

COMMANDER'S COLUMN

Safe Boating through Education is Alive and Appreciated!
Ahoy there! Ahoy there!

It looks like the summer boating/fishing season is in full swing. I hear they are bringing a few tuna! I hope everyone is having an 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.

We had several members of the public stop by our "Flare Shoot" at the Empire crabbing dock to gain some experience deploying various types of visual distress signaling devices on June 10th. Thanks to those members who made this a positive educational experience for the public.

I want to let folks know that we have decided to postpone our annual summer picnic until the early fall due to a rash of illnesses within our ranks. We'll firm up the tentative date of the annual summer picnic scheduled for Sunday September 17th at Tugman State Park near the boat ramp at our next general meeting.

The location and time of our next general meeting is Sunday August 13th at 1400 in the big room at the Fisherman's Grotto in Charleston. See you there! Stay tuned for more details in the near future. Remember together everyone accomplishes more "TEAM"!


Cdr Craig M. Brown, USN

Meetings & Events

Coos Bay Squadron Executive Board Meeting, August 13 1400 at Fisherman's Grotto, Charleston.

All members are welcome to attend.

Squadron Picnic, September 17, at Tugman State Park. Details in next issue of "the WHISTLER".



Kansas City Awaits!

Close out summer with a celebration! Join your friends—new and old—in Kansas City, Missouri, for the 2023 Governing Board Meeting of United States Power Squadrons, America's Boating Club.



AMERICA'S BOATING CLUB
For Boaters, By Boaters™ 

America's Boating Club® is a trademark of the United States Power Squadrons®

America's Boating Club signs memorandum of understanding with NMEA



America's Boating Club, the nation's largest and oldest volunteer recreational boating safety nonprofit, announced the signing of a new memorandum of understanding with the National Marine Electronics Association (NMEA). This memorandum of understanding (MOU) enables America's Boating Club (ABC) to incorporate state-of-the-art content into its marine electronics courses and seminars with the goal of making recreational boating safer and more enjoyable. In turn, the NMEA seeks to enhance its access to the recreational boating market. By sharing skills and knowledge, America's Boating Club and the NMEA can develop and extend their suite of instructional materials.

"America's Boating Club was founded to train recreational boaters, which we've been doing for the last 109 years," said Craig Fraser, America's Boating Club chief commander. "This memorandum of understanding with NMEA allows us to provide the most relevant, up-to-the-minute marine electronics training to America's recreational boaters. Having access to NMEA experts and materials as we update our marine electronics curriculum ensures the accuracy and quality of our courses and seminars."

"This MOU with America's Boating Club will help thousands of its members and the boating public by exposing them to the NMEA's basic electronics training materials and best practices while also introducing them to our NMEA member companies who install, service, and sell marine electronics," said Mark Reedenauer, NMEA President. "Partnering with ABC will allow more technical end users to gain advanced knowledge by providing them with the globally recognized standards of installation of marine electronics. And if an ABC member gets into a situation that is over his or her head or requires additional onboard or product support, the local NMEA technical installer base is there to help. ABC members can search the NMEA website to locate certified installers in their local area."

Go Online

WEBSITES

America's Boating Club
americasboatingclub.org

USPS member website
usps.org

USPS Ship's Store
www.shopusps.org

The Ensign
theensign.org

America's Boating Compass
boatingcompass.org

America's Boating Club Giving
giveabc.org

Boat Live 365
boatlive365.org

America's Boating Channel
americasboatingchannel.com

USPS Endowment Fund Inc.
uspsendowment.fund

MEMBER INFORMATION

(Most links below require log in at
usps.org/member-s-log-in.)

Renew dues & contribute
usps.org/dues

Change your address
addresschanges@hq.usps.org

DAN Boater benefits
danboater.org/member

National Meetings
bit.ly/uspsmeetings

EDUCATION

America's Boating Course online
americasboatingcourse.com

**All other online courses, seminars
and webinars**
uspsonline.enrolmart.com

NEW!

