

COMMANDER'S COLUMN

Safe Boating through Education is Alive and Appreciated!

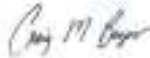
Ahoy there! Ahoy there!

It looks like the summer boating/fishing season has finally got here. Here's wishing everyone a safe and enjoyable summer on the water. We continue to get requests from the public about our safe boating classes. This reaffirms that our mission statement "Safe Boating through Education" is alive and much appreciated by the boating public.

I want to let folks know that we have decided to postpone our annual summer picnic until later in the summer or early fall. We'll discuss potential dates and location at our next scheduled meeting Saturday July 16th at 1:00 in the big room at the Fisherman's Grotto in Charleston. In past years at our summer picnic we have gathered around noon and started eating when the fish and oysters were ready. Stay tuned for more details in the near future.

I'd like to remind everyone that our main fund raising event, the squadron rummage sale, is coming a bit earlier this year, August 12th-14th. Please consider donating some items to the sale and/or some time helping out setting up Monday August 8th at 1000 and staffing the sale August 12th-14th.

Remember together everyone accomplishes more "TEAM!" See you there!



Cdr Craig M Beyer, AP



Operation Dry Water



America's Boating Channel™ is supporting Operation Dry Water's (ODW) boating under the influence (BUI) national heightened awareness and enforcement three-day weekend taking place July 2-4, 2022. America's Boating Channel will highlight a different video each day over the ODW three-day weekend – "DANGERS OF BUI" on July 2, "DISPELLING BUI MYTHS" on July 3, and "BUI FATALITIES" on July 4. The videos will be featured on AmericasBoatingChannel.com and America's Boating Channel on YouTube starting Saturday morning July 2.

Alcohol use is a leading factor in recreational boating fatalities. Since the campaign started in 2009, law enforcement across the nation has removed more than 4,700 impaired operators from waterways, which has prevented dangerous and potentially devastating consequences.

Boating crashes that involve alcohol impairment are both more likely and deadlier for passengers and boat operators. Common alcohol-related accidents can include running aground, colliding with navigation aids or other boats or simply falling overboard. No matter where you are boating, it is illegal to operate a boat under the influence of drugs or alcohol.



Summer Meetings & Events

No regular Squadron meeting, Board meeting July 16 @ Grotto 1PM
RUMMAGE SALE August 12-14
D32 Rendezvous August 19-21 St Helens OR

Operation Dry Water, NASBLA's national boating under the influence awareness and enforcement campaign, works year-round to facilitate increased public awareness of the dangers associated with impaired boating and heightened enforcement of boating under the influence laws. Alcohol consumption while boating is not only dangerous for the operator of the vessel, but also for passengers.

** Impairment can lead to slips, falls overboard, injuries and deaths that could have been prevented. When alcohol is involved, the risk of dying is the same for an impaired operator and an impaired passenger, and for men and women.** This year will be the 14th annual Operation Dry Water heightened awareness and enforcement weekend, taking place nationwide July 2-4. Operation Dry Water provides a variety of free resources for the both law enforcement and outreach partners to use in educating boaters about the dangers of boating under the influence. Local, state and federal law enforcement agencies can register to participate in Operation Dry Water at operationdrywater.org.



The National Association of State Boating Law Administrators (NASBLA) coordinates the Operation Dry Water campaign, in partnership with law enforcement agencies and outreach partners nationwide, through a grant from the Sport Fish Restoration and Boating Trust Fund administered by the U.S. Coast Guard. Operation Dry Water (ODW) is a year-round boating under the influence awareness and enforcement campaign with the mission of reducing the number of alcohol and drug-related incidents and fatalities through increased recreational boater awareness and by fostering a stronger and more visible deterrent to alcohol use on the water.



Hundreds of Thousands of New Boaters and Paddlers Expected Fourth of July Weekend

The Water Sports Foundation expects millions of boaters on the water this Fourth of July weekend. Many may unwittingly engage in unsafe practices such as not wearing lifejackets or overloading their boats.

U.S. Coast Guard data shows safety education and training can greatly reduce the chance of incidents resulting in injuries or fatalities. For boating safety tips, please visit <https://www.water-sports-foundation.com/media/boating-safety-education/>.

"While we are pleased to welcome so many new boaters to the water, we believe it is critical to share important boating safety tips that we know will help reduce incidents and save lives this busy holiday weekend," said Water Sports Foundation Executive Director Jim Eamons. "We're anticipating a

major wave of inexperienced boaters on the water this Fourth of July holiday and we need everyone — our experienced boaters and our newcomers alike — to plan accordingly and be well prepared." The Fourth of July weekend traditionally offers a wealth of alluring activities for boaters including cruising to popular gathering spots with family and friends, rafting up or forming flotillas of multiple boats, dropping anchor to swim, grilling favorite foods and of course, capping the festivities with spectacular fireworks shows.

