

THE LUBBER'S LINE

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August-September 2026

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See page 5 for photos of ABC Wilmington's 2026 June Cruise.

Page 4 lists fun activities scheduled for the next 2 months.

Page 10 shares information on a member benefit that you didn't know was available.

ABC Willington Cruise 2026



Cruise Raftups

The America's Boating Club Wilmington Summer Cruise 2026 was a resounding success, giving everyone a relaxed, enjoyable, and memorable experience on the Bay. This year's cruise offered a nice balance of anchorage raft-ups and marina stays, with six boats and seventeen people participating. The itinerary included three well-protected anchorages and two marinas, where members gathered for happy hours, shared meals, and plenty of good conversation. **(cont. on page 5)**



Calvert Marine Museum, Solomons MD (from Back Creek)

Bridge Officers

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Volunteer Greatly Desired.



Photos From 2026 Cruise provided by ABCW Members



COMMANDER'S MESSAGE

Cdr Justin E. Doheny, S

As I write this, smoke from Minnesota and Canadian wildfires, has begun to infiltrate our area. Another blow to a summer of heat waves, thunderstorms and hurricane-like winds. All in all, this has not been a boater's dream summer. But the Chesapeake is perhaps at its most beautiful in the early Fall. I look forward to time on the water in the cool winds of September and October.

In the meantime, congratulations are in order to Bill Barber and John Bailey for an outstanding ABC-3 class conducted in late June and early July. The class was conducted in partnership with the New Castle Sailing Club, utilizing their clubhouse. In total, 22 students enrolled, with 17 passing, and 2 did not complete the class. This successful class took place despite one of our worst heat waves, and in a building that did not have air conditioning! Congrats to Bill and John, and all those who took the course, quite an accomplishment! Our thanks also to District 5 Immediate Past Education Officer, John O'Reily for his help in making this course possible.

Remember, safety in the water starts with wearing your PFD and using those bilge blowers! See you around the Bay.

Justin Doheny

Commander



Lady Jane



Administrative Department

P/C Carol J. Hanson, AP

ABCW Flea Market Marketing Event

After weeks of planning and tirelessly clearing out basements, America's Boating Club Wilmington members eagerly hosted their Nautical Flea Market in June at Rock Hall's North Point Marina. Sellers included Joan and Bill Barber, who also displayed Betty and John Ingrams' treasurers.

Richard Butler, Jeff and Cindy Capaldi, slip holder Greg Clement, Bart Wilson, Gail and Peter Weintraub, Carol Hanson and Dennis Wallace, and Donna and Bill Zimmerman also provided treasures for sale or give away. Flyers announcing the Flea Market were distributed two weeks prior to a dozen Rock Hall locations including marinas, grocery, hardware and liquor stores and restaurants. Preparations created a treasure trove of goodies including new and "broken in" nautical items.

These included inflatable vests, anchors, wind indicators, GPS and other navigation instruments, charts, fishing rod holders, galley items, including a complete dish set, sail and power boat spare parts and cables, instruments, puzzles, books and many others. Their work was not in vain! Forty to fifty marina and surrounding Rock Hall area folks flooded the flea market making it a success not only for ABCW members, but for those who purchased many marine treasures! Certified Vessel Safety Examiner P/C John Bailey completed several Vessel Safety Checks. Joan Barber designed a delightful nautical raffle basket with items donated by members. Then, Joan won the basket raffle! Funds raised by the nautical raffle basket were donated to the ABCW Education Program. ABCW Education Program information was also displayed. Many thanks to Joan Barber and Carol Hanson for the preparation and planning of the ABCW Flea Market!



Photos provided by ABCW Members

ABCW Upcoming Events

Sunday, September 13, 2026, 2:00 pm – Picnic at John and Beth Stevenson's lovely home on the Elk River. BYO Everything. Grills available. Eight minutes off Route # 213. Keep an eye out for the Punchbowl Invite. Thank you Beth and John!



Stevensons' 2025 BYOE Picnic

Saturday, November 14, 2026, 4:00 to 7:00 pm - ABCW November Social at Country House Performing Arts Center (PAC). Supper will be served. Presentation by members of the Elk Landing Foundation on Elk River Landing's role in the American Revolution. Mark your calendars now! Thank you Susan Williamson for coordinating with Country House, and Beth Stevenson for finding our speaker.

Sunday, December 6, 2026, 3:00 pm - ABCW Holiday Social

Terry and Richard Butler have graciously agreed to host our Holiday Social. Thanks so much Terry and Richard!