**America's Boating Club
FREE Mobile App**

Your Single boating information
Source for a Great Day on the Water

DOWNLOAD NOW!

AmericasBoatingClub.org
Apple Store
Google Play Store

Coos Bay Power Squadron Website

www.usps.org/coos

Safe Boating Rules Most accidents and deaths that occur during the height of the boating season can be avoided by using common sense. Following safe boating suggestions can help make sure your future outings are fun and not frightful.

Life preserver regulations

All boats must be equipped with Coast Guard approved life preservers, also known as personal flotation devices, for each person aboard. Children under age 13 must wear a correctly sized PFD when the vessel is under way, unless they are in a fully enclosed and roofed cabin.

Know the age restrictions

When you and the family head out on the water, you need to know who can legally operate what kind of watercraft. It might be tempting to let your kids drive the bass boat, but that's not necessarily a good idea. A boat powered by an inboard or outboard motor can present some of the same dangers as an automobile.

The following are some guidelines:

Children under the age of 12:

- May not operate ANY VESSEL longer than 16 feet.
- May legally operate a vessel under 16 feet that is either non-motorized or powered by a motor of 30 horsepower or less ONLY if they are accompanied by a competent adult.

Kids 12 to 15 years old:

- May not legally operate any vessel over 16 feet in length.
- May legally operate any vessel less than 16 feet in length, including a personal watercraft, such as a Jet Ski, only if they:
 - Have passed a boat education course approved by the OREGON STATE MARINE BOARD, OR
 - Are accompanied by a competent adult

Those 16 years of age or older can operate any boat if they have proper identification onboard. All boat operators, must have passed a boater education course approved by OSMB and have the card on board to operate any vessel.

Be careful around others

While it may seem obvious, boats can be dangerous to swimmers, skiers and other boaters around you. Please use common sense. It can be hazardous towing water skiers near swimming areas or near other boats. Don't drive your boat across the wake of another boat if you are within 100 feet.

Personal watercraft rules

- Anyone riding on a PWC must wear a U. S. Coast Guard approved Type I, II, III or V personal flotation device which is properly fitted and fastened. Inflatable Type V PFDs are not approved for PWC.
- A PWC must be operated at idle speed if within 100 feet of a non-moving boat, dock or pier, bridge, person in the water, shoreline adjacent to a residence, public park or beach, swimming area, marina, restaurant or other public use area.
- PWC must be equipped with fully operational self-encircling device or a lanyard type engine cut-off switch. If a cut-off switch is used, the lanyard must be attached to the person, clothing or PFD of the operator.
- PWC may not be operated between sunset and sunrise.
- A PWC, operating at more than idle speed, cannot run around, ride or jump the wake of, or be within 100 feet of another moving boat or PWC unless it is overtaking the other boat in compliance with the rules for encountering other boats. When a PWC is overtaking another boat, it must not change course to ride or jump the wake of the boat being overtaken.
- Every PWC towing someone on water skis, tubes, or similar devices must be rated by the manufacturer to carry three or more persons. There must be someone on board other than the driver to watch the people being towed, even if the craft has a mirror in which the driver can see who he is towing. • It is illegal to rent, lease or let for hire a PWC to a person under the age of 16 years.

2023 - 2024 OFFICERS

Cdr Craig Beyer, AP
SEO Allen Swanson, P
EXO Michael Gibbons, JN
Treas Kim Singh
Sec Carol Schuldt
ASEO Arthur Schuldt, SN

Phones

541-290-3957
541-888-6178
541-290-7694
541-404-6307
541-756-4408
541-756-4408

MEETINGS

NO Squadron meetings JUNE-AUGUST.
Executive Board Meetings
THIRD SUNDAY each month.
Board Meetings may be called by Cdr or Board.
Meetings are at 1400 (2:00 PM) at FISHERMAN'S GROTTO, Charleston.

Editor

Art Schuldt, SN
2175 Everett
North Bend OR 97459
Phone: 541-756-4408
Email:
a.schuldt@charter.net
www.usps.org/coos



America's Boating Club® is a trademark of the United States Power Squadrans®