

AMERICA'S BOATING CLUB®

For Boaters, By Boaters™




THE DRUM

A Publication of the Finger Lakes Chapter

In this issue...

- From The Commander 1
- From the Administrative Officer.....3
- From the Education Director4
- From the Assistant Education Officer.....5
- Membership Thoughts6
- From the Public Relations Officer.....8
- Upcoming Classes & Seminars9
 - Junior Navigation.....9
 - Navigation9
 - America's Boating Course.....9
 - Coming Soon.....9
 - How To Register9
- Long-Term Class Schedule..... 10
- USPS News: Local, District, National & More 11
 - New Member Welcome: Scott & Sharon Glaesemann. 11
 - Congratulations! 11
 - Happy Birthday! 11
 - Got News? 11
- Sampson State Park Marina Reopens . 12
- The Last Word 14
- Calendar of Events..... 15
- Report any errors or omissions to:
editor@abc-flx.org

From The Commander

By Jim McGinnis, AP

View From The Bridge

At long last Summer is here. Colorado received another two feet of snow for the Solstice, so they may be a little further delayed. But here in the Finger Lakes we now have a lush green coating on the hillsides, full waterfalls and high water levels. The first two races for the Finger Lakes Yacht Club have seen steady and strong winds (>20 knots).

We have been energetic this spring with activity in each of our main community service activities. For the Watkins Glen Cardboard Boat Regatta, Ted Carleton, Connie Fern Miller and Charlie Fausold worked with me to haul the Sunk, Sinking or Floating boats that were headed for the dumpster. Thank you to those brave volunteers. There were 49 cardboard and duct tape boats entered this year. The Batmobile with all members of the cast were a standout as well as a helicopter float recognizing the 4077 MASH



unit. The spotty weather cooperated for the duration of the race although the water was a cool 50°F. Mark Erway, Denis Kingsley and Fred Seip manned the ABC-FLX Booth and gained names of several prospective members. Service to the community is a key part of America's Boating Club. Please consider volunteering your time, talent, and boat if required. The members that are active in these areas are enjoying that part of the organization.

The first Boat Handling class (formerly known as Seamanship) was completed. We got a lot of good feedback on the classroom instruction and the "On the Water" section. We also completed

an ABC Class with nine Boy Scouts and have two more classes scheduled for later this summer.

We've gotten a good number of Vessel Safety Checks completed early this year and the team is establishing contacts at the marinas in the area. Please wish Ray Margeson, our Vessel Safety Check Chairman, a speedy recovery from hip repair surgery.

Membership Chairman Mark Erway has been very active in communication with several prospective new members and I think we will really see the benefits of that effort this year.

Three members, Fred Seip, John Flick and I, completed the class work for the Instructor Development Course. It was well done by Charlie Fausold and increased our pool of Certified Instructors.

Short Term/Future Activities

Membership Dinner at El Rancho in Watkins Glen – 6/26/19 - Terry Stewart spoke to the membership about his sail to the Dry Tortugas this spring. If you didn't make it to this meeting you not

only missed an entertaining presentation, but also some really good food!

Life Jacket Tree – The Life Jacket Tree is completed and we have the initial life jackets that will be used to get it going. We are ready for the Grand Opening of the new Canoe/Kayak Park once that is scheduled.

Sampson Marina Grand Opening – June 26th – Don Kloeber has been a key driver of this initiative and it's great to see it completed. See my notes later in this issue.

Many people have wished me well since I am out of the medical boot since my recent tendon tear. I am now getting around quite well thank you. See you on the water!

- Jim, SV Brewster
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The Drum

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From the Administrative Officer

By Phil Cherry, S

Boatless but looking!

Other Duties As Assigned



The By-laws of this organization (Seneca Sail and Power Squadron, doing business as the Finger

Lakes Chapter of America's Boating Club), state that the Administrative Officer (that's me)

"...shall: (1) assist the commander; (2) have general supervision of the Administrative Department as directed by the membership, the commander, or the Executive Committee; (3) be an *ex officio* member of all committees of the Administrative Department; and (4) in the temporary absence or incapacity of the executive officer, perform the duties and exercise the powers of the executive officer." Period.

Nowhere in that paragraph, or anywhere else in that document does it explicitly say that the role of the Administrative Officer is to organize member meetings and social events for the squadron. However, in the last organization I worked in, and I suspect many other office type environments,

the Administrative Department (also known as the indispensable administrative staff that help answer the phones, maintain the copier, order the supplies, take the minutes, pay the bills, keep the place functioning, etc.) were also the ones who organized the Christmas parties, circulated the birthday cards and planned group activities.

