



America's Boating Club® - Knoxville

For Boaters, By Boaters™



Now Hear This!

A Unit of District 17 of the United States Power Squadrons, Inc. ®

Newsletter Vol 37 No 1

January 2025

Executive Committee 2024

Commander:
Cdr Don Perrine, AP
(865) 963-9550

Executive Officer:
Vacant

Administrative Officer:
D/Lt/C John Farmer, SN
(865) 765-3407

Education Officer:
Lt/C Jeff Schmitt, S
(410) 493-4395

Secretary:
Lt/C Walt Hanson, AP
(865) 803-5842

Treasurer:
Lt/C Tom Dietrich, SN
(865) 567-3555

Past Commander:
Lt/C Bob Mattison, S
(843)-504-8271

Bridge Assistants 2024

Asst Education Officer:
1st/Lt Steve Brumit, AP-IN
(423) 737-9922

Asst Admin Officer:
1st/Lt Beth Fendley, S
(865) 384-1233

Commander's Report 12/29/2024

PLANNING MEETING AND ELECTIONS FOR 2025! You are invited to participate in our annual America's Boating Club planning and elections meeting for 2025. It will be on: **January 11, Saturday, from 9:30 AM to noon. We'll use my home for the meeting: 3659 Jackson Pointe Drive, Louisville.**

Please come prepared to propose and discuss new boating and social ideas that might mean fewer but more worthwhile activities. We will also discuss some of the more traditional activities. Please also be prepared to take an active role in the events that we agree on for the coming year. Events will only happen because we all engage at some level to make them the best experience possible. **RSVP at your earliest to DAPerrine@tds.net.**

For the election, the proposed slate appears below. Note, however, that the bridge is open to nominations for these and additional elected positions at any time before the vote. Also, there are several appointed positions with current candidates, and these and other positions are open to anyone who would like to serve.

- Commander: Don Perrine
- Administrative Officer: John Farmer
- Education Officer: Jeff Schmitt
- Secretary: Walt Hanson
- Treasurer: Tom Dietrich

A topic of importance has been completely resolved. National (USPS) had lost our liability and officer's insurance. However, they now have coverage through a new insurance company.

I look forward to seeing you at the meeting where we'll do our best together to "make it a good year".

Don,
Commander



Check out our....

website at: www.AmericasBoatingClub-Knoxville.org

Facebook page at: <https://www.facebook.com/AmericasBoatingClubKnoxville/>

national organization at: www.USPS.org

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Mission Statement

"Join for the joy of boating and grow with knowledge, experience, skill and confidence"

Organization

GENERAL COMMITTEES – 2024

Audit

Chair: Lt/C Walt Hanson, AP
2-Year: 1st/Lt Beth Fendley, S
3-Year: **Vacant**

Nominating

Chair: P/C Chuck Smith, AP
2-Year: Ed Fendley, S
3-Year: **Vacant**

Rules

Chair: Wayne Baker, S
2-Year: **Vacant**
3-Year: **Vacant**

APPOINTED COMMITTEE CHAIRS AND OFFICERS – 2024

Chaplain

Vacant

Historian

P/Lt/C Jeanette Farmer, P

IT / Facebook Administrator

D/Lt/C John Farmer, SN (**interim**)

IT / Website Administrator

Lt/C Tom Dietrich, SN (**interim**)

Law Officer

P/C Jim Barkley, SN

Legislative Liaison

P/C Chuck Smith, P

Membership:

Lt Bonnie Fried, P

Merit Mark

P/C Dave Kimball, S

Newsletter Editor

Lt/C Walt Hanson, AP

Port Captain - Fort Loudoun

D/Lt/C John Farmer, SN

Port Captain – Lower Norris

Lt Bonnie Fried, P

Port Captain - Tellico

Dan Johnson, JN

Port Captain - Watts Bar

Ed Fendley, S

Public Relations Chair

Vacant

Roster & Calling Committee

Lt Robin Hanson, S

Vessel Safety Check

Lt/C Bob Mattison, S

Membership Renewal – Did You Have a Problem?