While these activities are longtime mainstays of the boating lifestyle, Emmons says new boaters need to be educated and reminded to avoid potentially hazardous situations. Common mistakes include failing to carry and wear U.S. Coast Guard-approved life jackets; overloading the boat; passengers standing or moving while the boat is underway; drinking alcohol; launching fireworks from the boat; and ignoring safe boating operations while trying to avoid long lines at the boat ramp after the fireworks show.

The Water Sports Foundation shares seven tips to maximize boating fun and safety this Fourth of July weekend, and beyond:

1. Important Basics: Plan Ahead & Be Prepared

- Before launching the boat, conduct a thorough inspection of the vessel and trailer. The local Coast Guard auxiliary or Power Squadron may offer free vessel safety checks.
- Conduct a pre-departure check to make sure all required safety equipment is on board and operational.
- Ensure U.S. Coast Guard-approved life jackets are available for the weight and size of every passenger, especially youngsters. Life jackets save lives!
- Check current weather conditions and forecast and plan accordingly.
- NEVER overfill your boat. Check the vessel capacity plate and comply with all weight markings.
- For boats 26' or smaller, comply with the new federal law requiring boat operators to wear and engage Emergency Cut-Off Switch (ECOS). This safety lanyard shuts off the engine if the operator falls overboard.
- Be sure you have the correct number of fire extinguishers onboard and that they are fully charged, and easily accessible. Check expiration date to ensure they fall within newly mandated federal requirements.
- Make sure VHF radios, phones and EPIRB transponders work. Consider carrying a portable cell phone battery charger as back-up.
- Pack sunscreen, first-aid kit, basic toolkit and extra food and water.

To view the full release including tips #2 - #7 please click here: <https://www.watersportsfoundation.com/hundreds-of-thousands-of-new-boaters-and-paddlers-expected-fourth-of-july-weekend/>.

About the Water Sports Foundation

Headquartered in Orlando, Fla., the Water Sports Foundation (WSF) is the non-profit educational arm of the Water Sports Industry Association (WSIA.net). The WSF National Public Relations Outreach including this press release is produced under a grant from the Sport Fish Restoration and Boating Trust Fund, administered by the U.S. Coast Guard. Journalists desiring free boating safety content, data, infographics, video, and still photography, a list of national boating safety experts should visit WSF's National Boating Safety Media Center at www.watersportsfoundation.com/media/

Media Contact: Joel Staley - 407-242-9994 - 338619@emailpr.com

SOURCE: Water Sports Foundation



Beaching Your Boat

So you want to beach your boat and leave again, unscathed? Here is a useful technique for small- and medium-size powerboats.



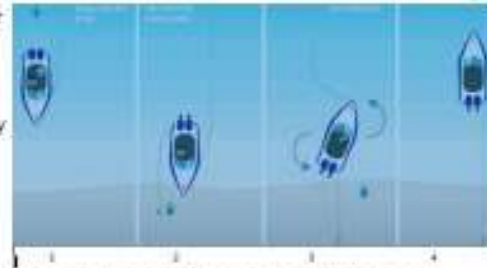
Nothing beats a day at the beach — except perhaps a day at the beach when you arrive by boat. So it's understandable that many boat owners beach their boat when it's time to go swimming. But while driving the boat into shore with the outboard or sterndrive trimmed up is the simplest approach, leaving your boat bow to shore presents drawbacks.

First, it's easy to get stuck. A falling tide, wind, or waves pushing onshore — or even a large wake from a passing boat — can easily leave you high and dry, and a quick survey of Internet boating forums shows that's a common occurrence. Second, even if that passing wake doesn't push the boat ashore, it can swamp the boat, riding up and over the transom, which — depending on how far up the beach you left your boat — may be lower in the water than usual. Even if you deploy a stern anchor to keep the boat from being pushed out of position, you can't eliminate the possibility of stranding or swamping. It takes a bit more effort, but anchoring your boat just off the beach, bow out, can prevent these problems and offer easier access to and from the boat via the stern. Follow these steps:

1. Remove your anchor from the bow locker and carry it to the stern of the boat, making sure you pass the rode outside the stanchions and under the bow rail before heading to the back of the boat. Keep the other end of the rode attached to the boat.
2. You'll want to set your anchor with enough scope to hold, but not so much that the boat swings into very shallow water. It may take a few tries to find the sweet spot at a particular beach.
3. With the engine in neutral, have a crew member lower the anchor over the side at the stern. When it has touched bottom, motor extremely slowly toward the beach as your crew pays the anchor rode out carefully, keeping it away from the prop(s).