I guess if party organizer had to come under one of Bridge members' duties, it makes more sense under the Administrative Officer than it does, for instance, under the Education Officer (Section 6.3 of the Bylaws), the Law officer (Section 5.10), the Supply officer (Section 5.11) or even the Property officer (Section 5.12). Of course, one might wonder how an organization of our size and complexity could have all those officers – but that is a topic for another day.

So, with this most important responsibility of party planner comes a certain license to pester members. You have all been receiving many emails from me concerning our recent meeting at El Rancho in Watkins Glen on June 26th. I have stuffed your inbox with repeated emails and pleadings for an RSVP, or to

bring a friend, or to simply relay the meeting essentials. I feel like I should apologize for hounding you; however, I'm just doing my job! To those of you who faithfully RSVP – one way or the other – I thank you for responding to my desperate attempts to get the word out on our fabulous gatherings.

As I write this column, the party at El Rancho will be tomorrow night. I suspect it will be a great event, especially considering El Rancho makes the best Margaritas this side of El Paso! At the request of the ABC-FLX Bridge officers and Executive Committee, I'm planning another event for late August, and then again in November, so stay tuned for more rounds of emails and more opportunities to meet with your fellow boaters. If you have suggestions for where you would like to meet, or ideas for speakers in the future, please don't hesitate to contact me or any of our Executive Committee members – we'd be delighted to hear from you!

- Phil

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From the Education Director

By Charlie Fausold, SN-IN

SV Morning Glory

An Education Primer



Hopefully all members of America's Boating Club understand that we are an educa-

tional organization. But new members may not be fully aware of what that means. Read on to find out!

America's Boating Course (ABC) is our basic introductory class. Available in both 8-hour and 12-hour versions, it meets the requirements of the National Association of State Boating Law Administrators (NASBLA) for a public boating safety class. A passing grade on the proctored exam entitles one to a state boating safety certificate, which in New York is required for anyone born on or after May 1, 1996, or anyone who operates a personal watercraft (a.k.a., jet ski). A bill on the Governor's desk would extend this requirement to all operators of motorboats. Our club is required to offer ABC each year to maintain our public benefit non-profit status.

After ABC, the core of our educational curriculum has traditionally been a sequence of five advanced courses, each building on the previous. These rigorous courses are typically eight weeks or more in length. Boat Handling (BH, for-

merly Seamanship) is a comprehensive class that expands upon ABC covering topics such as docking, anchoring, rules of the road, maneuvering, emergencies and many more. Piloting (P) and Advanced Piloting (AP) teach navigation with GPS and chart plotting in inland and coastal waters. Junior Navigation (JN) focuses on "blue water" navigation – out of sight of land – using a sextant to determine location by taking sights of the sun. (The term "junior" refers to the fact that it is the same content traditionally taught to third-year midshipmen at the Naval Academy.) The final course in the series is Navigation (N), which builds upon JN by adding sextant sights of moon, stars and planets and planning long distance voyages.

Passing one of these advanced courses entitles club members to add the respective grade (S-Seaman, P-Pilot, AP-Advanced Pilot, JN-Junior Navigator, or N-Navigator) after their name.

In addition to the navigation sequence there is a wide variety of elective courses such as Weather, Engine Maintenance, Sail, Cruise Planning, Marine Electronics, etc. Successfully completing all of the elective courses, as well as all five advanced courses, is known as a "full certificate" and entitles one to a Certificate of Educational Achievement and to the grade of Senior Navigator (SN).

Recognizing that not everyone has the time or inclination to take

an eight-week course, in recent years America's Boating Club has developed a number of short two-hour seminars on specific topics such as Sail Trim, Paddle Craft, Using a GPS, Knots, and many more.

Our Club also offers a Boat Operator Certification (BOC) program. Completing certain combinations of advanced and elective courses, seminars and on-the-water skill demonstration leads to certification as an Inland Navigator (IN), Coastal Navigator (CN), Advanced Coastal Navigator (ACN), or Offshore Navigator (ON).

Finally, we are beginning to offer online education that allows individuals to learn at their own pace.

