wilmington was awarded the HENRY E. SWEET EXCELLENCE IN EDUCATION TROPHY as the club which has shown the greatest percentage increase in completion of the Advanced Grades and Elective Courses over the previous year. In addition, due to the hard work of Bill and Randy Williamson (and those who took their classes) we were presented the **District Workboat Award** as the club that has done the most work in teaching members in both elective and advanced courses, based on the total number of members that have completed these courses. We received an additional certificate for 2nd place in the Commanders Award for Elective Courses. I congratulate and thank everyone involved in these activities on their achievement.



*We're still looking for a volunteer to Edit this newsletter.
Please contact [Chris Atkinson](#) if you'd like to help!*

In Memoriam
P/C Bill O. Moody, AP



P/C Bill O. Moody, AP, age 92, passed on November 11, 2022 in his residence at Maris Grove in Glen Mills, Pa. Bill's involvement with United States Power Squadrons dates back to 1975 when he and wife Carol joined Wilmington Power Squadron (WPS), now America's Boating Club Wilmington. The family was active, participating in most of the varied boating related activities sponsored by WPS. In post-boating years, he could be readily prompted into sharing some interesting tales relating to the family's "life and times" aboard the family trawler, "Tuffy", on the Chesapeake.

In 1986-1987, he became the Commander of WPS. Bill, by virtue of his year after year of squadron involvement, became quite knowledgeable of our National Organization, the District 5 functions, and, of course, the people and workings of WPS. His sage inputs were, at certain junctions of our history, invaluable. Bill earned 32 Merit Marks and was awarded a Life Membership for his years of participation and the Educational Proficiency Award. His wife Carol supported him, his involvement, and all things WPS throughout his 47-year voyage.

Our sincerest condolences to Carol and daughter Kim.

P/C C. David Sharpless, AP



Administrative Department
Carol Hanson

America's Boating Club – Wilmington Socials – Jan and Feb 2023

50th Anniversary of Hurricane Agnes, January 6, 2023 on Zoom

ABC-Wilmington is looking forward to our January speaker, author Gary Letcher. Please join us on **Friday, January 6, 2023**, via Zoom. The **social will begin at 6:30 pm** and the presentation at 7 pm.

June 2022 marked the 50th anniversary of Hurricane Agnes, a storm that brought the most rain and wreaked the worst damage in U.S. history up to its time. In the Mid-Atlantic, Agnes remains the storm against which all others will forever be compared. Do you remember where you were? *Bold Forecast--The Hurricane Agnes Deluge*, a new book by Gary Letcher, tells the Agnes story as a compelling narrative, reminding us of the power of Nature – and the power of ordinary people in the face of epic catastrophe.

Agnes raged up from Florida through Virginia, Maryland, and southeastern Pennsylvania, bringing almost every river and stream to its record flood. Dozens of people were killed, thousands of homes and businesses were destroyed, and damages ran into many millions. Yet as powerfully as Agnes punched to the south, she saved her strongest blows for the Susquehanna River basin. Fed by an unforeseen deluge in that river's remote headwaters, the worst of the Agnes floods caught forecasters and riverside communities by surprise in a 400-mile rampage from the Finger Lakes of upstate New York to Maryland's Chesapeake Bay.

Bold Forecast unfolds like a novel. Tales of courage, loss and survival are woven together by the story of scientists who struggled to predict the path of disaster even as their equipment washed away around them. Founded on meticulous research, *Bold Forecast* is the first beginning-to-end telling of this timeless saga of Man vs. Nature. Agnes became a hurricane the very day of the Watergate break-in. Throughout, *Bold Forecast* is set against a backdrop of current events, politics, and popular culture.

Author Gary Letcher was studying geology at the University of Maryland at the time of the Agnes floods. For many years, Letcher practiced environmental law in the Washington DC area and for six years he has taught in UD's OLLI (Osher Life Long Learning - Lewes) where he strives to make class fun and engaging for all participants

His other books include *Waterfalls of the Mid-Atlantic States* (WW Norton, 2005) and *A Paddler's Guide to the Delaware River* (Rutgers Univ. Press, 1985, 1999, 2012).

The Raising of the USS Monitor, February 10, 2023 on Zoom

On March 9, 1862, USS Monitor, prototype of a new class of armored warships, fought the Confederate ironclad CSS Virginia at Hampton Roads, Virginia, only a day after the Virginia had ravaged the Union fleet blockading the James River.

In the world's first clash between iron-armored warships, the Monitor and Virginia exchanged gunfire at close range for nearly four hours. The events at Hampton Roads changed the world's navies. After centuries of dominating battles at sea, wooden, sail-powered warships would be rendered obsolete. Iron, steam power, and heavy guns in rotating turrets were now the means to wage naval warfare. The harbinger of that change did not last long, however. Less than nine months later, the now-famous Monitor was under tow, heading south to Beaufort, North Carolina, when, in heavy seas, the vessel sank, taking sixteen of its crew with it.