As always, many thanks to the Social Committee (Joan Barber, Lynn Mahaffy, Betty Ingram, Beth Stevenson, Susan Williamson and Carol Hanson) for all of their good work in planning our Social Events!

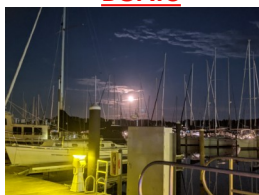
2026 ABCW Photo Contest

The Photo Contest is on for this 2026 Year! When you are on The Chesapeake Bay don't forget to capture your favorite images of

PEOPLE



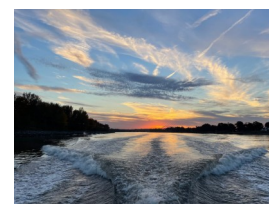
BOATS



SCENIC/WILDLIFE



SUNRISES/SUNSETS



Photos provided by ABCW Members

In past years, you have shown us your talented photographic expertise.

First, second and third place winners will be announced in the November/December Lubber's Line. Please submit up to three photos for each category. Winning photos will be featured on our website, Facebook page and potentially, in SpinSheet magazine. Images are to be about life on the Chesapeake Bay only, where we spend much of our time. Additionally, they should be taken since last year's contest ended: October 1, 2025 through September 31, 2026.

Please send medium-sized pictures. It's OK to send photos in more than one email if one email would be too large to send or receive.

By submitting your images to the Photo Contest Committee, you agree to have your pictures published in the Lubber's Line, on the ABCW Facebook page and Website and possibly, SpinSheet.

Send photo contest images by October 1st to: photocontest@abc-wilmington.com

Show off your photographic skills and impress your fellow ABCW members!

ABC Wilmington 2026 Annual Summer Cruise (cont. from page 1)



Mystic Star explores Back Creek by dinghy

In Solomons, the group stayed at Safe Harbor Zahniser's, enjoying excellent food, comfortable amenities, and time together ashore. One of the highlights was a private educational tour of the Chesapeake Biological Laboratory, personally guided by Dr. Beth Polidoro. Members learned about ongoing efforts to improve the health of the Chesapeake Bay, and the tour concluded with a visit to the soon-to-open visitors center, along with a chance to shop—or, with permission, “loot” a few souvenirs. Special thanks to Bruce Wyngaard for making this outstanding tour possible.



Brio Dinghy Cruise



Skylark on Cruise



John O'Reilly and Crew



Calvert Marine Museum, Solomons MD (from Back Creek)

The cruise wrapped up at Knapps Narrows Marina with a group dinner at Big Mack's Kitchen & Dock Bar. Special thanks go to the cruise committee for all their hard work in planning and organizing this year's event.



Dr. Beth Polidoro, Director of The Chesapeake Biological Laboratory describes the history, facilities and capabilities of the institution

For those members who were unable to join us this year, I encourage you to come along on next year's cruise for more opportunities to learn about the Bay, connect with fellow boating enthusiasts, and have fun along the way.

Thanks, John Bailey, Cruise Chair.



Star Reacher



Secretary's Department

P/C Richard Butler, JN

Dues Renewal

Although member's dues can come up for renewal any month of the year, the majority come due in May, June and July. Many members have already paid their 2026-2027 dues, but a number haven't. I'm in the process of sending a copy of your invoice to you via email with instructions on how to renew your membership in ABC-Wilmington. In the meantime I've included some information from our National organization on the many ways you can renew your membership.

You can now pay dues by logging into the member portal and going to "My account" under your username in the top bar. You will either see a button or hyperlink to renew dues. Email hilly@hq.usps.org if you don't have a log in or if you don't see a link to renew. You can also call headquarters at 888-367-8777 ext. 219 or 229 and our membership staff will renew your dues over the phone. Renewing online or by phone is the easiest way to pay dues.

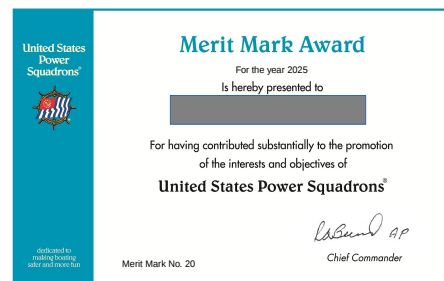
If you have decided not to renew your ABC-Wilmington membership, please send me an email to that effect so I can stop bugging those who just haven't remembered to renew or if you've sent a check to national and it still hasn't been received or been acknowledged by the computer systems.