Because the Advanced Courses build on each other we offer them on a rotating schedule. Other courses and seminars are offered in response to member interest. Wherever possible we try to add an on-the-water component. If there is a topic you would like to learn more about, let me know. Details may be found on our ABC-FLX website, or on our national website. If you don't see a particular subject listed, we'll develop our own course, as we did with fiberglass repair and marine refrigeration a while back.

See you soon at one of our programs!

- Charlie

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From the Assistant Education Officer

By John Flick

Vessel

About Bilge Pumps



This month I would like to talk about bilge pump systems, specifically, ca-

capacity, installation, and some other miscellaneous items relating to these systems.

These often-neglected items that live below the cockpit and cabin sole are appropriately named as their purpose in life is to move the water from the lowest or deepest part of the hull to outside the hull.

Boats may have electric or manual pumps or a combination of both. Our focus today is on electric pumps, however, most of what follows pertains to both.

Scope

What are the pumps' specific role or job in the grand scheme of boat systems? The American Boat and Yacht Council (ABYC) has the following definition:

H22.4.6 Normal Accumulation of Bilge Water – minor amounts of water collecting in the bilge from spray, rain, seepage, and spillage that can be removed by the bilge pumps.

Please note the word “minor”. There is no mention of taking a wave, a burst hose or a failed thru-

hull that leads to a hole in the hull. Most of the bilge pump systems on our boats are not designed to handle “damage control” or emergencies.

Capacity

Pumps on our boats typically range from 500 to 4,000 gallons per hour (gph). These ratings may sound high, but they are for perfect conditions not necessarily found in the real world on our boats.

Head or height at which the water has to be pumped has a dramatic effect on pump capacity.

For example, if a pump rated at 900 gph has to pump water up 4 feet, the capacity diminishes to 600 gph or a reduction of a third. Sailboats tend to have deeper bilges than power boats, so this example is not unrealistic.

What are some other things that will decrease the manufacturer's stated capacity?

1. Length of discharge hose
2. The number and radius of bends
3. How smooth or rough the interior of the hose or piping is
4. Battery voltage or capacity
5. Any reduction of the hose diameter caused by a kink, check valve or thru-hull fitting

Limber or drain holes, the holes in stringers, ribs, and bulkheads that allow water to flow to the bilge should be the same diameter as the pump discharge hose. The

pump will not be able to reach capacity if the holes are a smaller diameter. Keep limber holes free of debris.

Check valves should only be used to prevent automatic bilge pumps from cycling on and off due to back flow from the discharge line.

If you are considering a new or replacement pump, make sure it has built-in thermal cut-off (TCO).

Installation

Installation includes three areas: mounting the pump, plumbing, and electrical. We won't cover installation from A-Z here but let's talk about some of the important points.

ABYC states that the pumps must be:

H22.4.1 Accessible – capable of being reached for inspection, removal, or maintenance without the removal of permanent boat structure.

Make sure nothing interferes with the movement of the float switch. Water needs to be removed when the boat is both in the static position at the slip and underway under various heel and trim conditions.

Smooth inner walled non corrugated hose (connected with ½” all-stainless steel hose clamps) is recommended to increase water flow. Vented loops may be required to prevent water from siphoning into the boat.

Refer to the installation manual in selecting the correct gauge (AWG) of tinned copper wire to minimize voltage drop and keep all water tight butt connections as high up out of the bilge as is practical. Install appropriate circuit protection or fusing.

Test all pumps (with water, not just electrically) in both automatic and manual modes.

In short, if you are installing a new bilge pump or adding a high-water alarm, follow manufacturers recommendations, ABYC E-11, and ABYC H-22. See the West Marine article “How to Select a Bilge Pump” and other sources for additional information.

Lastly

Bilge pumps, like everything else installed in areas of a gasoline-

powered vessel where fumes can accumulate, must be ignition protected per ABYC and the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA).

Other items to keep in mind: It is a violation of federal law to pump overboard bilge liquid that contains oil or fuel. Our “Discharge of Oil Prohibited” placards on boats 26-foot or longer reminds us of this. Common sense tells us to keep our bilges clean, free of pet hair, and clear of anything that can interfere with the pump operating at its maximum capacity (and water flowing thru limber holes).

The accumulation of flammable liquids and materials in the bilge/boat is a fire hazard. Never use any flammable type solvents for cleaning the bilge. Also, give your bilge pump system a break

by keeping cockpit and deck drains clean and free of debris.