On our **ABCW Zoom Social on February 10th**, we look forward to a presentation by John Broadwater, Maritime Archaeologist. Dr. Broadwater was the National Mariners Museum Curator and the Chief Archaeologist on the 2001 USS Monitor Project. We will learn about the successful efforts to recover, conserve, and exhibit key components from the famous Civil War ironclad warship. Additionally, Dr. Broadwater helped to create the Maritime Heritage Program within NOAA's Office of National Marine Sanctuaries. A fascinating story, Dr. Broadwater is author of the book *USS Monitor: A Historic Ship Completes Its Final Voyage*.

Please keep an eye out for the Punchbowl invitations for these two interesting presentations!



Recovery of USS Monitor Turret



Education Department
Bill Barber

Announcement:

Advanced Piloting – Winter 2023

Our boats are on the hard, the holidays will soon be behind us, and you will need to fill your time during the winter months. What better time to enhance your boating skills? You now have the opportunity to take Advanced Piloting (AP) from our acclaimed navigation instructor Randy Williamson with occasional assistance from myself. Classes will be via Zoom on Tuesday evenings from 7 - 9pm, starting on Tuesday, January 31st (no class on Valentine's Day!). Exams will be distributed on April 11th and returned a week later. All sessions will be recorded, so if you can't make one or more of the Tuesday night classes, you can still review any of the classes to keep up during the course.

You should seriously consider taking or auditing Advanced Piloting if:

- You completed the Piloting course in the Spring of 2022.
- It's been more than five years since you took AP – keep your skills fresh!
- You have taken ASA's or USCG's navigation courses but not the USPS Piloting course in the past (I took AP ten years before I challenged the Piloting exam because I had taken several other navigation courses).
- You have completed Piloting ANY time in the past.
 - Did you complete Piloting years ago and think that it's been too long to try to take AP now? Think again! One of our members recently took and passed AP thirty-eight (38!) years after completing the Piloting course. Randy and I are committed to helping anyone refresh their basic charting skills to prepare for AP.

You should have received an email on December 15th with details on the course content, a class schedule and syllabus, instructions on how to register, and the fee(s) for the course and any materials you might need. Please email me at education@abc-wilmington.com ASAP to reserve a "seat" in this class if you are interested. We will be limiting the number of students in this class.



Secretary's Department
Chris Atkinson

Congratulations to our 18 Merit Mark Awardees for 2022!

Merit Marks are the only formal recognition given by our club and the national organization for volunteering your personal time to make our club a success. And it has paid off! New events to attend, like the Sultana cruise; nine new members with which to share our boating knowledge and favorite cruising destinations; restart of our advanced and elective education course offerings; and favorites, like our annual June cruise, the photo contest and great speakers at our social events all attest to your volunteerism. So, please consider getting involved if you are not already.

If you have an interest, tell any member of the Bridge or Executive Committee and we will make a suggestion on how to get involved. And for those that have already volunteered to help in new ways, thank you so much! Remember to keep track of your 2023 hours and activities so you can tell Chris Atkinson, Secretary, all about it in your submittal that will be due on November 1, 2023.

March 12, 2023: Our Change of Watch in Person at Schaeffer's Canal House!

Mark this important date and time on your calendar: March 12, 2023, Noon. There will be fantastic food and fellowship with your ABCW members and the swearing in (not at) of the 2023 - 2024 Bridge, Executive Committee, and Chairs of the Auditing, Nomination and Rules Committees.

You will find the registration form in this newsletter. Additionally, a Punchbowl invitation will appear in your inbox soon. But here are the highlights:

Food: **Soup:** Maryland Crab Vegetable Soup; **Salad:** Fresh Greens, Garden Veggies, and Balsamic Vinaigrette; **Entrees:** Sauteed Chicken Breast topped with Lemon Cream Butter AND Cheese Ravioli with Marinara Sauce; **Sides:** Roasted Red Potatoes and Green Beans; Rolls, Butter; **Dessert:** Warm Apple Pie ala Mode (vanilla ice cream); and **beverages** (non-alcoholic).

A Cash Bar will be available.

Join us at noon, eat at 12:30 pm and the program will commence at 1:30 pm.

It is \$42 per person, payable in advance by March 1, 2023. Checks are payable to WSPS and mailed to our treasurer, Bill Barber, 11 Hill Crest Drive, Landenberg, PA 19350-9505.

AND PICK UP YOUR YEARBOOK AND FANCY MAGNETIC NAME TAGS AT THIS EVENT!