2026 Merit Marks

ABCW relies on many hands and hearts to keep "floating along". Many members are busy with activities during the warmer months, and it's time to recognize their efforts. Our local club and National would like to thank you! Members can receive one Merit Mark annually for 16 hours of activities or service. Start keeping a log of *your* club activities. We encourage eligible members to submit their activities to show their involvement.

Accepted activities include: committee meetings and assigned work, teaching boating courses and prep work, vessel safety checks, event planning and coordination, serving as an officer or chair, communications work, etc. Keep track of *what you did*, how long it took, and how often. Use *verbs* like planned, attended, taught, coordinated, completed, wrote/submitted, phoned, emailed, etc. If you need help organizing your information, I'll send you a template/table. Contact me at beejstevenson@msn.com for a copy.

Submitted by,
Beth Stevenson
Merit Mark Chair





District News

2026 Summer Cruise:

Various Points on Chesapeake Bay

22-30 Aug, 2026

Past Chief Commander Ralph Bernard will be leading a District wide cruise the week before the Summer Council in Lankford Bay marina. Detailed information on the cruise itinerary and contact information for additional details and joining the cruise can be found [HERE](#)



SAVE THE DATE!

America's Boating Club Mid-Atlantic Summer Council

Start planning now to join us on 28 – 30 August in Rock Hall, Maryland. We'll be staying at Lankford Bay Marina. It's located at the mouth of Davis Creek off Lankford Creek and the Chester River.

We are planning a fun weekend. There will be games as well as multiple social gatherings. Need down time from all this fun? The marina has a great pool overlooking the bay!

We're still finalizing the plans for the weekend. We welcome all ideas for activities! We encourage you to think about getting involved by volunteering to help. We look forward to hearing from you soon. We hope to see you in Rock Hall the last weekend in August!

Georgiana Maszczenski ABC of Annapolis: gmaszczenski@hotmail.com

For more information see our [District Website](#)



Education Department

Lt/C John H. Bailey, AP

Education

I am pleased to announce that we have successfully completed our first ABC3 boating class in several years. This is an important milestone for our education program and a strong step forward in our continued commitment to boating safety and community involvement.

I would like to thank Meg Farrugia, Commodore of the New Castle Sailing Club, for allowing us to use their building to hold the class. We had a total of 22 people sign up, and the course consisted of three, three-hour sessions over three weeks.

The first night was certainly a challenge. We began during a heat wave, and the room was not air conditioned, which made for a rough start. It may have been good if you wanted to lose a few pounds, but it was not ideal for learning. Fortunately, the following two classes were much more comfortable thanks to John O'Reilly and Bill Barber, who brought portable air conditioners and helped make the room a better learning environment.

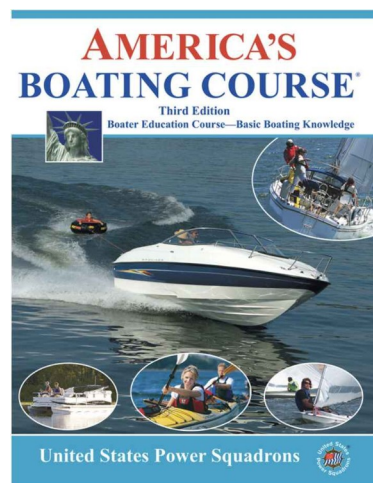
We are already planning to hold another class this fall or possibly in early spring next year. One lesson learned is clear: no more summer classes. We also had to work through many steps to get our class certified in Delaware again, and I want to give a special thanks to Bill Barber and our Commander, Justin, for completing the legwork needed to make that happen.

As we move forward, our priorities remain focused on strengthening boating safety education and growing participation in our organization. We are also looking for members who may be interested in taking one of our advanced classes. Please check our website to see whether any of the listed courses are of interest to you.

If you are interested or have any questions, please reach out to me at education@abc-wilmington.com.

Thanks,

John Bailey SEO



ABC3 Class at New Castle Sailing Club

Boating Safety: New Vessel Definitions

For All Vessel Examiners: New USCG Policy

Per the CG-BSX Policy Letter 22-02, the USCG has established policies **defining Mechanically Propelled Personal Hydrofoils (MPPH, also known as eFoils) and Mechanically Propelled Surfboards (MPS, or jetboards) as vessels**. As such, they are subject to all laws and regulations pertaining to machinery-propelled recreational vessels. Most are electric powered. Nonmotorized hydrofoils are also vessels; while exempt from Certificate of Numbering (CON) requirements, state-level registration laws may apply. For MPPH and MPS, a Hull Identification Number (HIN) and a CON issued by the state of principal operation are strictly required, meeting standard vessel display rules.