Bilge pump systems may be compared to air bags in our vehicles. They may help us out in a bad situation, but the ultimate goal is to avoid the bad situation in the first place. If your boat leaks, fix the leak(s). Don’t rely on you pump to bail you out. (Pun intended.) Enjoy your safe time out on the water with a dry clean bilge.

- John

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References

ABYC Standards, H-22 and E-11
Mechanical and Electrical Manual, Nigel Calder

Membership Thoughts

By Mark Erway, AP

Membership Report



Please join me in welcoming our newest member Scott Glaesemann, coming into the

chapter through the online “cyber membership” process.

We continue to see new members coming on board and that is a

good thing. In March we welcomed Jamie and Rhea Gerdes, whom I met in the Piloting class; in April we received Rachael Nichols, significant other of our Assistant Education Officer John Flick. We just added Ken Mansfield’s daughter, Ellenanne as a family member; long-time member Carl Blowers has just gotten reinstated after an inadvertent lapse. Recently I was able to meet with Carl and perform a vessel safety check on his Rinker 33 just

prior giving some of his family members a cruise on the lake.

That means that in the last six months we have added 11 new members and 1 reinstatement to our Chapter, bringing us to a total of 78 members. However, there are a number of people who are in “past-due” status and it appears that they will be dropping out. So, we have been maintaining our membership level, but not forging ahead like we had hoped.

With our new leadership team in place we are hoping to offer more activities and dinner meetings and events that will afford more “all members” opportunities where we can get to interact with, and know, each other better. Keep an eye on the newsletter, our Facebook page and your emails to see what is coming up.

Remember to visit the national website and check out the extensive members benefits:

Advancing Education

- Great Lakes Cruising Club School
- Mariner's Learning Guide - Captain's License Software

Goods and Services

- 11th Hour - Printing Promotional Services
- Caskey Monogram & Embroidery
- CVS Photo business Account Program
- HelmsBriscoe
- Life Lock
- Office Depot/Office Max
- SmartPlug
- Solude Coffee
- Vistaprint Corporate

Health Benefits

- American Hearing Benefits
- HeartSine
- Life Line Screening
- USPS Prescription Savings Card

Insurance Benefits

- BoatUS
- LTC Global, Long Term Care Insurance Program
- LTCR Long Term Care Insurance Program
- USPS Boat Insurance Program
- Travelers Auto and Home Ins. Program
- VPI Pet Insurance
- VSP Individual Vision Insurance

Marine Benefits

- C-Map
- Coastal Explorer from Rose Point.
- FUGAWI
- Frigid Rigid
- GPS for Mariners
- Hamilton Marine
- Maritech Industries
- McGraw Hill
- Pyrocool
- Rigid Boats
- Sea Tow
- Soundings
- Weems & Plath
- Wow Training Aids

Travel Benefits

- Avis
- Budget
- Cruises Only
- Endless Vacation Rentals
- HotelStorm
- Motel 6

- On Call International Medical & Travel Assistance
- Orlando Vacations. Com
- Red Roof Inn
- Road Scholar Program
- TNT Vacations
- Wyndham Hotels
- Wyndham Extra Holidays
- USPS Vacation Center

USPS Benefits

- Educational Opportunities
- Highway Mariners
- Opportunities for Members
- *The Compass* - Electronic Newsletter
- *The Ensign*® Magazine
- *The Deep 6* district newsletter (electronic)
- *The Drum* chapter newsletter (electronic)
- USPS Port Captains Program
- www.USPS.org web site resources
- www.ABC-FLX.org web site resources

- Mark
membership@abc-flx.org

From the Public Relations Officer

By Glenda Gephart

Social Media



From rainbows to reminders, you'll find a whole lot of useful and fun material on the ABC-FLX

Facebook page.

Social media certainly has its fans and its detractors. But many of us have discovered that Facebook is a valuable medium for staying informed about specific interests.

Our Facebook page – “America’s Boating Club - Finger Lakes Chapter” – is just that.

Mark Erway, membership officer, keeps the Facebook page updated with news about the club, general boating news and other interesting bits of information you’re not going to see or hear in your day-to-day, traditional media.

Recent posts included the state law that will require boating safety course completion, ABC-FLX members helping at the Watkins Glen Waterfront Festival’s Cardboard Regatta, Marina Day at Allan H. Treman State Marine Park, some beautiful rainbow shots from the Watkins Glen

Yacht Club and a safety reminder about life jackets.