Fun, Friends...and Better Boating!
America's Boating Club ~ Wilmington



CHANGE OF WATCH - Sunday, 12 March 2023

Schaefer's Canal House

208 Bank Street, Chesapeake City, MD 21915

Soup: Maryland Crab Vegetable Soup

Salad: Fresh Greens, Garden Vegetables with Balsamic Vinaigrette

**Entrees: Chicken Francoise: Sauteed Chicken Breast Topped with Lemon Cream Butter
 Cheese Ravioli on Marinara Sauce**

Served with Roasted Red Skin Potatoes and Green Beans, Rolls and Butter, Coffee, Iced tea and Soda.

Dessert: Warm Apple Pie a la mode (vanilla)

**Doors open at 1200 to socialize with friends. Drinks may be purchased from the bar.
 Pick up your yearbook and name tags at the door!**

BUFFET – 1230

CHANGE OF WATCH CEREMONY – 1330

RESERVATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED NO LATER THAN MARCH 1, 2023

**Please make your reservation on Punchbowl, and send check payable to
WSPS to:**

**William Barber
 11 Hill Crest Drive
 Landenberg, PA 19350-9505**

WILMINGTON SAIL and POWER SQUADRON

CHANGE OF WATCH

Sunday, 12 March 2023

Names of Attendees: _____

@ \$42.00 per Person _____

AMERICA'S BOATING CLUB WILMINGTON 2023 - 2024 Nominations

The following is a listing of fellow members and the respective responsibilities each has agreed to assume for Bridge Year 2023 - 2024 if elected.

Bridge

Commander	P/C Richard A. Butler, JN
Executive Officer	VACANT
Administrative Officer	P/C J. Carol Hanson, P
Education Officer	William E. Barber, AP
Assistant Education Officer	W. Randy Williamson, SN
Secretary	Chris A. Atkinson, AP
Assistant Secretary	VACANT
Treasurer	William E. Barber, AP

Executive Committee General Members

P/C Mark C. Atkinson, AP
John H. Bailey, AP
Lynn A. Mahaffy, JN
John E. Schleicher, P
One position VACANT

Nominating Committee

Chair:	Betty K. Ingram, P
Members:	P/C Dennis M. Wallace, AP Bart H. Wilson

Rules Committee

Chair:	P/C Donna F. Zimmerman, N
Member:	P/C Mark C. Atkinson, AP

Auditing Committee

Chair:	Justin Doheny, S
Member:	P/C Daniel Gorman, AP

The ratifying vote by General Membership will take place at the
FOUNDERS' DAY SOCIAL ZOOM ON FEBRUARY 10, 2023 1830 HRS

Respectfully submitted for membership consideration by the

2022-2023 Nominating Committee

The ABC-Wilmington Annual Cruise is Scheduled for Friday, June 9 to Saturday June 17, 2023

Even with our winter weather it is time to be thinking of the 2023 Boating Season!

The 2023 ABCW Cruise Committee has laid out the itinerary for our June cruise. It adopted some popular destinations from past cruises. A two-day stop at Oxford this year with some organized or free time is a nod to the two-day stay at St. Michaels that was popular last year. Our team members are actively checking on availability of marinas, catering and dining options.

Note: As this cruise is a little longer (134 nm) than our average cruise distance, the Committee decided to start one day earlier. The Commander's Kick-off at North Point Marina will be on **Friday evening** and boats will depart the next day.

Here are some details:

- 6/09 Commander's Kick-off - Friday at North Point Marina.
- 6/10 Rhode River (23nm) – Assigned Raft-ups with a shared menu.
- 6/11 Herrington Harbor South Marina (13nm) – Dinner on your own. Pavilion breakfast the next morning.
- 6/12 Hudson Creek, Little Choptank River (22nm) – Assigned Raft-ups with a shared menu.
- 6/13 Safe Harbor Oxford Marina (20nm) - (formerly Mear's Marina)
- 6/14 Safe Harbor Oxford Marina (0nm) - Awards banquet at a restaurant in Oxford.
- 6/15 Dunn Cove, Harris Creek (12nm) - Assigned Raft-ups with a shared menu.
- 6/16 Mill Creek, Whitehall Bay (30nm) – Assigned Raft-ups with a shared menu or Cantler's.
- 6/17 Return to Rock Hall (15nm) - End of Cruise

A general email has been sent to those who participated in last year's cruise. The e-mail requests a reply about tentative interest in joining the 2023 cruise and solicits ideas about what members might want to do and see. If someone was inadvertently left off the email distribution they can contact anyone on the Cruise Committee.

Registration forms will be available by the end of January. We will be looking for people to assist with dinghy activities, possible sail rallies etc..

All members of America's Boating Club - Wilmington are encouraged to join us for the Commander's Kick off and any other cruise events! Visiting us at the Kick-off or in Oxford is one way to participate - no need for a boat.

The annual cruise is a signature event of the Squadron. It has morphed many times in its 50+ years. The memories, comradery and just fun boating make it very special. We look forward to seeing as many of you as possible.