USPS received many returned envelopes containing membership renewals, and a number of members have said they have not received their renewal notice. To make this process as easy as possible, USPS invites any affected member to please call its headquarters. The staff (Deliah Holloway) will help you renew your membership over the phone (or by email [hollowayd@hq.usps.org] or by mailing a hard copy). USPS membership staff can be reached at 888-367-8777 (toll free) or 919-821-0281.

Annual Membership Meeting and Change of Watch – 2/25

The Annual Membership Meeting and Change of Watch (Installation of Officers) will be held on **Tuesday, February 25, at the Bluetick Tavern. Social hour starts at 6 PM. As in the past we will offer a pizza buffet with salad. A cash bar is also available. Price is \$25.00 per person. RSVP no later than February 18, to John Farmer (captfarmer@gmail.com).** Please pay in advance; make checks payable to Knoxville Power Squadron and send them to John Farmer, 8016 Ellisville Lane, Knoxville, TN 37909.



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Member Manual – We Have One and We Should Update It

In June 2024 the Club rolled out a Member Manual for the benefit of our members. It is meant to be a reference guide to help new members come quickly up to speed with Club operations so that they understand the what, why, and how and be better prepared to say “yes” in helping the club better serve its mission and be of greater value to themselves and our boating community.

We welcome assistance in updating the member manual now that USPS has made a significant change in its online member management. Some links and tutorials need to be revised. Also, **we need input from our new members as to how the content can be improved.** For example, more explanation about the grades and certifications received by members who pursue education opportunities. The update is best completed by a couple of members working together. If willing to contribute and/or volunteer, please contact Walt Hanson (865-803-5842 / wehanson319@gmail.com). PS. **If no one wants to help, the update won't be pursued.**

Update Regarding America's Boating Club Insurance Coverages

Last fall the insurance broker that our national organization (USPS) had used and under which we as a local club were covered – dropped the national organization. But by late December, our national organization had brokered a new policy with **Core Insurance Group**, Shelby Township, Michigan, (www.coredinsured.com) and we are now covered for:

- General Liability
- Officer and Director
- Boat and Trade Show
- Marine Liability Coverage for On-water Training Events

For Event Captains: If a venue requires proof of insurance, documents are available at www.USPS.org by drilling down at the *Treasurer's Department > Insurance > Squadron/District Event Insurance*. Although it might be assumed that all club events are covered, it is worth checking, because USPS has informed us that certain special events and fundraisers could require additional coverage. Queries to Core Insured are made via documentrequest@coreinsured.com. USPS POC is National Treasurer, Shirley Heald.

Change to USPS Grade Progression Sequence

ABC Members earn a grade for successfully completing advanced USPS courses. The grade appears as a letter suffix behind the member's name. Our Club encourages all of our members to have the basic boating safety course (ABC3) and at least two advanced courses: Boat Handling and Marine Navigation. These courses provide a good foundation for inland boating. Grades are typically earned sequentially, but recently the progression sequence was amended. Below is the new progression sequence.

1. Boat Handling (formerly Seamanship) = S
2. Marine Navigation (formerly Piloting) = P
This is a change in that **P no longer requires S as a prerequisite.**
3. S + P + Advanced Marine Navigation (formerly Advanced Piloting) = AP
4. AP + Offshore Navigation = JN
5. JN + Celestial Navigation = N



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Advanced Marine Navigation – Why Take This Course?

Advanced Marine Navigation provides you knowledge to navigate unfamiliar waters in limited visibility or take an extended cruise with confidence. You will learn to use manual navigation, radar, chart plotters, AIS, and other electronic tools in a variety of coastal tide, current and wind conditions. Also, you will learn course planning, extended cruise navigation, hazard and collision avoidance, and navigational aids. If you can navigate the coast, you can definitely navigate our inland river systems! **If you have an interest in taking this course or others mentioned in the previous article, please contact our SEO Jeff Schmitt.**

Software Release – “New” Celestial Tools Plus

A new release of the ABC Celestial Tools software package is available for download and installation. This is Version #2024-0011-0004-1934, which fixes previously identified problems including the generation of route waypoints using a Great Circle or a Rhumb Line. To download please login to the www.usps.org and go to *Educational Committee > Navigation Committee*. This committee page includes links and instructions.