Owners and operators must:

- Comply with state numbering requirements (including an active HIN).
- Carry the certificate of number (vessel registration) when underway.
- Carry and/or wear a PFD in accordance with state and federal regulations.
- Carry a fire extinguisher if required (gasoline-powered), unless all persons onboard are wearing a USCG-approved PFD suitable for the activity.
- Carry a sound-producing device.
- Comply with Inland Navigation Rules, including proper lighting at night or during reduced visibility.
- Comply with engine cut-off switch requirements.



Your annual vessel safety check:

- Is a free service offered by America's Boating Club and the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary
- Is part of being a responsible boat operator
- Gives you peace of mind that your recreational boat has all required safety equipment

AMERICA'S BOATING CLUB
UNITED STATES POWER SQUADRONS

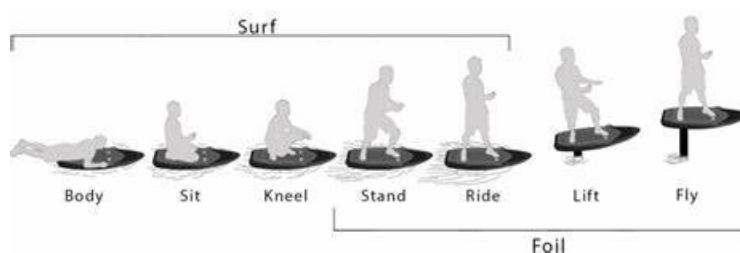
Vessel Safety Checks may be executed using Form 7012 for motorized units, and Form 7012a for non-motorized paddle craft configurations. Click here for more information.



The incredible rise of the electric hydrofoils! | Hydrofoil surfboard ...



Electric Powered Hydrofoil Speed Boat



XFoil 2: The Future of Watercraft is Personal Foiling for Everyone

Your Member Benefits

Take advantage of this FREE on-line seminar to obtain and use FREE Chartplotting software used by Many of your fellow ABCW members and many of ABC's navigation courses. Access [HERE!](#)



Introduction to OpenCPN

\$0.00

OpenCPN is a free chartplotting software, popular among boaters worldwide, and used by America's Boating Club|United States Power Squadrons for teaching courses.

You will learn how to:

- install *OpenCPN*
- download and update charts
- configure chart displays
- create waypoints and routes
- integrate *OpenCPN* with GPS for live navigation

 ADD TO CART

Let's Celebrate the August/September Birthdays

August

Chester Gibson	Aug. 05
Sheri Trueblood	Aug. 06
Wayne Stanford	Aug. 07
John Stevenson	Aug. 07
Barbara Sharpless	Aug. 09
Ronald Crooks	Aug. 20
Rollyn Trueblood	Aug. 23
Joan Barber	Aug. 31

September

Ewa Papiez	Sep. 07
Scott Mayhue	Sep. 10
Bill Theis	Sep. 12
Beverly Wilson	Sep. 14
Gail Russell	Sep. 20
Teresa Butler	Sep. 21
Joseph Donia	Sep. 22
Beth Stevenson	Sep. 27

Calendar of Events August/September 2026

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

2026 AUGUST

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
27	28	29	30	31	01	02
03	04	05	06	07	08	09
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31	01	02	03	04	05	06

August Events

08-09 AUG

ABC Wilmington Raft-up
Contact Scott Mayhue for details

11 AUG 1900

ABC Wilmington Executive Committee Meeting Via Zoom*

28-30 AUG Mid-Atlantic Region Summer Council;
Lankford Bay Marina, Rock Hall MD (see Mark V or
D5 Website for details)

2026 SEPTEMBER

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
31	01	02	03	04	05	06
07	08	09	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	01	02	03	04

*All members are welcome to attend
- email admin@abc-wilmington.com to get a Zoom invite!

September Events

04-07 SEPT

Atlantic City In-Water Power Boat Show
Atlantic City NJ

08 SEPT 1900

ABC Wilmington Executive Committee Meeting
Via Zoom*

12-13 SEPT

ABC Wilmington Raft-up
Contact Scott Mayhue for details

13 SEPT 1600

Bring Your Own Picnic at Stevensons', Eastern Elk River.
See Page 4 for details.

21-26 SEPT

USPS Fall Governing Board Meeting, Raleigh NC



Join us for weekly luncheons

Each Wednesday @ 1200
Seasons Pizza 3901 Concord Pike
Wilmington, DE 19803



Visit us on the web at: <http://abc-wilmington.com/>