Facebook is also an easy way to have conversations with like-minded folks. No worries about bad manners here!

If you’re not “on” Facebook, please consider joining simply as a way to stay in touch with the club. Join Facebook, “friend” our page, enjoy what you see! And if you’re already a Facebook user, share our posts and invite your friends to check out our page.

- Glenda
pro@abc-flx.org



Upcoming Classes & Seminars

Junior Navigation

Catch-Up Opportunity

The single most common reason that students fail to complete the Junior Navigation (JN) class is that they don't get their sight folders completed. If you are in this boat, so to speak, here is a chance to get back into the game.

Students wishing to complete their sight folders are invited to join the Navigation (N) students when they are taking their sights this summer. Simply contact lead instructor, Tom Alley, and get your name on the list of students needing to take sights.

If your goal is to take the N course, you will have plenty of time to complete your sight folder, get it turned in for grading, and take the JN exam before the the N classroom sessions begin.

Since the N class is not offered very often, don't miss this opportunity!

Navigation

Starts July 2019

Following on the heels of our Junior Navigation (JN) class, we will be offering the second part of the celestial navigation series this year.

Navigation is the class where students will hone their navigational

skills to the pinnacle of traditional navigation – that of navigating by the stars.

Beginning this summer, we will take things out on the water and collect sextant observations of stars, planets, and the moon to accumulate enough data for everyone's "N" version of the sight folder.

Classroom sessions will begin in September and extend through December and will end with a two-week take-home examination.

When: July-December 2019

Where: Watkins Glen Village Marina (OTW sessions). Classroom session location TBD.

Prerequisites: JN, Stargazing 101

Lead Instructor: Tom Alley (deo@uspsd6.org)

Course Cost: \$230 (USPS members), \$67 (add'l family members), \$375 (nonmembers)

Registration: This course is open to all USPS members, regardless of squadron/chapter affiliation.

America's Boating Course

August 2019

Registration is now open for another offering of America's Boating Course, which will begin August 1st at the Watkins Glen Yacht

Club. This class is open to members and the general public of all ages.

Coming Soon

Preliminary plans are being made for Cruise Planning to be taught later in the fall. We would also like to plan a short seminar about GPS navigation.

If you are interested in either of these topics, please contact either Charlie Fausold or John Flick (see below).

How To Register

If you are interested in getting more details about any of these courses, or better yet, to sign up, please contact either of the following individuals:

SEO Charlie Fausold, Finger Lakes Chapter

seo@abc-flx.org

ASEO John Flick

aseo@abc-flx.org

Or you can go to the national web site (www.usps.org) and register under the "Find A Boating Class" tab on the member home page.

Long-Term Class Schedule

Seneca Education Department

Courses	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Public	ABC	ABC	ABC	ABC	ABC	ABC
Basic	Boat Handling	Sail	Boat Handling	Sail	Boat Handling	Sail
Advanced Level	Piloting	Advanced Piloting	Piloting	Advanced Piloting	Piloting	Advanced Piloting
Senior Level	Navigation			Junior Navigation		
Electives	Radar for Boaters Instructor Development Cruise Planning	Marine Electronics	Electronic Navigation	Instructor Training	Marine Comm.	
Seminars	GPS Nav	Power Boating	Paddle Smart	Trailer and Docking	Partner in Cmd.	
Self Study	Any Class	Any Class	Any Class	Any Class	Any Class	Any Class

USPS News: Local, District, National & More

New Member Welcome: Scott & Sharon Glaesemann.

Scott grew up on a farm in Northern Minnesota a few miles from Lake Superior. He started sailing out the harbor of Duluth, underneath its famous lift bridge, on a Cal 26. He even participated in a few Wednesday evening races. He says he just did what he was told and enjoyed every minute of it. Scott's dad purchased an Islander 30 just as Scott was leaving for college. After 10 years of college Scott landed his first real job at Corning Incorporated. By then he was married with one little one and another on the way. He and his wife, Sharon, recently emerged from the blur of raising three kids, college bills and getting them married off. Occasionally they found themselves back home in Minnesota and they would go out on the Islander.

Says Scott, "It never occurred to me that we could fit in a sailboat into our busy lives. To be honest, I've had a fear of operating such a big boat. How could I possibly learn everything and keep everyone safe? It just seemed like too much to learn and too risky."