(See Figure 1.)

4. Continue very slowly into shore as you would normally, cutting the engine and trimming up in plenty of time before the bow nuzzles gently into the sand, where you'll stay temporarily. (See Figure 2.)



5. Unload your crew and gear over the bow. This includes a second stern anchor or sand spike for the beach and line. After securing that second line to an aft cleat, have a crew member walk that second anchor (or spike) toward the beach and set it securely.
6. With your crew ashore and the engine(s) remaining trimmed up, pull the boat back into deeper water using the bow anchor rode until you're satisfied that the stern is well clear of the bottom. (It may help to get a little shove off the sand from someone ashore.) If using a stern anchor, be sure the line is flaked out to run free. (See Figure 3.)
7. When you're a short distance off the beach, snub off your anchor rode at the bow, and pull your stern line so that you get enough tension to hold the boat in place. I like the water to be at least waist deep at the stern. That way, when I put out the boarding ladder, I don't have to worry about it striking bottom if a big wake comes ashore. (See Figure 4.)
8. When it's time to leave, go out to the boat, climb aboard, pay out a little more scope on the bow anchor rode, pull in some of the stern anchor rode, then have the rest of your crew wade out to the boat and climb aboard. One of your crew can nick

up the stern anchor or spike. Next, bring all the stern rode back into the boat and make sure it's coiled and secured in the cockpit. Don't forget to pull up the boarding ladder. Then, with your bow anchor rode, pull the boat back to deeper water until it's safe to lower your engines and fire them up. With the engines in neutral or in idle forward, if needed, pull in the rode and bow anchor, and you're away.



Author Michael Vatalaro Contributor, BoatUS Magazine

Michael Vatalaro is the former executive editor of BoatUS Magazine. He has a Pursuit center console, which he uses in the Chesapeake Bay.

BoatUS Magazine Is A Benefit Of BoatUS Membership



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COOS BAY POWER SQUADRON RUMMAGE SALE

AUGUST 12-14

8:00AM to 5:00PM Friday & Saturday
10:00 to 2:00 Sunday

POWER SQUADRON BUILDING

90346 Guano Rock Lane
Charleston Boat Basin



AMERICA'S
BOATING
CLUB



D-32 Rendezvous

St. Helen's City Docks

Friday, August 19th
Fun in Margaritaville

4:00 PM Meet and Greet
Margaritas/soft drink/Appetizers/Music

Saturday, August 20th:

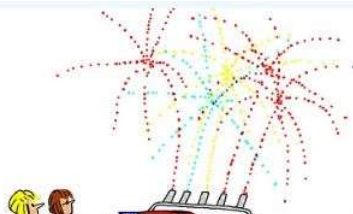
Meet at the St. Helens Marina and Park Gazebo/Amphitheater

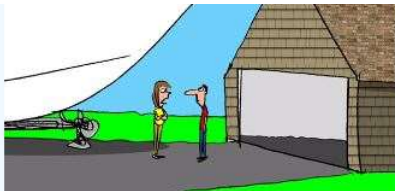
- Fire extinguisher demo at 9:30
- GPS Scavenger Hunt | 12:45 pm - Gather for clues and instructions
- Dinner in the Park at 5pm
- Flare shoot at the docks around 8pm

Sunday, August 21st:

8am Breakfast at the Kozy Corner

Come and Enjoy
The Fun!





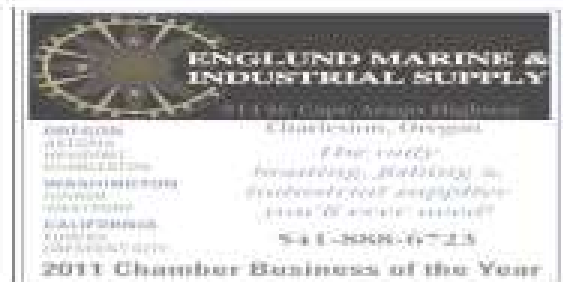
"Even without measuring, I could've told you your new boat wouldn't fit in the garage."



"As you can see, the 4th of July is one of my husband's favorite time of the year."



Write a caption



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MEETINGS

NO Squadron Meetings
 June, July and August
 Executive Board Meetings may
 be called by Cdr or Board.
 Meetings are at 1400 (2:00 PM)
 in Squadron Bldg Charleston.
 Covid-19 restrictions followed.

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