Many thanks to all on the 2023 Cruise Committee: Laura and Wayne Hepting, Bev and Bart Wilson, Co-Chairs Leslie Brower, Bruce Wyngaard and Colleen and John Schleicher.

[P/C Bruce Wyngaard, N: 2023 Cruise Co-Chair](#)



Boating Safety News

The following is taken from the US Coast Guard Website:
<https://uscgboating.org/recreational-boaters/boating-under-the-influence.php>
See the website for additional information.

BUI is just as deadly as drinking and driving!

Did you know?:

- A boat operator is likely to become impaired more quickly than a driver, drink for drink?
- The penalties for BUI can include large fines, revocation of operator privileges and serious jail terms?
- The use of alcohol is involved in about a third of all recreational boating fatalities?

Every boater needs to understand the risks of boating under the influence of alcohol or drugs (BUI). It is illegal to operate a boat while under the influence of alcohol or drugs in every state. The Coast Guard also enforces a federal law that prohibits BUI. This law pertains to ALL boats (from canoes and rowboats to the largest ships) and includes foreign vessels that operate in U.S. waters, as well as U.S. vessels on the high seas.

Tips for Avoiding BUI

Boating, fishing and other water sports are fun in their own right. Alcohol can turn a great day on the water into the tragedy of a lifetime.

Consider these alternatives to using alcohol while afloat:

- Take along a variety of cool drinks, such as sodas, water, iced tea, lemonade or non-alcoholic beer.
- Bring plenty of food and snacks.
- Wear clothes that will help keep you and your passengers cool.
- Plan to limit your trip to a reasonable time to avoid fatigue. Remember that it's common to become tired more quickly on the water.
- If you want to make alcohol part of your day's entertainment, plan to have a party ashore at the dock, in a picnic area, at a boating club, or in your backyard. Choose a location where you'll have time between the fun and getting back into your car or boat.
- If you dock somewhere for lunch or dinner and drink alcohol with your meal, wait a reasonable time (estimated at a minimum of an hour per drink) before operating your boat.
- Having no alcohol while aboard is the safest way to enjoy the water. Intoxicated passengers are also at risk of injury and falls overboard.

Spread the word on the dangers of BUI. Many recreational boaters forget that a boat is a vehicle - and that safe operation is a legal and personal responsibility.

ABCW Birthdays January - February



Let's Celebrate the January and February Birthdays

January Birthdays

<u>Gorman, Daniel</u>	<u>Jan/01</u>
<u>Hertig, Jeanne</u>	<u>Jan/01</u>
<u>Harra, Robert</u>	<u>Jan/02</u>
<u>Radcliff, Lois</u>	<u>Jan/02</u>
<u>Mayhue, Kathy</u>	<u>Jan/05</u>
<u>Netting, David</u>	<u>Jan/21</u>
<u>Maher, Patricia</u>	<u>Jan/28</u>

February Birthdays

<u>Hepting, Wayne</u>	<u>Feb/2</u>
<u>Richardson, Francis</u>	<u>Feb/12</u>
<u>Russell, Jeffrey</u>	<u>Feb/12</u>
<u>Erlichman, Paul</u>	<u>Feb/13</u>
<u>Schleicher, Colleen</u>	<u>Feb/17</u>
<u>Walton, James</u>	<u>Feb/19</u>
<u>Hepting, Laura</u>	<u>Feb/20</u>

Visit us on the web at:

<http://abc-wilmington.com/>

The Lubber's Line is a publication of America's Boating Club Wilmington published the first week of January, March, May, August, and November.

Calendar of Events January/February 2023
<http://abc-wilmington.com/>
 Weekly Luncheons on Wednesday: 12:00
 Seasons Pizza, 3901 Concord Pike, Wilm., DE



06 Jan.	1830	ABC Wilmington Social Via Zoom
18 Jan.	1900	ABC Wilmington Executive Committee Meeting Via Zoom
10 Feb.	1830	ABC Wilmington Annual Meeting & Founders' Day Social Via Zoom
15 Feb.		Deadline for March/April Lubber's Line Material
15 Feb.	1900	ABC Wilmington Executive Committee Meeting Via Zoom
19-26 Feb.		USPS Annual Meeting Rosen Plaza, 9700 International Drive Orlando, FL

Join us for weekly luncheons each
 Wednesday @ 12:00

At Seasons Pizza 3901 Concord Pike
 Wilmington, DE 19803



On Wed. Nov. 16 we were joined at our weekly luncheon by Gerry Walker, Chester Gibson and Joe Donia (front row, left to right). Between them they have over 140 years of club membership, 2 Life Memberships & 68 Merit Marks. Chester is leaving the area to be closer to family outside of Delaware, while Gerry and Joe continue to be active members.