A couple years ago Scott was back at the farm and found the Islander parked in one of the barns. His parents, now in their mid 80s, didn't feel comfortable getting around on the boat anymore. With his wife's encouragement Scott asked his dad about moving his beloved sailboat to New York so that it would stay in the family. Scott had no idea what he was going to do with it, but his dad was overjoyed that it would have a home in the family. So last spring the Islander made the long journey from Lake Superior to Cayuga Lake by truck.

"I'm so glad we discovered ABC-FLX," says Scott. "We're taking classes and have already started dumping large amounts of cash into this old boat. I guess that makes us sailors."

Congratulations!

Congratulations to the students who took our inaugural Boat Handling course this spring. Everyone taking the final exam passed. Well done, everybody!

- Marcus Efthimiou, S
- John Flick, S
- Scott Glaesemann, S
- Rachael Nichols, S
- Fred Seip, S

Happy Birthday!

Best wishes to Finger Lakes Chapter members who are celebrating their birthday in next couple of months.

July

Ted Carleton
James Gerdes
Jackie Honsberger
Sherri Mansfield
Terry Mason

August

Tom Alley
Mary Honsberger
Greg Seip
Laurie Seip
Peter Wigley
Christa Wolf

Got News?

By Tom Alley, Editor

Do you have any squadron-related news or announcements? Contact your editor and have it printed here. We're happy to publicize anything of interest to our members, whether it's for the Seneca Squadron or one of our neighboring squadrons.

Contact Tom Alley:

editor@abc-flx.org

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Sampson State Park Marina Reopens

By Jim McGinnis

SV Brewster



set a record of 74 million visitors in 2018 which was up more than 30% from previous years. Craig Sessler recognized Local Senator Tom O'Mara, who was noted for having worked for years on the Sampson Marina and Parks Project.

On June 26th Sampson State Park hosted a ribbon cutting ceremony for a new SamSen Marina. NYS Regional Parks Director, Fred Bonn declared Sampson Marina a new first-class recreational facility that is part of a major NYS initiative to improve its parks.

State Senator Pam Helming outlined the role of the construction and operations company SamSen (part of the Sessler Corporation) which also operates Seneca Lake Park in Geneva. Public and private partnership was critical, including \$1 billion of State spending on NYS Parks. Helming highlighted that overall NYS Parks

Our own long time ABC-FLX member and instructor, Don Kloeber, was recognized by speaker Doris Wolfe (President Friends of Sampson). She said that Don was instrumental in forming the "Save Sampson" initiative that was started in 2008 and culminated today.

Press Release: SamSen's Marina at Sampson State Park

Featuring views of stunning sunsets from Seneca Lake's eastern shore, Sampson State Park Marina is 15 miles south of the lake's north end and US Route 20. Sampson State Park Marina will open the 2019 season as a premier marina of

the Finger Lakes with all new docks, landscaping, sidewalks, and modern facilities for a comfortable stay plus accommodations for the utility needs of any size vessel, including a fueling station, hookups for electricity, water, and pump-out stations. Long-range construction plans include a ship store, lakeside dining and entertainment, cabin rentals and seasonal camping sites. Our 90 new boat slips and a large multiple launch site provide easy access to the vast, clean waters of Seneca Lake. ELECTRIC SLIP (\$55.00 per foot for the season) Contact Tim Wixom Marina Operations Mgr at O: 315.651.4949 or twixom@samsenparks.com for a transient slip.

Additionally, the R/V David Folger is currently docked in the new Sampson Marina. This research vessel, which is typically operating in Lake Champlain, is a deep water survey vessel owned by Middlebury College. The ship is in Seneca for the month of June to find local wrecks. They have already found more than 8 sailing barge



vessels likely from the 1830's. These vessels are intact on the bottom across the lake from Lodi Point. They have a design similar to the Lois McClure which was docked with the Corning GlassBarge at Watkins

Glen last summer. The thoroughly modern R/V David Folger is equipped with high power sonar to map the lake bottom and provide guidance to additional submersibles with camera capability.

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Addendum: Transient slips are available at Sampson for \$25/night, \$35/night with shore power.



The Last Word

By Tom Alley, SN



I've probably commented on this before, but this year is reminding me once more what an "inclusive"

hobby it is to own a boat.

Aside from the general knowledge of seamanship and navigation, boating is much more broadly based. One is also expected to have a working knowledge of marlinespike, COLREGS, and how to operate all of the electronic accessories that find their way aboard our boats.