So why should an inland boater care about this software? While Celestial Tools is intended primarily as an aid for sight planning and rough checking of sights for celestial navigation courses, it also has applications that facilitate inland and coastal navigation:

1. TVMDC calculation tool
2. 60D=ST calculation tool
3. Distance – calculate nautical distances and horizon
4. The Sailings – calculate distances, time elapsed, speed given Lat/Long and other factors
5. MoBoard – calculate maneuvering time, bearings, and range
6. Wind and Current – calculate CTS & SOA or CMG and SMG
7. Yellow Pages – calculate almanac increments and corrections for celestial objects
8. Tides – calculate tide predictions or link to NOAA web site for current data and tools
9. Current – calculate current predictions or link to NOAA web site for current data and tools
10. 2/3 Bearings – Calculate distance to an objects given 2 or 3 bearings taken
11. Navig Math – Calculation tools to do Interpolation, Convert Angle or Time to Decimal, Add/Subtract Angles (like Lat or Long), Add/Subtract time, Time of Day calc, Time Zone calc
12. Length of Degree – Calculate the length of 1 degree of longitude given a latitude
13. Arcs and Times – Convert Arc to/from Time and LMT to/from Z

Online ABC Boating Tip - Pre-departure Guidance

Consider using this link: https://americasboatingclub.org/index.php/about/news-and-information/how-to-conduct-a-thorough-pre-departure-safety-check?mc_cid=f2a60f39f8&mc_eid=b084473c9a as a refresher for:

- How to conduct a thorough pre-departure safety check
- How to prepare equipment and inspect your boat
- What to include in your pre-departure briefing to passengers
- Pre-departure safety checklist for onboard systems, weather and sea conditions



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Event Calendar - 2024 Watch Year

Date	Time	Location	Event	Leader	Comments
January 13	9:30am - 12:00pm	Perrine's home	2024 Event Planning Meeting	Don Perrine	17 attended
February 12	6:00pm - 9:00pm	Bluetick Tavern in Maryville	Change Of Watch	Robin Hanson	21 attended
March 26	6:00pm -	Carmichael Inn, Loudon	Asst Ops Manager, Matt Emmons	AO Team	45 attended
April 20-21	5:30pm -	Tupelo Honey, Knoxville	Rossini Festival boating cx'd but dinner mtg held	Beth & Ed Fendley	15 attended
May 11	9:00am - 3:00 pm	Lenoir City Park Pavilion 1	Lock-through #1	Jeff Schmitt	26 attended
May 24	10:10am - 1:00 pm	Tennessee National Marina	Lock-through #2	Walt Hanson	canceled
May 25 (change)	3:00pm - overnight	Cove near Lenoir City Park	Rockin' The Dock	Robin Hanson	2 attended
June 4	6:00pm -	Finn's Irish Tavern, Knoxville	Dinner Meeting, TWRA speaker	John Farmer	21 attended
June 22	3:00pm -	Perrine's home	New member orientation & pool party	Don Perrine	18 attended
July 5	3:00pm - overnight	Tennessee National Marina	8pm Jimmy Buffett Tribute Concert and Fireworks	Walt & Robin Hanson	8 attended
August 16-17	3:00pm - overnight -	Tellico Lake	Raft-up cx'd due to wx but dinner held	Dan & Chris Johnson	7 attended
September 19-23	Multi-day	Richland Creek RDVU	Clinch River to Oak Ridge	Walt & Robin Hanson	13 attended
October 20-25	Multi-day	Kingston RDVU	Emory River to Harriman	canceled	
October 25-27	Muti-day	Comfort Inn, Oak Ridge	D17 Conference	John Farmer	Many; 7 from ABC-K
November 14	6:00pm - 10:00pm	Concord Yacht Club	Joint meeting with CSC/CYC	Canceled	
			Gala	Canceled	
January 11	9:30am - 12:00pm	Perrine's home	2024 Event Planning Meeting	Don Perrine	
February 25	6:00pm - 9:00pm	Bluetick Tavern in Maryville	Change Of Watch	John Farmer	



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