"But wait," as the commercial announcer would say, "there's more!"

Sooner or later we find ourselves learning about electrical systems, plumbing systems, and various mechanical accessories such as pumps, winches or windlasses. We learn about maintenance items and how to replace portlight seals and deck fittings when they work themselves loose and begin to leak (...usually right over our bunk).

Some of us learn how to sew and do canvaswork to maintain our dodgers, biminis and upholstery. Many of us also become unwilling engine mechanics, refrigeration technicians, electricians, plumbers, carpenters, painters, or fiberglass sculptors.

We learn how to prepare four course meals in a galley smaller than the stove in our land-based homes. We become field medics for the inevitable bumps, bruises, sunburns, bouts of seasickness, or other unexpected health emergencies.

We become planners and organizers when we set out for longer voyages and navigate not just large bodies of water, but the even larger bureaucracies of various governments to secure the necessary forms, stickers, permits and passes to allow us passage to our intended destinations. Along the way we become meteorologists to make sure our passages are fun instead of frightening.

Some of us wade into the pool far enough to become immersed in the art and science of communications, either by shortwave or by satellite. Others study astronomy to the point

where they can determine their location using the stars and a stopwatch.

Still others become bookworms so that they can devour the tales of those who have ventured offshore before. And where would the books come from without the storytellers and authors who inspire the next generation of boaters to stand upon their shoulders.

Yes, there's a lot to boating. It very literally opens up an untold number of horizons, whether they are across the water, across your workshop, or across the shelves of your library.

So come on in! The water is fine!

- Your Editor, Tom

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As always, send your thoughts about this newsletter to:

editor@abc-flx.org

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Calendar of Events

July 2019

- Fr/Sa Navigation course sight-taking sessions begin.
Will take place on Friday & Saturday evenings.
- 01 Seneca *Drum* July issue publication date.
- 04-07 Tall Ships Buffalo, *Buffalo, NY*.
- 09 Bridge Meeting (1900).
- 22 Deadline for *The Deep 6* articles. (D/6)

August 2019

- 01 *The Deep 6* summer issue publication date. (D/6)
- 13 Bridge Meeting (1900)
- 23 Deadline for *Drum* Articles
- 30-9/02 D/6 2019 Rendezvous. *Brockport, Ontario*. (D/6)

September 2019

- 01 Seneca *Drum* September issue publication date.
- 08-15 USPS Governing Board Meeting, *Louisville, KY*.
(National)
- 10 Bridge Meeting (1900)
- TBA Navigation classroom sessions begin.

October 2019

- 08 Bridge Meeting (1900)
- 18 Deadline for *The Deep 6* articles (D/6)
- 25 Deadline for *Drum* articles

November 2019

- 01 Seneca *Drum* November issue publication date
- 12 Bridge Meeting (1900)
- 15 *The Deep 6* fall issue publication date. (Delayed 1
week to cover Conference activities.) (D/6)
- TBA District 6 Fall Council & Conference (D/6)

December 2019

- 16 Deadline for *Drum* Articles

January 2020

- 01 Seneca *Drum* January issue publication date
- 12 Seneca Change of Watch

- 14 Bridge Meeting (1900)
- 15 Deadline for D/6 *The Deep 6* articles. (D/6)

February 2020

- 01 *The Deep 6* winter issue publication date. (D/6)
- 11 Bridge Meeting (1900)
- 09-16 USPS Annual Meeting, *Ponte Vedra, FL* (National)
- 22 Deadline for *Drum* Articles

March 2020

- 01 Seneca *Drum* March issue publication date.
- 10 Bridge Meeting (1900)

April 2020

- 14 Bridge Meeting (1900)
- 17 Deadline for *The Deep 6* articles (D/6)
- 24 Deadline for *Drum* Articles

May 2020

- 01 Seneca *Drum* May issue publication date.
- 01 *The Deep 6* spring issue publication date. (D/6)
- 12 Bridge Meeting (1900)
- 16-22 Safe Boating Week (National)

June 2020

- 09 Bridge Meeting (1900)
- 12-13 Waterfront Celebration & Cardboard Boat Race,
Watkins Glen, NY.
- 19 Deadline for *Drum* Articles

Calendars are "living documents." For the latest information on squadron activities, please check our web site:

<http://www.abc-flx.org>

or our Facebook page:

<http://facebook.com/SenecaPowerSquadron>

for any last-minute changes.